### Appendix B: Mailing Materials

#### List of Changes to Materials included in the December 2015 OMB Submission

Item	Previous Wording	Current Wording
Data Collection Method: Establishmen	t	
Who, What & How Brochure	Will the information that we provide be kept private? Absolutely! No identifying information about you, your company, or your company's employees will be published or released in any form to anyone outside the research team. We do not use names in our results. The data we collect from your employees will be combined with like data from other participants in order to develop a more complete and comprehensive database.	Will the information that we provide be kept private? Yes! Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way. Neither your name nor your company's name will be associated with your response. Data will only be used in summary form to describe occupations – not specific jobs or the individuals performing them.
Example POC Memo to Employees (English & Spanish)	Also, please be assured that your responses will be kept strictly private and your name will not be associated with your individual responses.	Also, please be assured that your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and your name will not be associated with your individual responses.
	On behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor and the National Occupational Information Network (O*NET®) Consortium, I am requesting your participation in the O*NET Data Collection Program.	On behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor, I am requesting your participation in the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) Data Collection Program.
	RTI, a non-profit research organization, is conducting this data collection effort for the U.S Department of Labor and the National O*NET Consortium.	RTI, a non-profit research organization, is conducting this data collection effort for the U.S. DOL and the National Center for O*NET Development.
RTI Letter to Employee to Accompany Questionnaire (with & without \$10 Incentive) (English & Spanish)	To participate, please complete the questionnaire enclosed with this letter and return it to us in the enclosed stamped envelope.	To participate, please complete the questionnaire enclosed with this letter and return it to us in the postage-paid envelope provided.
	Your responses are returned directly to RTI, where your answers will be kept completely private and will not affect your employment in any way.	Your responses are returned directly to RTI, where your answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way.
	If you have further questions about this request, please contact Ms. Sarah Harris, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 2-7486.	If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 26475.
	I have also enclosed an O*NET brochure, instructions for completing the questionnaire on our website, and a stamped envelope for returning the completed questionnaire to RTI.	I have also enclosed an O*NET brochure, instructions for completing the questionnaire on our website, and a postage-paid envelope for returning the completed questionnaire to RTI.
RTI Letter to Employee to Accompany Replacement Questionnaire (English & Spanish)	Your answers will be kept completely private and will not affect your employment in any way.	Your answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way.
	{No contact name/number referenced}	If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 26475.
RTI Avoider Letter for Verification	As a replacement for the Dictionary of Occupational Titles, the O*NET project represents a vital component of the Department of Labor's effort to develop job related information that workers can use to prepare themselves with the requisite skills to ensure success in the workplace.	As the nation's primary source of occupational information, the O*NET project represents a vital component of the Department of Labor's effort to provide current job-related information that workers can use to prepare themselves with the requisite skills to ensure success in the workplace.

RTI Avoider Letter for Screening	As a replacement for the Dictionary of Occupational Titles, the O*NET project represents a vital component of the Department of Labor's effort to develop job related information that workers can use to prepare themselves with the requisite skills to ensure success in the workplace.	As the nation's primary source of occupational information, the O*NET project represents a vital component of the Department of Labor's effort to provide current job-related information that workers can use to prepare themselves with the requisite skills to ensure success in the workplace.
DOL Avoider Letter for Sampling	The sampling process will involve only a few additional minutes of your time and the information you provide will be kept strictly private.	The sampling process will involve only a few additional minutes of your time and the information you provide will be kept private to the extent permitted by law.
Thank You/Reminder Postcard (English & Spanish)	If you have any questions about this research project, please call Ms. Sarah Harris at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 2-7486.	
Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O*NET Questionnaire	If you have any other questions about the survey, please call Ms. Sarah Harris at RTI toll free at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 2-7486 from Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM Eastern Time. If you prefer, you can email her at harris@rti.org.	If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 26475. If you prefer, you can email him at dstone@rti.org.
O*NET Toolkit for Business	{Screen shots}	{Updated screen shots}
	{Three references to the National O*NET Consortium}	{Changed each reference to the National Center for O*NET Development}
Letter from the U.S. Department of Labor in the Information Package	Responses will be kept private.	Responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law.
	Portia Wu signature.	Rosemary Lahasky signature.
	Assistant Secretary Letterhead.	Employment and Training Administration Letterhead.
Data Collection Method: Occupation	Expert	
OE Method Who, What & How Brochure	Will the information that I provide be kept private? Absolutely! No identifying information about you will be published or released in any form to anyone outside the research team. We do not use names in our results. Your data will be combined with data from other occupation experts in order to develop a more complete and comprehensive database.	Will the information that I provide be kept private? Yes! Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way. Neither your name nor your company's name will be associated with your response. Data will only be used in summary form to describe occupations – not specific jobs or the individuals performing them.
RTI Letter to OE to Accompany Questionnaire (with \$40 Incentive)	Your responses will be kept private.	Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law.
RTI Letter to OE to Accompany Questionnaire (without \$40 Incentive)	Your responses will be kept private.	Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law.
Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O*NET Occupation Expert Questionnaire	If you have any other questions about the survey, please call Ms. Sarah Harris at RTI toll free at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 2-7486 from Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM Eastern Time. If you prefer, you can email her at harris@rti.org.	If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 26475. If you prefer, you can email him at dstone@rti.org.
Data Collection Method: All		
Certificate of Appreciation	Portia Wu signature.	Rosemary Lahasky signature.
Association Endorsement List	{Association List}	{Updated Association List}

#### **Establishment Method Materials**

- Information Package Mailing to the Point-of-Contact
- Mailing to POC with Questionnaire Packets for Selected Employees
- Selected Employee Packet
- O\*NET Toolkit for Business
- Mailing to POC with Thank You/Reminder Postcards
- Mailing to POC with Replacement Questionnaire Packets for Non-Respondents
- Replacement Questionnaire Packet
- Avoider Letters

#### **Information Package Mailing to the Point-of-Contact**

- O\*NET Information Package Envelope
- O\*NET Folder
- Letter from U.S. Department of Labor
- Who, What & How Brochure
- Incentives Brochure
- Selected Occupations List
- O\*NET Brochure
- Association Endorsement List





## PRIORITY MAIL

Research Triangle Institute
Research Operations Center, ATTN: O\*NET Data Receipt
5265 Capital Boulevard
Raleigh, North Carolina, 27616-2925

