STEP 3 is sometimes called DECISION MAKING.

What you are doing here is taking a detailed look at what you have discovered in the first two steps.

The primary purpose is to narrow down possible options in STEP 2 (occupations, type of education or training required, preferred life style, etc.) and, after considering influencing factors, select the occupation, program of study and/or college major you believe to be the best “fit” for you. This is called decision-making or the act of choosing.

Your preferred occupation and education/training selection are considered your goals. A goal is the end result or the outcome you desire. Meeting appropriate goals should help you increasingly realize who you are, who you want to become, and what’s most important.

A final but important objective of this step is to prepare a career plan. A career plan consists of putting together the specific steps you commit to take in order to achieve the goals you have selected from STEP 2. It would be wise to put your plan in writing.

STEP 3 will require detailed research usually conducted online, at career resource centers and libraries, in-depth career exploration. However, it could include the following and much more, depending on need.

- Informational Interviewing
- Job Shadowing
- Externships/Internships
- CO-OP Experiences
- Part-Time Work
- Volunteer Work

Each person will differ in terms of the type and amount of research required before he or she determines it is enough to make a wise decision. Some may need the advice of a professional.

If you are interested in receiving help on how to complete STEP 3, contact:
Counseling and Career Center
Room 327, Student Center
www.grcc.edu/careerresources

UPON COMPLETION OF STEP 3:
- You should have completed a self-assessment to determine your life direction (STEP 1).
- You should be familiar with key areas outside of you that you believe are supportive of your life direction (STEP 2).
- You should have narrowed down, made one (or more) decision(s), set one (or more) goal(s) and developed a career plan as it relates to the most suitable options (STEP 3).