Ship to: Ms. Kori Cheyne

US Post Office 420 Columbia Street Newport, KY 41071-

**USPS TRACKING #** 

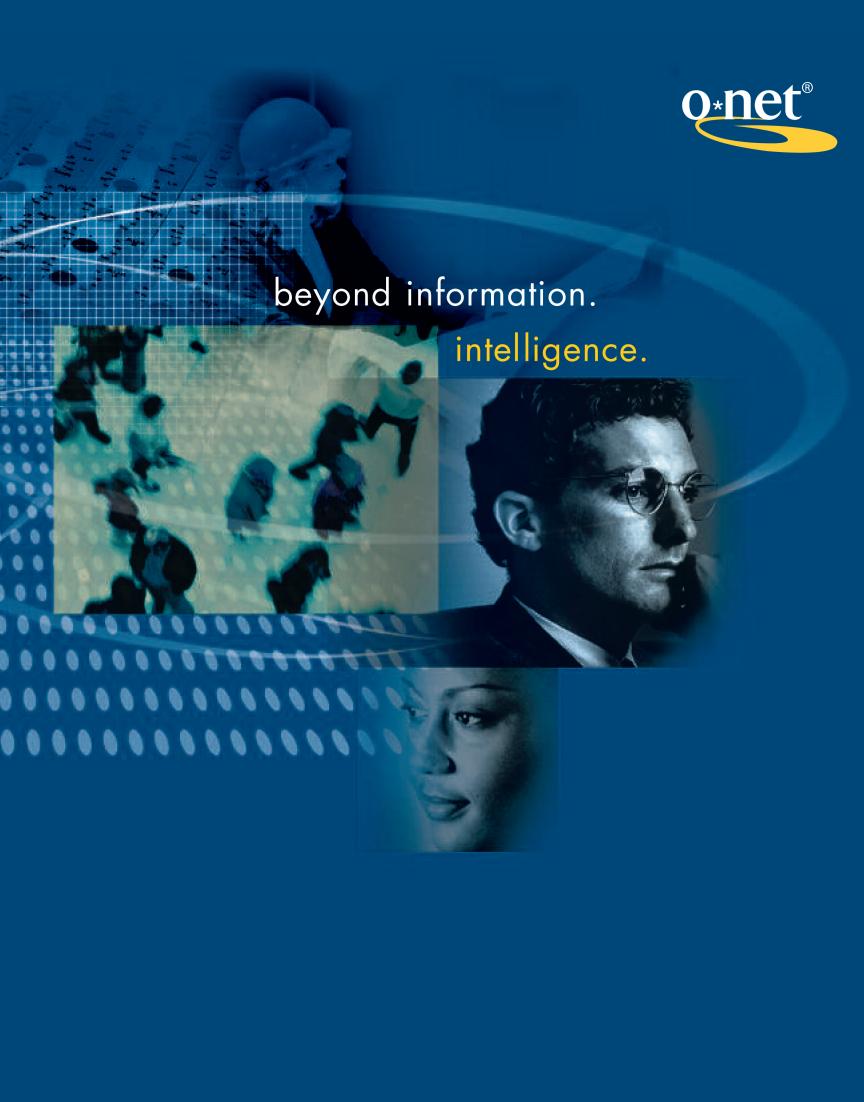


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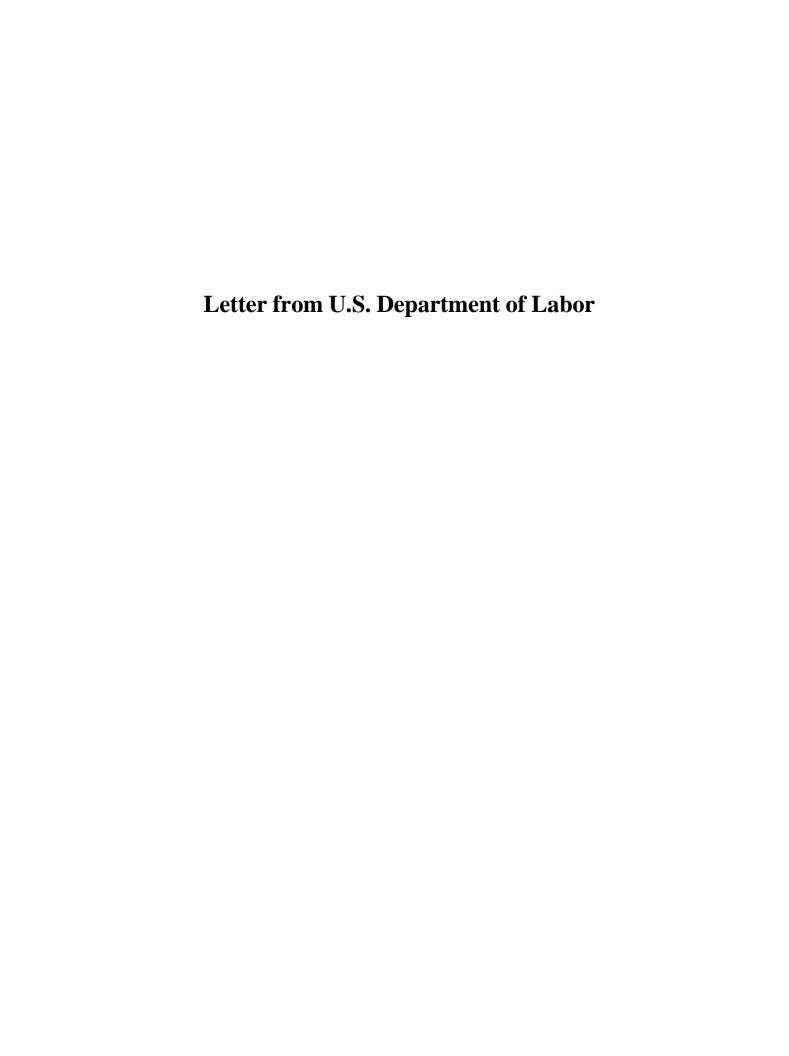


O\*NET Project Employment and Training Administration U.S. Department of Labor Mail Stop C 4526 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20210

National Center for O\*NET Development P.O. Box 27625 Raleigh, NC 27611

www.doleta.gov/programs/onet

www.onetcenter.org





[POC Name][POC Title][Establishment Name][Street][City, State, Zip Code]

Dear [POC Name],

You recently received a phone call from RTI about an important program called the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). As the caller explained, your company has been randomly selected to participate in the O\*NET Data Collection, an important program sponsored by the United States Department of Labor (DOL) and the National Center for O\*NET Development (O\*NET Center).

The O\*NET Center has been charged with the challenging task of keeping information about occupations up to date in a rapidly changing U.S. workplace. Employers, human resource professionals, job seekers, trainers, and labor market analysts across the country depend on occupational information to perform their daily work. We would like your help in keeping this information current.

RTI, a non-profit research organization, is conducting this data collection effort for the DOL and the O\*NET Center. The information we collect from your organization will be used to update the O\*NET database, the primary source of occupational information in the nation. Responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law. Data will not be linked to any individual employee or organization, but will only be used in summary form to describe occupations - not specific jobs.

This package includes information that explains your participation in this important project. In addition, a brochure describing O\*NET information and benefits is included, as well as a list of professional associations endorsing the O\*NET data collection.

Please be assured that your participation in this effort is voluntary. The time we estimate for your participation will vary from 15 to 90 minutes over the next four to six weeks. You are encouraged to send any comments regarding this estimate of your effort, or any other aspect of this collection of information to: U.S. Department of Labor, O\*NET Project, ETA/OWI, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Mail Stop C4526, Washington, DC 20210 (refer to OMB Control Number 1205-0421).

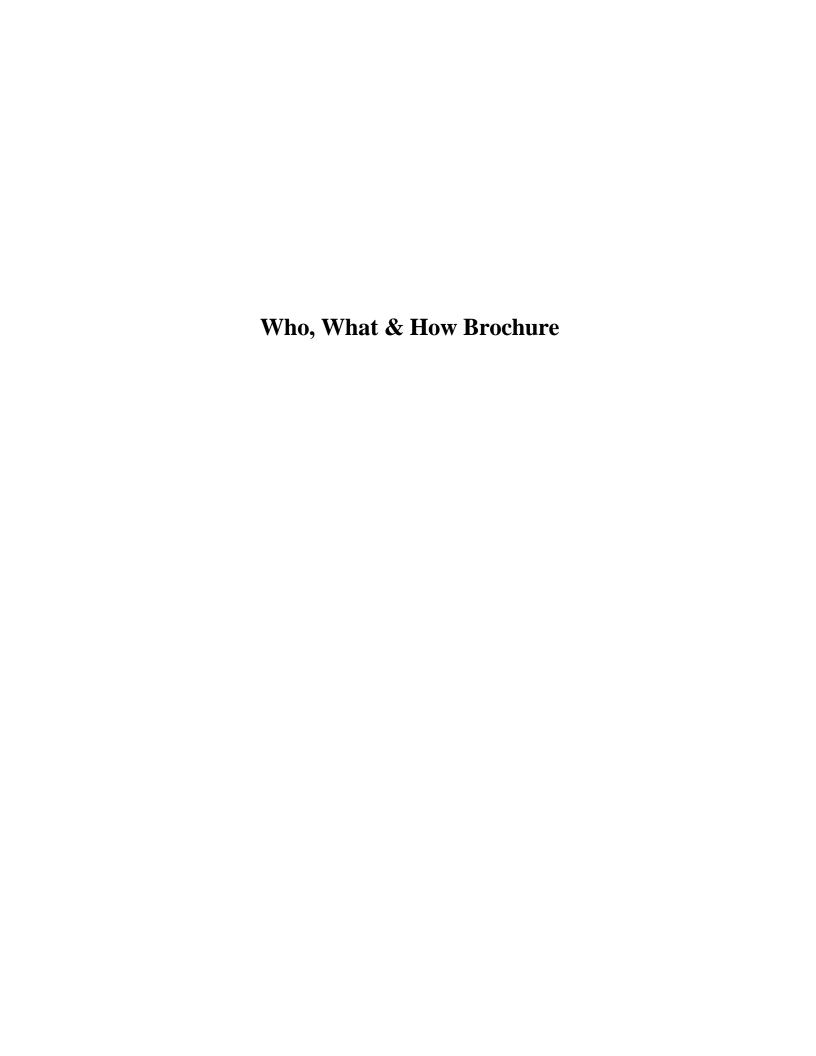
Thank you for your time and consideration. A member of the RTI O\*NET team will call you in a few days to provide additional details and answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Lahasky

Deputy Assistant Secretary

**Employment and Training Administration** 





# O\*NET Data Collection Program: Who, What & How

An Introduction to the Occupational Information Network

#### What is O\*NET®?

The O\*NET® acronym stands for "Occupational Information Network." It is an automated database that replaces the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) as the nation's primary source of occupational information. The O\*NET information is available as a timely, easy-to-use database that is designed to help millions of employers, workers, educators, and students make informed decisions about education, training, career choices, and work.

#### What is the O\*NET Data Collection Program?

The O\*NET Data Collection Program is an ongoing effort to develop and maintain this unique database on the detailed characteristics of workers and occupations. The information is primarily collected directly from employees working in the occupations we are interested in. The collection of this information is designed to provide data that are valid, reliable, and current. The O\*NET Data Collection Program is a critical step in the full development of O\*NET.

#### Who is funding this program?

The United States Department of Labor (DOL) funds the O\*NET Data Collection Program. You can verify this information by checking the DOL website: http://www.doleta.gov/programs/onet.

#### Who is conducting the O\*NET Data Collection?

RTI is working with the United States Department of Labor (DOL) to collect these data. RTI is an independent, not-for-profit research organization located in Research Triangle Park, NC. RTI is affiliated with Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State University.

#### How did you select my company?

Your establishment was randomly selected from a list containing nearly every business and institution in the country. The participation of your business is important since the employees we select from your business will represent thousands of employees in many other businesses like yours nationwide.

#### Are you selling us something?

Absolutely NOT! This is not a market study and we are not selling anything. This is an opportunity for you to provide direct input to the United States Department of Labor regarding occupational data that will be used to develop a national Occupational Information Network (O\*NET). O\*NET is available at no cost by downloading the O\*NET Database or by viewing the O\*NET data using O\*NET OnLine.

#### What are you asking me to do?

The "Three Simple Steps" on the last page of this brochure summarizes what your participation involves. Briefly, we will first ask you to assist in selecting a few employees in certain occupations in your company. Then, we will mail you questionnaire packets to distribute to the selected employees. Finally, we will ask you to help us by following up with the employees who do not respond within a few weeks time by distributing replacement questionnaires.

#### How many employees are you selecting in my company?

No more than 20 employees in total will be selected from your business. Usually, the number selected is less than 20.

#### How will my company benefit?

To express our appreciation to your company for participating, we offer your business the O\*NET Toolkit for Business. This Toolkit is designed to help you use the O\*NET database to simplify tasks such as writing job descriptions and planning for future human resource needs. Additionally, every company benefits from the updated national O\*NET database that will be the product of the occupational information your company provides.

#### How will I personally benefit?

You will benefit indirectly from the improvement in the O\*NET database that will be possible because of your company's participation. This up-to-date, accurate information will make tasks like writing job descriptions and determining job qualifications much easier. In addition, the person in each business who serves as our point of contact will receive a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the U. S. Department of Labor and a special resource – the O\*NET Toolkit for Business – that will be sent to you later when we mail the questionnaires.

#### How will the sampled employees benefit?

As our way of saying thanks, we'll provide each sampled employee with a \$10 incentive attached to their questionnaire. (The only exceptions are Federal Government employees and employees of businesses that request that no incentive be offered.) Furthermore, an improved O\*NET database will benefit your employees in the long run, if they are considering a career change or improving their job skills to be able to qualify for a more specialized job.

#### What kinds of questions are asked of the employees?

Our survey consists of objective questions regarding the requirements and training for occupations we have identified to study at this time. You can find a complete set of questionnaires on the O\*NET Data Collection Program Website at: http://onet.rti.org. A selected employee will receive only one of the questionnaires being used.

#### Will employees do this on company time?

The questionnaires used in the O\*NET Data Collection Program are self-administered. The instruction sheet that is included with the questionnaire packet requests selected employees to complete the questionnaire in their "off time" from work (e.g., at home, at lunch, during a break, etc.) The research staff has no direct contact with the employees, except in the event that a selected employee has a problem or question about the questionnaire and calls our toll-free number for help.

#### Am I required to participate by law?

No, your participation is voluntary. However, you are a critical link in this data collection project. You have the opportunity to provide direct input to the United States Department of Labor by providing occupational information.

## Is information on the O\*NET Program available on the world-wide web?

Yes, it is. Information on the O\*NET Data Collection Program is available online at: http://onet.rti.org. You can also find general information on many other O\*NET programs and resources at the O\*NET Resource Center website: http://www.onetcenter.org.

#### How much time is this going to take?

We estimate that the total time for your participation is only about 15 minutes to 90 minutes over the next several weeks.

It takes approximately 30 minutes for a respondent to complete an O\*NET Questionnaire.

## Do I have to tell you the names of the employees sampled for the data collection?

No, you do not have to give us the names of your employees at any time during this study, unless you choose to have the questionnaire sent to them directly. However, if you wish, you may give us the initials of sampled employees to facilitate the distribution of materials. We will delete this information when data collection has been completed at your organization.

## Will the information that we provide be kept private?

Yes! Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way. Neither your name nor your company's name will be associated with your response. Data will only be used in summary form to describe occupations – not specific jobs or the individuals performing them.

#### Who will contact me?

You will be called by one of O\*NET's professionally-trained Business Liaisons, who will walk you through the data collection process and be available to answer your questions and concerns. Because we are committed to providing you with the highest quality of service, O\*NET supervisors may monitor a sample of these calls.

If you have any questions, you can call toll-free: 1-877-233-7348, ext. 100 and the O\*NET Operations Center Manager will assist you.

## Your Participation in O\*NET Involves Only Three Simple Steps

## Step 1: Assist Business Liaison (BL) in the employee sampling process.

The RTI Business Liaison will assist you in determining which employees in a selected occupation are chosen to receive questionnaires. In order for this process to be random and for the information to be kept private, you will be asked to compile a numbered roster of the employees in each selected occupation. This will take place over a brief telephone call of about 5-10 minutes.

#### Step 2: Distribute questionnaires to sampled employees.

Once the employees have been sampled, we will mail questionnaire packets to you for distribution to them. Remember, it's important to retain your roster as you are the only person who knows who the questionnaires are intended to go to.

#### Step 3: Assist Business Liaison with follow-up activities.

Once you have received your questionnaires the BL will give you a follow-up call to see if all the materials were received and to answer any questions. In the event that not all the questionnaires are returned, we will send replacement questionnaires for you to distribute to any non-responders at your organization. The BL will keep you informed as the questionnaires are returned by the employee.





Ways to say "Thanks for participating in the O\*NET Data Collection Program"

\*RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute.

Conducted by RTI International\* for the U.S. Department of Labor and the National O\*NET Consortium



#### Thank you very much for your help

We are very appreciative of the help you and your company are providing to the O\*NET Data Collection Program. We realize your time is valuable and limited, and we are truly appreciative of your contributions to this program.

To express our appreciation, we offer the items shown on the right to you, your company, and the employees who are selected to participate in the Program.

We believe the most valuable benefit of your participation is the information that will be returned to you and your company through the O\*NET database. Many employers access this database routinely for information on occupational characteristics, worker attributes, and job descriptions.

We hope you enjoy all these benefits of the O\*NET Program. We look forward to working with you over the next few weeks as we collect occupational information from your company.

In our next mailing to you, you will receive...



A framed Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor.

A \$10 token of appreciation for each employee who is selected to complete the O\*NET Questionnaire. The ten dollar bill will be enclosed with the questionnaire in the individual sealed envelopes that

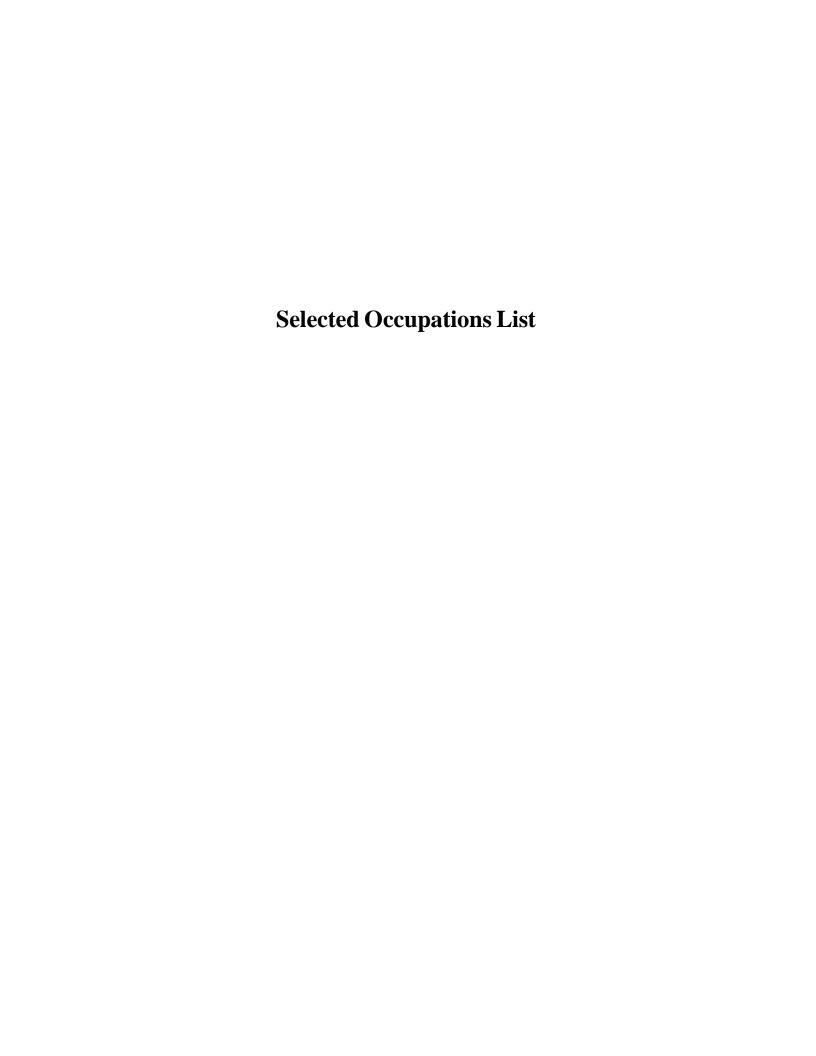


we will ask you to distribute to the sampled employees.

In a separate mailing, your company will receive...

The O\*NET Toolkit for Business. The O\*NET Toolkit for Business is a free packet of information about the O\*NET Program that managers can use for human resource planning, including a guide for writing job descriptions.



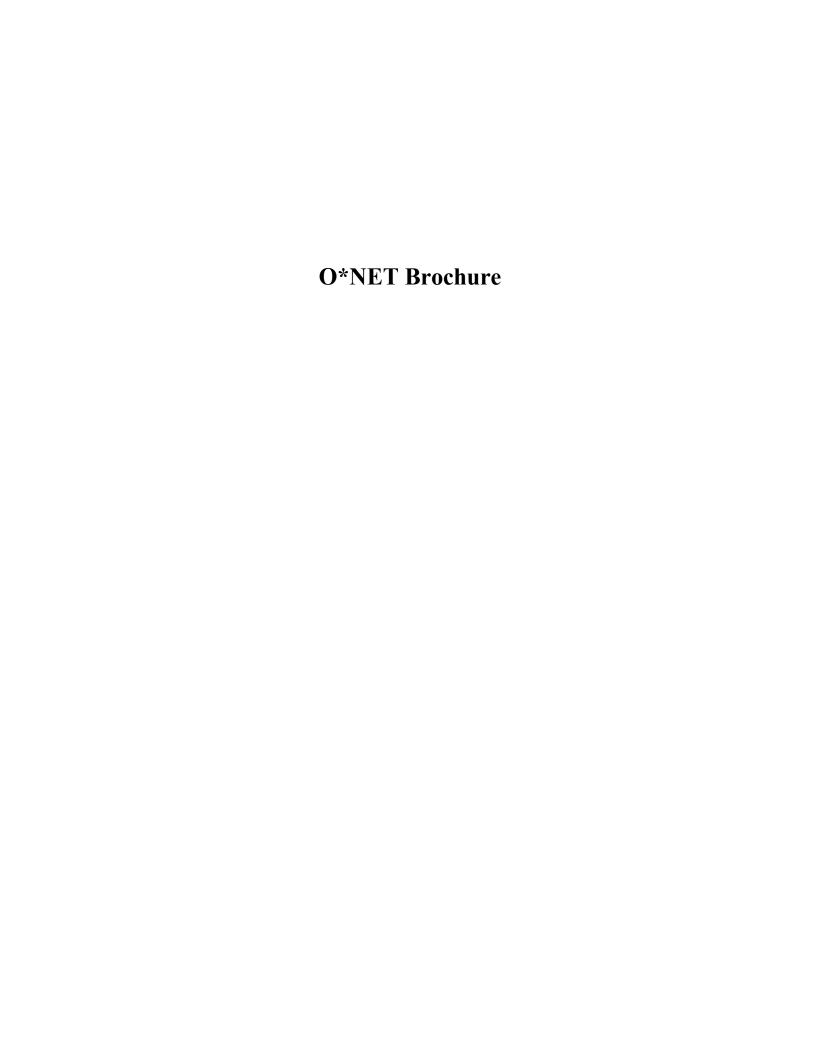


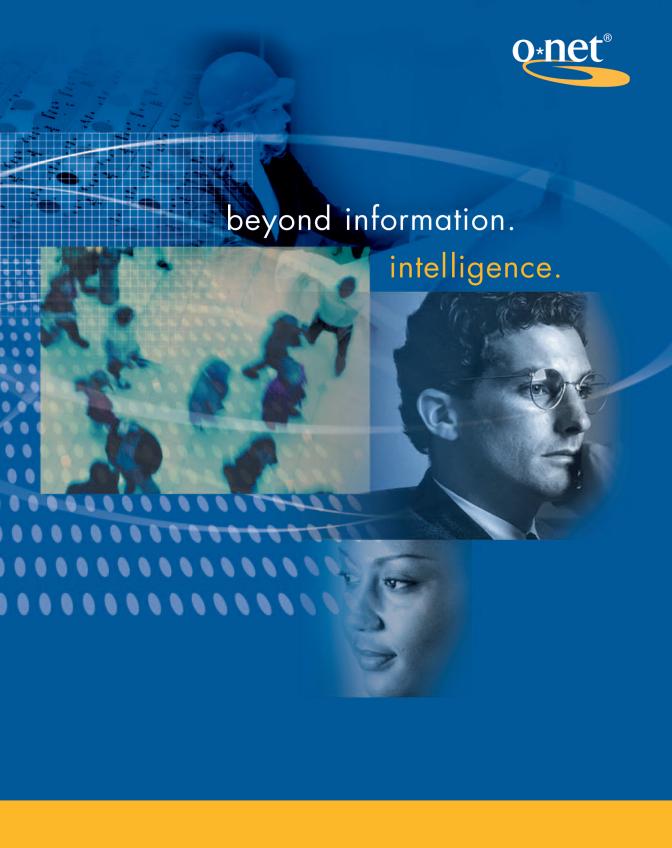
#### **Selected Occupations for [Establishment Name]**

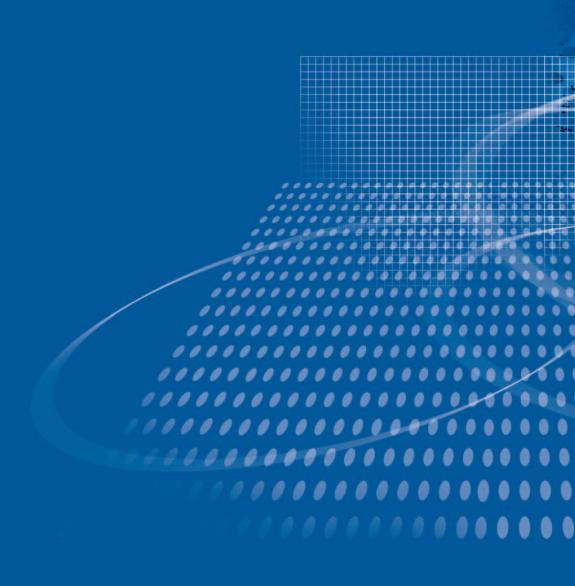
This list contains the definitions of a number of occupations that are of interest to the survey. Your O\*NET representative will try to determine whether you have employees in some of these occupations in your next phone call. Please have this list available when he or she calls.

**NOTE:** Only five or fewer of the occupations listed below will actually be selected from your organization. The O\*NET representative will provide further details about this when he or she calls.

- 1. Editors: Perform variety of editorial duties, such as laying out, indexing, and revising content of written materials, in preparation for final publication.
- 2. Computer Programmers: Convert project specifications and statements of problems and procedures to detailed logical flow charts for coding into computer language. Develop and write computer programs to store, locate, and retrieve specific documents, data, and information. May program Web sites.
- **3.** Natural Sciences Managers: Plan, direct, or coordinate activities in such fields as life sciences, physical sciences, mathematics, statistics, and research and development in these fields.
- **4. Database Administrators:** Coordinate changes to computer databases, test and implement the database applying knowledge of database management systems. May plan, coordinate, and implement security measures to safeguard computer databases.
- 5. Market Research Analysts: Research market conditions in local, regional, or national areas to determine potential sales of a product or service. May gather information on competitors, prices, sales, and methods of marketing and distribution. May use survey results to create a marketing campaign based on regional preferences and buying habits.
- **6. Economists:** Conduct research, prepare reports, or formulate plans to aid in solution of economic problems arising from production and distribution of goods and services. May collect and process economic and statistical data using econometric and sampling techniques.
- **7.** Compensation and Benefits managers: Plan, direct, or coordinate compensation and benefits activities and staff of an organization.
- **8. Interviewers, Except Eligibility and Loan:** Interview persons by telephone, mail, in person, or by other means for the purpose of completing forms, applications, or questionnaires. Ask specific questions, record answers, and assist persons with completing form. May sort, classify, and file forms.
- **9. Mechanical Engineers:** Perform engineering duties in planning and designing tools, engines, machines, and other mechanically functioning equipment. Oversee installation, operation, maintenance, and repair of such equipment as centralized heat, gas, water, and steam systems.
- 10. Sales Managers: Direct the actual distribution or movement of a product or service to the customer. Coordinate sales distribution by establishing sales territories, quotas, and goals and establish training programs for sales representatives. Analyze sales statistics gathered by staff to determine sales potential and inventory requirements and monitor the preferences of customers.









#### O\*NET is brought to you by:

O\*NET Project Employment and Training Administration U.S. Department of Labor Mail Stop C 4526 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20210 National Center for O\*NET Development P.O. Box 27625 Raleigh, NC 27611

www.doleta.gov/programs/onet

www.onetcenter.org

# beyond information. intelligence.

#### Hire intelligence.

\* Rapidly changing world markets and vast technological innovation. Increasing competition at home and abroad. Rising customer expectations. For employers and job seekers alike, staying competitive in today's demanding workplace means making smart choices in all employment decisions. \* At the same time, occupational information is everywhere—in books, newspapers, websites, magazines, and elsewhere. But most sources only give part of the picture. Without standardization in the business of employment, compiling, customizing, and maintaining occupational data can be a cumbersome, ongoing process.

### Fortunately, the business of employment just got smarter.

O\*NET is a unique, powerful source for continually updated occupational information and labor market research. By using a contemporary, interactive skills-based database and a common language to describe worker skills and attributes, O\*NET transforms mountains of data into precise, focused occupational intelligence that anyone can understand easily and efficiently.

#### WHO USES O\*NET?

- HR personnel
- Training facilitators
- Students
- Workforce researchers
- Career counselors
- Efficiency experts
- Rehabilitation counselors
- Job seekers
- Software developers
- Displaced workers
- Business forecasters
- Industry analysts
- Organizational consultants

Educators at all levels



### O\*NET in action

#### More than a database—a solution.

O\*NET integrates a powerful, relational database, a common language for job and skill descriptions, and crosswalks to other classifications systems into a complete solution for businesses, job seekers, and workforce development professionals. As the most comprehensive occupation resource available, O\*NET helps workforce professionals:

**DEVELOP** detailed, accurate job descriptions.

**IDENTIFY** interest and experience requirements to align the right candidate with the right job.

**DESIGN** relevant career curricula and occupational skills development programs.

**DEFINE** success factors for promotion and advancement.

**FORECAST** HR requirements more effectively.

#### Tools you can use.

Whether it's finding and retaining the right people, developing more effective job descriptions, or just getting the most recent occupational information available, O\*NET is your complete solution for keeping up with today's rapidly changing world of work. O\*NET offers:

- Current, detailed information on more than 900 occupations.
- More than 450 standardized descriptors of skills, abilities, interests, knowledge, and work context.
- Standard occupational classification (SOC) coding.
- Easy-to-use interface and search menus.
- Skill-searchable occupational descriptions for more exact career targeting.
- Tools to build accurate job descriptions.
- Crosswalks to other classification systems and links to placement and labor market resources.
- Accommodation information to use as a disability counseling tool.

O\*NET helps employers by giving them very current information to help in the designing of organizational, recruiting, training, and compensation systems.

# the power of O\*NET

BUSINESSES AND HR PROFESSIONALS

**JOB SEEKERS** 

#### **USE O\*NET TO FIND—AND KEEP:**

#### **QUALIFIED JOB CANDIDATES**

- Expand the pool of quality candidates for open positions.
- Develop effective job descriptions quickly and easily.
- Define employee and/or job-specific success factors.
- Align organizational development with workplace needs.
- Refine recruitment and training goals.
- Design competitive compensation and promotion systems.

#### A QUALITY JOB

- Find out which jobs fit with their interests, skills, and experience.
- Explore growth career profiles using the latest available labor market data.
- Research what it takes to get their dream job.
- Maximize earning potential and job satisfaction.
- Know what it takes to be successful in their field and in related occupations.

What you're looking for.

#### O\*NET ORGANIZES ITS WEALTH OF INFORMATION ABOUT EACH OCCUPATION INTO SEVEN, INTERRELATED AREAS:

**EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS** 

**OCCUPATION REQUIREMENTS** 

**WORKER REQUIREMENTS** 

**WORKER CHARACTERISTICS** 

**OCCUPATION CHARACTERISTICS** 

OCCUPATION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

**RELATED OCCUPATIONS** 

describe the education, training, skills, licensing, and experience required for entry and advancement.

outline the typical tasks associated with each occupation or group of occupations, including specific physical, social, or structural demands on workers.

include individual performance factors, such as skills and knowledge, including basic skills and cross-functional skills.

represent the work styles, interests, and abilities that are important to job seekers evaluating potential career opportunities.

include links to current labor market information on occupations, including wages, employment outlook, and industry size.

provides comprehensive details for a single occupation or narrowly-defined job family.

cross-reference occ<del>upations</del> that requi<mark>re similar knowledge, skills, and experience.</mark>



\* Get O\*NET in it. Some of the most sophisticated occupational systems in the world contain one powerful, unique ingredient: O\*NET. Software and system developers can meet your specific needs by customizing O\*NET's powerful, flexible data to your own organization's applications. \* O\*NET contains information from some of the nation's top occupational researchers and analysts. They have collected and classified this knowledge to guarantee that O\*NET intelligence is accurate, current, consistent, and comprehensive.

Look for the seal. All software applications and other resources powered by O\*NET data will now display the official "O\*NET in\*it" seal on their packaging. Look for it to find the most dynamic intelligence on today's U.S. labor market.

in\*it

O\*NET will help us keep our internal job descriptions, appraisals, and training up-to-date. Rather than spend our time collecting data, we will have more time to focus on developing our workforce.





#### Association Support

As a leading national and industry association, we support O\*NET, the Occupational Information Network. A major initiative of the United States Department of Labor, O\*NET is a database of occupational information, specifying job characteristics and worker skills and abilities.

O\*NET helps employers meet human resource challenges by identifying front line skill needs. It helps employees identify skills necessary to succeed in their fields, and helps job seekers understand the skills and training they need for the jobs they want.

We urge you to complete the O\*NET questionnaire. By providing this valuable information, you will help the O\*NET database capture the realities of the changing American workplace and be a participant in building a national labor exchange system able to compete in the international marketplace.



#### a

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
Accrediting Council for Continuing
Education and Training

African American Women's Clergy Association

Air Conditioning Contractors of America

Aircraft Electronics Association

Allied Pilots Association

American Academy of Actuaries

American Academy of Environmental

Engineers

American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists

American Academy of Physical Medicine

and Rehabilitation

American Academy of Physician Assistants

American Apparel and Footwear Association

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education

American Association for Health

Education

American Association for Homecare American Association for Leisure and

Recreation

American Association for Marriage and
Family Therapy

American Association for Respiratory
Care

American Association for Vocational Instructional Materials

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

American Association of Community Colleges

American Association of Cosmetology Schools

American Association of Critical-Care Nurses

American Association of Early Childhood Educators

American Association of Engineering Societies

American Association of Motor Vehicle
Administrators

American Association of Museums

American Association of Psychiatric Technicians

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Association of Zoo Keepers

American Bar Association

American Business Conference

American Chemical Society

American College of Cardiology

American Composites Manufacturers
Association

American Congress on Surveying and Mapping

American Correctional Association
American Council for Construction

Education

American Council of Life Insurers

American Counseling Association
American Culinary Federation

American Dental Assistants Association

American Design Drafting Association

American Education Finance Association

American Electronics Association

American Federation for Medical Research

American Federation of Home Health
Agencies

American Federation of School

Administrators

American Federation of Teachers

American Financial Services Association

American Fisheries Society

American Forest & Paper Association

American Foundry Society

American Geological Institute

American Health Information

Management Association

American Historical Association

American Home Furnishings Alliance

American Hotel and Lodging Association

American Industrial Hygiene Association

American Institute for Conservation of

Historic and Artistic Works

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

American Institute of Building Design American Institute of Chemists

American Institute of Constructors

American Institute of Engineers

American Institute of Floral Designers

American Institute of Professional

Bookkeepers

American Insurance Association

American Jail Association

American Library Association



American Loggers Council
American Management Association
American Meat Institute
American Mental Health Counselors
Association
American Moving & Storage Association
American Optometric Association
American Pharmacists Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Physiological Society
American Planning Association
American Probation and Parole

Association
American Prosthodontic Society
American Psychological Association
American Public Gas Association
American Public Human Services
Association

American Purchasing Society

American Rehabilitation Counseling

Association

American Rental Association

American Road and Transportation

Builders Association

American School Counselor Association American School Health Association American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

American Society for Engineering Education

American Society for Engineering Management

American Society for Microbiology American Society for Quality American Society of Agronomy American Society of Association

American Society of Association Executives

American Society of Certified Engineering Technicians

American Society of Interior Designers
American Society of Professional
Estimators

American Society of Radiologic Technologists

American Society of Sanitary Engineering American Society of Transportation and Logistics

Logistics
American Society of Travel Agents
American Sociological Association

American Statistical Association

American Subcontractors Association

American Therapeutic Recreation Association

American Watchmakers-Clockmakers Institute

American Water Works Association
American Zoo and Aquarium Association

America's Health Insurance Plans
Animal Behavior Society
Appraisal Institute
Appraisers Association of America
Architectural Engineering Institute of the
American Society of Civil Engineers
Associated Bodywork and Massage
Professionals

Associated Builders and Contractors Associated General Contractors of America

Associated Locksmiths of America Associated Specialty Contractors Association for Career and Technical Education

Association for Career and Technical Education Research

Association for Childhood Education International

Association for Commuter Transportation Association for Continuing Higher Education

Association for Financial Professionals
Association for Healthcare
Documentation Integrity

Association for Library and Information Science Education

Association for Library Collections and Technical Services

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology

Association for Talent Development Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering

Association of Business Support Services International

Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc.

Association of Credit and Collection Professionals

Association of Energy Engineers
Association of Environmental Engineering
and Science Professors

Association of Equipment Management Professionals

Association of Executive and Administrative Professionals

Association of Information Technology Professionals

Association of Management Consulting Firms

Association of Master of Business Administration Executives Association of Minority Health

Professions Schools

Association of Oncology Social Work Association of Sales and Marketing Companies Association of School Business Officials International

Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions

Association of Surgical Technologists Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology

Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industry

Association of Women in the Metal Industries

Association of Women Soil Scientists Automotive Maintenance and Repair Association

#### b-h

Belt Association
Biomedical Engineering Society
Biotechnology Industry Organization
Blow-in-Blanket Contractors Association
Bread Bakers Guild of America
Brotherhood of Shoe and Allied
Craftsmen

Business Marketing Association Business Professionals of America California Fashion Association Ceilings and Interior Systems

Ceilings and Interior Systems
Construction Association
Center for Book Arts

Ceramic Tile Institute of America Chamber of Shipping of America Chartered Property Casualty

Underwriters Society

Commercial Vehicle Training Association Community Transportation Association of America

CompTIA

Construction Management Association of America

Consumer Electronics Association
Contact Lens Manufacturers Association
Council for American Private Education
Council of Fashion Designers of America
Council of Industrial Boiler Owners
Council of Supply Chain Management
Professionals

Crane Certification Association of America

Crop Science Society of America
Custom Electronic Design and Installation
Association

Dangerous Goods Advisory Council
Deck Industry Association
Dietary Managers Association
Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry

Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry
Association

Edison Welding Institute
Editorial Freelancers Association





Electronics Technicians Association International Employee Benefit Research Institute Energy Council of the Northeast Fabricators & Manufacturers Association

International

Federal Resource Center for Special Education

Federation of Tax Administrators
Financial Therapy Association
Flexographic Technical Association
Floor Covering Installation Contractors
Association

Foodservice Consultants Society International

Forest Resources Association
Forging Industry Association
Gases and Welding Distributors
Association

Graphic Artists Guild Group Underwriters Association of America

Healthcare Distribution Management Association

Home Care Aide Association of America Home Healthcare Nurses Association Hospice Association of America Hospitality Business Alliance

#### i-k

IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)

IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society

**IEEE Computer Society** 

IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society

IEEE Engineering Management Society Independent Automotive Damage Appraisers Association

Industrial Designers Society of America Information Systems Audit and Control Association

Information Technology Association of America

Inland Marine Underwriters Association Institute for Certification of Computing Professionals

Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences

Institute for Supply Management
Institute of Environmental Sciences and
Technology

Institute of Industrial Engineers
Institute of Management Accountants
Institute of Management Consultants
USA

Institute of Packaging Professionals
Insurance Information Institute
International Association for Computer
Information Systems

International Association of Administrative Professionals

International Association of Arson Investigators

International Association of Asian Studies International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators

International Association of Fire Chiefs
International Association of Foundation
Drilling

International Association of Workforce Professionals

International Disk Drive Equipment and Materials Association

International Economic Development Council

International Executive Housekeeping Association

International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers
International Fire Marshals Association

International Fire Marshals Association
International Interior Design Association
International Maintenance Institute
International Masonry Institute
International Plant Propagators' Society
International Public Management

Association for Human Resources International Ticketing Association International Union of Bakers and Bakers-Confectioners

International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades

International Union of Police Associations
International Warehouse Logistics
Association

Ironworker Management Progressive Action Cooperative Trust

Irrigation Association

Jewelers of America

Jewelry Information Center

Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology

Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers
Association

#### m-n

Machinery Dealers National Association Manufactured Housing Institute Marine Technology Society Marketing Research Association Mason Contractors Association of America

Material Handling Equipment Distributors
Association

Metals Service Center Institute

Metropolitan Burglar and Fire Alarm

Association

Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society Modular Building Institute

**NALS** 

National Academy of Opticianry National Academy of Sciences National Alliance of Business National Association for Business Economics

National Association for Equal
Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association for Girls and Women
in Sport

National Association for Home Care and Hospice

National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service

National Association for Printing Leadership

National Association for Sport and Physical Education

National Association of African American Studies

National Association of Child Care Professionals

National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers

National Association of Counties

National Association of County Surveyors

National Association of Dental Laboratories

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians

National Association of Environmental Professionals

National Association of Geoscience Teachers

National Association of Health Underwriters

National Association of Hispanic and Latino Studies

National Association of Independent Insurance Adjusters

National Association of Independent Publishers

National Association of Legal Assistants National Association of Manufacturers National Association of Native American Studies National Association of Professional **Employer Organizations** 

National Association of Sales and **Marketing Agencies** 

National Association of School **Psychologists** 

National Association of Service Managers National Association of Social Workers

National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium

National Athletic Trainers' Association National Bicycle Dealers Association National Blacksmiths and Weldors

Association National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association

National Business Education Association National Career Development Association

National Center for Manufacturing Sciences

National Center for Simulation **National Cleaners Association** 

National Concrete Masonry Association National Council for Advanced

Manufacturing

National Council of Agricultural **Employers** 

National Council of Teachers of English National Council of Teachers of

**Mathematics** 

**National Criminal Justice Association** 

**National Dance Association** 

**National Dental Assistants Association** 

National Dental Association

National Earth Science Teachers

Association

National Elevator Industry, Inc.

National Employment Counseling Association

National Environmental Health

Association

**National Farmers Union** 

National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses

National Freight Transportation Association

National Funeral Directors Association

**National Glass Association** 

National Hardwood Lumber Association

National High School Association

National Human Resources Association

National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence

National Institute for Metalworking Skills **National Judges Association** 

National League of Postmasters of the **United States** 

**National Management Association** National Maritime Education and Training Association

National Paralegal Association National Propane Gas Association

National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association

National Registry of Environmental Professionals

National Rehabilitation Counseling Association

National Retail Federation

**National Roofing Contractors Association** 

National Science and Technology

**Education Partnership** 

National Society of Professional Surveyors

National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association

National Terrazzo and Mosaic Association National Therapeutic Recreation Society **National Tile Contractors Association** National Tooling and Machining

Association

**National Tour Association** 

National Training and Simulation Association

National Utility Contractors Association Network and System Professionals

Association

**Network Professional Association** New York Academy of Sciences



Outdoor Power Equipment Aftermarket Association

Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association

Packaging and Label Gravure Association Painting & Decorating Contractors of America

Pedorthic Footwear Association Plastic and Metal Products Manufacturers Association

Pleaters, Stitchers & Embroiderers Association

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

National Association Precision Machined Products Association

Precision Machined Products Association Educational Foundation

**Precision Metalforming Association** 

Precision Metalforming Association **Educational Foundation** 

Printing Industries of America & Affiliates

**Professional Association of Custom** Clothiers

**Professional Caddie Association** Professional Landcare Network **Professional Managers Association** Property Casualty Insurers Association of America

Refractory Ceramic Fibers Coalition Refrigeration Service Engineers Society Retail Bakers of America Risk Management Association SAE International Society for Experimental Biology and

Medicine

Society for Foodservice Management Society for Protective Coatings Society for Technical Communication Society of Allied Weight Engineers Society of American Archivists Society of American Florists Society of American Foresters Society of Computer Professionals Society of Fire Protection Engineers Society of Manufacturing Engineers Society of Naval Architects and Marine **Engineers** 

Society of Petroleum Engineers Society of Professional Benefit Administrators

Soil Science Society of America SOLE—The International Society of Logistics

Specialty Graphic Imaging Association Structural Insulated Panel Association

Telecommunications Industry Association Tooling and Manufacturing Association Transportation Intermediaries Association Tree Care Industry Association Tube and Pipe Association International Tubular Piping Association United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America United Council on Welfare Fraud United Professional Sales Association

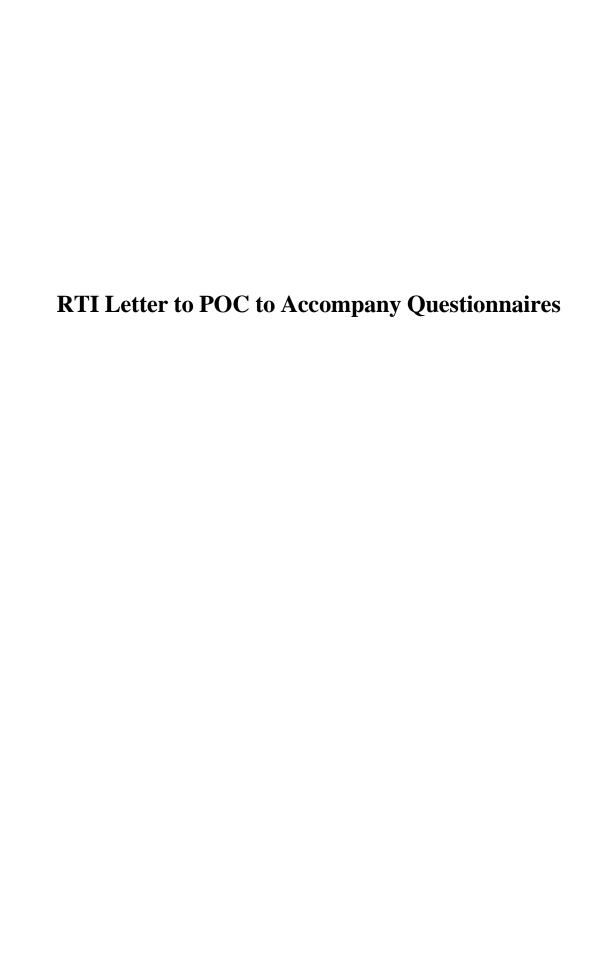
United States Tour Operators Association Water Environment Federation Western Dredging Association Wildlife Disease Association Wood Flooring Manufacturers Association Wood Moulding and Millwork Producers Association World International Nail and Beauty

Association

World Leisure and Recreation Association

#### Mailing to POC with Questionnaire Packets for Selected Employees

- RTI Letter to POC to Accompany Questionnaires
- Example POC-to-Employee Memo
- Certificate of Appreciation
- Selected Employee Packets





[DATE]

[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

As we recently discussed on the telephone, enclosed are the questionnaire packets for the employees who were sampled to participate in the O\*NET® Data Collection Program. Please distribute the packets to the appropriate employees as soon as possible.

Note that the label affixed to each envelope includes the occupation, line number and initials of the employee (optional) from the roster you created for each occupation. Please use the roster as a guide to ensure that each employee receives the correct envelope.

To encourage a high level of response from the employees, we have prepared the attached example memorandum that you can send to each employee to show your support for the Program. We hope you will consider modifying this memorandum as you wish and distributing it along with the questionnaire packets. Call me at the number below if you would like me to send an electronic copy of the memo to you.

We sincerely appreciate your company's support of this important program and hope that our sincere thanks is communicated to each employee receiving a packet. We realize that their participation is completely voluntary and that their time is valuable.

Finally, as a token of our appreciation for your efforts, we have enclosed a Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor in your name. Also enclosed is a frame for the certificate. Your personal efforts in support of this important national data collection program are recognized and sincerely appreciated by the U.S. Department of Labor, as well as the entire O\*NET Project Team.

We will contact you again in the near future to see if you need any additional support. In the meantime, feel free to contact me toll free at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL EXTENSION] any time I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

[NAME OF BL] Business Liaison

Enclosure



#### Company Letterhead

#### <u>MEMORANDUM</u>

DATE:

TO: [SELECTED EMPLOYEE]

FROM: [POINT OF CONTACT]

SUBJECT: Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®) Data Collection Program

Our company has been invited by the U.S. Department of Labor to participate in an important national project called the O\*NET Data Collection Program. The purpose of this study is to collect information on the knowledge, skills, and competencies required for individuals in various occupations. Results of this data collection effort will be used to update a national database on occupations called the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET), our nation's primary source of information on jobs.

You have been randomly identified to participate in this program as part of a national sample. Your responses to the enclosed questionnaire are very important because they will represent many other employees nationwide who also work in your occupation. I encourage you to complete the questionnaire and return it as soon as you can. However, your participation is completely voluntary and will in no way affect your employment.

Also, please be assured that your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and your name will not be associated with your individual responses. As you will note from the instructions provided in the questionnaire packet, your completed questionnaire should be returned directly to RTI, the survey organization collecting the data. An addressed, postage-paid envelope is enclosed in the packet of materials for this purpose. Neither I, nor anyone else in the company, will ever see or have access to your answers.

Thank you very much for attending to this request. I hope you will complete the questionnaire and return it to RTI in the next few days. If you have questions about it, please contact me.



# U.S. Department of Labor

## Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to

This Certificate of Appreciation is in recognition of your personal and significant contribution to the National Occupational Information Network ( $O^*NET$ ) Data Collection Program, our Nation's primary source of occupational information.





Rosemary Lahasky
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Employment and Training Administration



#### **Selected Employee Packet**

- Employee Questionnaire Packet Envelope
- O\*NET Folder\*
- RTI Letter to Accompany Questionnaire (With \$10 Incentive)
- RTI Letter to Accompany Questionnaire (Without \$10 Incentive)
- Association Endorsement List\*
- O\*NET Brochure\*
- Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O\*NET Questionnaire
- Web Option Reminder Post-It
- Business Reply Mail Return Envelope

<sup>\*</sup>Please refer to the "Information Package Mailing to the Point-of-Contact" to view this document.





This is a request for occupational information only. RTI International is conducting this data collection effort for the U.S. Department of Labor.

### **Employee Questionnaire Packet**

See enclosed questionnaire for instructions on completing the survey online.

# RTI Letter to Accompany Questionnaire (With \$10 Incentive)



#### [RTI Questionnaire Cover Letter to Incumbent with money]

[DATE]

Dear Madam or Sir,

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor, I am requesting your participation in the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) Data Collection Program. This important data collection effort is being undertaken to update the O\*NET database, our nation's primary source of occupational information. RTI, a non-profit research organization, is conducting this data collection effort for the U.S. DOL and the National Center for O\*NET Development. We are collecting data from randomly sampled workers in businesses all across the United States.

Your company has agreed to participate in the O\*NET Data Collection Program. One of your coworkers, [NAME OF POC], is helping RTI to randomly sample employees to be invited to participate in this important program.

To participate, please complete the questionnaire enclosed with this letter and return it to us in the postage-paid envelope provided. It should only take about 30 minutes to complete. We also ask that you do this on your own time, not company time. We have enclosed \$10, which is yours to keep as an expression of our appreciation for your time.

Your participation is completely voluntary. You can skip over any question you do not want to answer. Your responses are returned directly to RTI, where your answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way. Neither your name nor your company's name will be associated with your response. Data will only be used in summary form to describe occupations - not specific jobs or the individuals performing them.

We have enclosed an O\*NET brochure that will answer many questions you have about the O\*NET program. If you have access to the Internet, you may wish to complete the questionnaire on our Web site at http://onet.rti.org. We have enclosed instructions to assist you with that. If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571 ext. 26475.

Thank you for your help with the O\*NET project. The participation of businesses and employees across the country will ensure that all occupational information contained in the O\*NET system is accurate and useful to business, educators, and individuals exploring careers.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Weeks O\*NET Project Director

Enclosure

turning knowledge into practice

Michael 2 Week

# RTI Letter to Accompany Questionnaire (Without \$10 Incentive)



#### [RTI Questionnaire Cover Letter to Incumbent without money]

[DATE]

Dear Madam or Sir,

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor, I am requesting your participation in the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) Data Collection Program. This important data collection effort is being undertaken to update the O\*NET database, our nation's primary source of occupational information. RTI, a non-profit research organization, is conducting this data collection effort for the U.S. DOL and the National Center for O\*NET Development. We are collecting data from randomly sampled workers in businesses all across the United States.

Your company has agreed to participate in the O\*NET Data Collection Program. One of your coworkers, [NAME OF POC], is helping RTI to randomly sample employees to be invited to participate in this important program.

To participate, please complete the questionnaire enclosed with this letter and return it to us in the postage-paid envelope provided. It should only take about 30 minutes to complete. We also ask that you do this on your own time, not company time. We sincerely appreciate your taking the time to help us in this important effort.

Your participation is completely voluntary. You can skip over any question you do not want to answer. Your responses are returned directly to RTI, where your answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way. Neither your name nor your company's name will be associated with your response. Data will only be used in summary form to describe occupations - not specific jobs or the individuals performing them.

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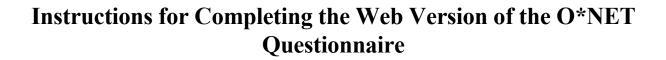
Sincerely,

Michael F. Weeks O\*NET Project Director

Enclosure

turning knowledge into practice

Michael & Week





## Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O\*NET® Questionnaire

Username: [FILL HERE] Password: [FILL HERE]

You can complete the questionnaire online, if you prefer. Just follow these simple steps.

- **Step 1.** Go to the web address http://onet.rti.org.
- **Step 2.** Click on the Login link to gain access to the questionnaire.
- **Step 3.** Enter your username and password. This information can be found above or at the top of the front cover of the questionnaire booklet that you received.
- **Step 4.** Click on OK. Once you are logged in, you will receive further instructions on completing the questionnaire.

Please be assured that your online responses are completely secure and are protected by the same technology used by businesses to secure credit card transactions.

If you have any problems accessing the web site, please call 1-877-233-7348, ext. 100. Technical assistance is available through this toll free number Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM Eastern Time. You can also email your technical questions to onethelp@rti.org.

If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 26475. If you prefer, you can email him at dstone@rti.org.

Thank you again for your participation in the O\*NET Data Collection Program!

O=000000 C=00000 B=00000









P.O. Box 12194 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

PRIVATE: To be opened by authorized staff only.



POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

| International Attn: Data Capture (O\*NET 0207142) | S265 Capital Boulevard Raleigh NC 27690-1653



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

### **O\*NET Toolkit for Business**

- RTI Letter to Accompany Toolkit
- Toolkit Folder
- Toolkit Contents

## RTI Letter to Accompany the O\*NET Toolkit for Business



[DATE]

[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

Your interest and support of the O\*NET® Data Collection effort is very important to the success of the program. With that in mind, I am sending you this O\*NET Toolkit for Business, in the hope that it will become a valuable aid to you and your organization. This is a free resource for your company from the U.S. Department of Labor.

The O\*NET Toolkit for Business was created specifically for organizations like yours to help them use the information available through O\*NET to simplify tasks such as writing job descriptions and planning for future human resource needs. The following pieces are included in the toolkit:

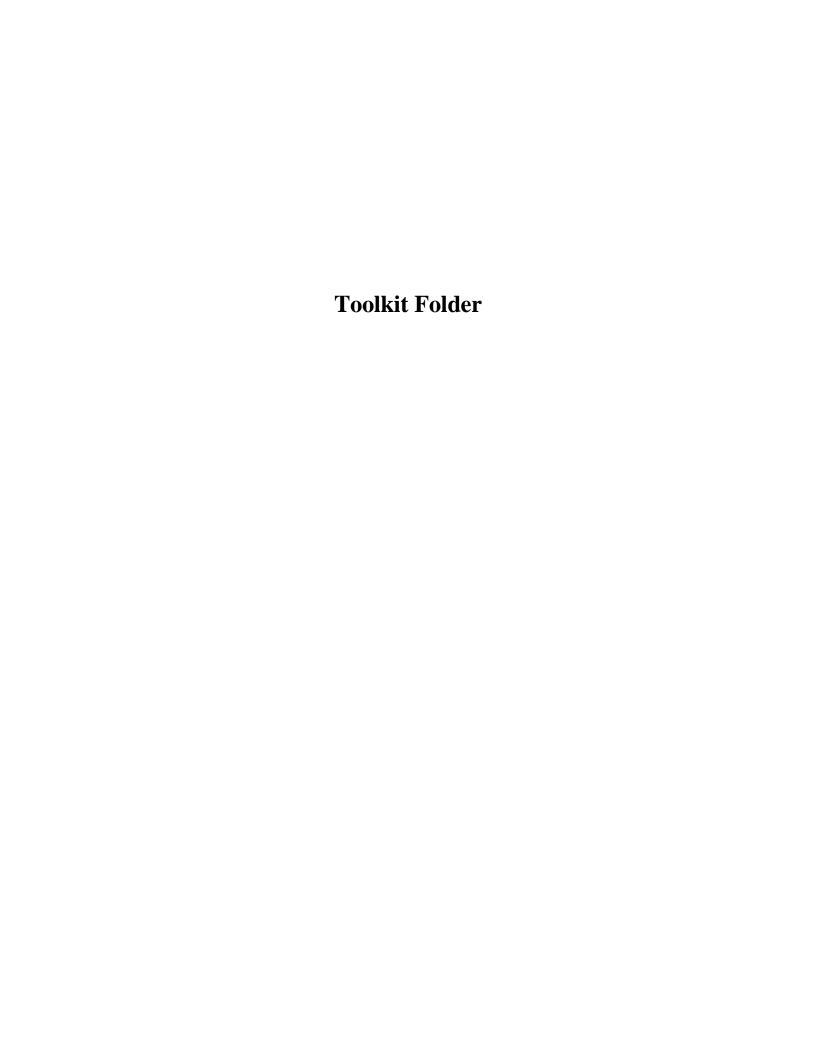
- The Quick Reference Guide to O\*NET: an executive summary of O\*NET information.
- **The OnLine Guided Tour:** an introduction to the O\*NET OnLine application.
- The Content Model Reference Card: an overview of the conceptual foundation for O\*NET occupational information.
- O\*NET At Work: Writing Job Descriptions: step-by-step guide to writing job descriptions using O\*NET OnLine.
- O\*NET At Work: HR Planning and Employee Retention & Reskilling: step-by-step guide to doing human resource planning or solving employee retention/reskilling problems using O\*NET OnLine.
- **The compact disc:** provides full copies of the O\*NET questionnaires in MS Word for in-house use, such as job analysis.

We hope you find this Toolkit useful. If you have any comments or questions, please contact me at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL EXTENSION], or the Operations Center Manager at 1-877-233-7348 ext. 100.

Sincerely,

[NAME OF BL] Business Liaison

Enclosure











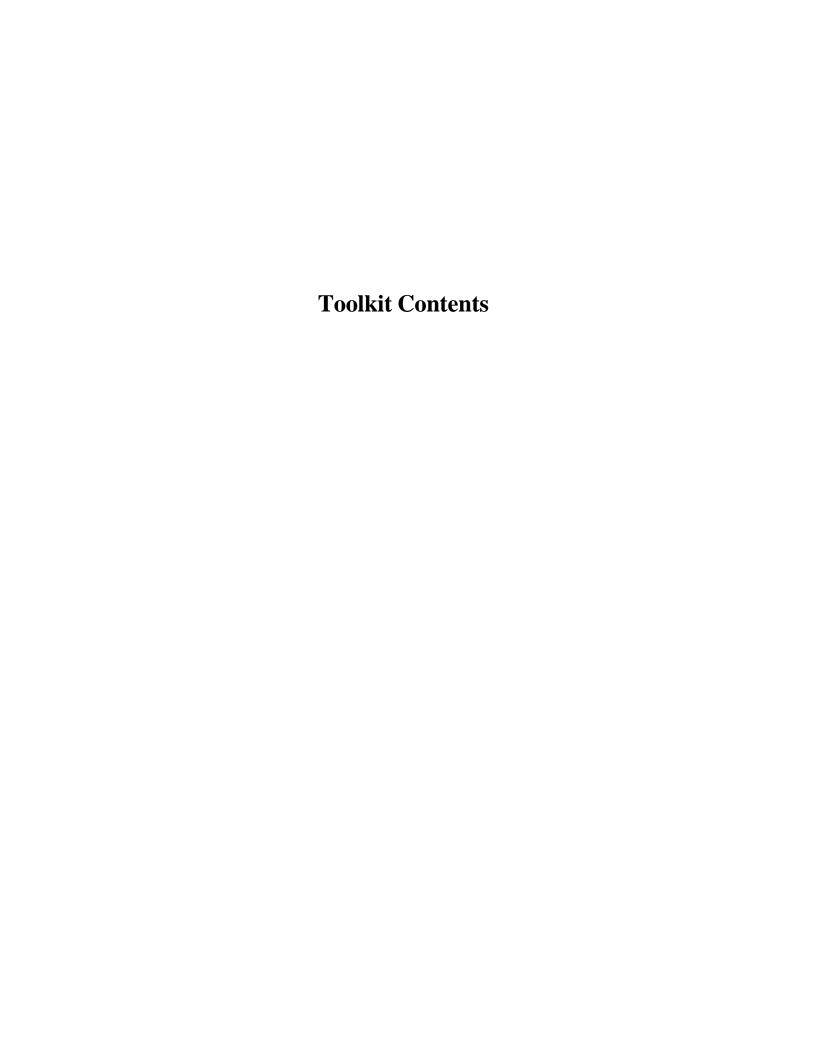
O\*NET is brought to you by:

O\*NET Project
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
Mail Stop C 4526
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20210
www.doleta.gov/programs/onet

National Center for O\*NET Development P.O. Box 27625 Raleigh, NC 27611 www.onetcenter.org



toolkit for business



#### Disclaimer:

This O\*NET® Toolkit for Business has been produced by compiling information and documentation provided by various sources. The examples are provided as illustrative uses of O\*NET and, as such, this Toolkit is provided "AS-IS" without expressed or implied warranties.

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Any modifications to the training materials which imply that O\*NET can be used for additional purposes not cited in the DOL source materials, for which its validity and reliability have not been established, must be clearly labeled and identified in and on the product as additions made to the original DOL/ETA materials.

O\*NET is a DOL/ETA trademarked product. For any use of the O\*NET mark, please contact the National Center for O\*NET Development at http://www.onetcenter.org or National Center for O\*NET Development, P.O. Box 27625, Raleigh, NC 27611 for appropriate procedures and requirements.

Inquiries and comments can be addressed to the National Center for O\*NET Development by using the contact information below.

National Center for O\*NET Development P.O. Box 27625 Raleigh, NC 27611 www.onetcenter.org

#### Acknowledgements:

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) wishes to acknowledge the following organizations and offices for their contributions to the O\*NET® Toolkit for

National Center for O\*NET Development

Ron Page, Ph.D.

The National O\*NET Consortium, comprised of the North Carolina Employment Security Commission; Center for Employment Security Education and Research; and ETA's Office of Workforce Investment and the Skills Assessment Team.



#### O\*NET® Toolkit for Business

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O\*NET Mini CD

#### O\*NET® Toolkit for Business

This Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®) Toolkit for Business provides a wealth of background information on the features of O\*NET, and details its many uses for human resource professionals and employers.

#### Your Toolkit contains:

**Employers' Quick Reference Guide to O\*NET.** A brief overview of the features of O\*NET, giving basic information on O\*NET and how it serves as a resource to assist businesses with everyday needs, complete with brief instructions on how to get started.

**O\*NET OnLine Guided Tour.** A guided tour of the features and capabilities of O\*NET OnLine, demonstrating the breadth and depth of the information available. This guided tour demonstrates how users can navigate through O\*NET OnLine and provides real world examples of occupational and skills searches, or specific details of one or more occupations. This tool also describes O\*NET OnLine's many resources on accommodations, disabilities, and workplace issues.

**O\*NET at Work.** Two case studies provide an overview of how O\*NET can be used in specific human resources and management functions. The case studies—*Writing Job Descriptions* and *HR Planning, Employee Reskilling and Retention*—provide step-bystep, detailed descriptions to demonstrate O\*NET's use in specific business processes.

**The O\*NET Content Model.** Provides both graphic and written descriptions of the conceptual framework that underlies the O\*NET database.

**O\*NET Mini CD.** A mini CD provides full copies of the O\*NET Questionnaires in Microsoft Word.

Together, these tools equip your business to become a power user of O\*NET.



#### What Is O\*NET?

Think of O\*NET (the **Occupational Information** Network) as a power tool for employers and human resource professionals. O\*NET is an easily searchable online database that provides detailed information on over 900 occupations representing the entire U. S. economy. O\*NET is an up to date, flexible, and streamlined resource for accessing information relevant to many human resource, organizational development, and workforce development functions.

### One resource, many applications.

O\*NET is a valuable resource for many human resource and strategic business operations, such as:

- Job Descriptions
- ► Human Resource Planning
- Organizational Structure and Design
- Job Design and Job Reengineering
- Organizational Development
- Succession Planning
- Training Needs Analysis
- Career Development
- Workforce Development
- Web Services Integration





Employers'
Quick Reference Guide to O\*NET



#### Why should you use O\*NET?

O\*NET is a free, easy-to-use occupational information system that can help your company save time and effort by leveraging its human resource capabilities. From start-up to Fortune 500, every business faces challenges in defining job requirements, developing accurate job descriptions, and implementing effective personnel development strategies. In a technology-driven, highly competitive, and rapidly evolving marketplace, human resource professionals, line managers, and decision-makers all need current, accurate occupational intelligence.

#### **Key O\*NET business benefits**

**Time savings:** Developing job descriptions can be time- and labor-intensive. O\*NET OnLine puts current, searchable information on hundreds of occupations at your fingertips, including education and experience, apprenticeable specialties, work activities and typical tasks, as well as knowledge, skills, and abilities. You can easily copy O\*NET information and tailor it to your company's specific needs—letting you develop quality job descriptions in a fraction of the time. Developers can integrate O\*NET tools into their own website or web-enabled application using O\*NET Web Services.

**Efficiency:** O\*NET data is easy to find, easy to search, and easy to understand—giving you meaningful occupational information and analytical support instantly. This means that you can address a wider range of human resources issues in less time, with less effort.

**Consistency:** O\*NET standardized occupational descriptors make it much easier to compare work across a broad range of functions and levels.

**Effectiveness:** O\*NET provides comprehensive and current information for a wide range of occupations. This translates into better targeted recruiting efforts, more effective training, and better defined career paths.

Added Value: O\*NET standardized descriptors create a common language that is an applicable tool for a mobile and rapidly changing world of work. O\*NET descriptions are based on rigorous research and the input of industry experts.

Cost Savings: Tracking down all the information you need for Human Resource planning can be expensive. O\*NET OnLine brings together occupational information with links to additional resources, such as employment outlook, wages, and other labor market information. All the data is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with no fee for use.



To take advantage of O\*NET information, use the quick reference information on the next few pages—or see the O\*NET OnLine Guided Tour for more in-depth information, tips, and techniques for getting the most from O\*NET OnLine. For a more detailed description of the O\*NET information, see the Content Model Reference Card.

#### **How Can You Use O\*NET?**

#### Log onto O\*NET OnLine

Just visit *http://www.onetonline.org* to check out O\*NET, run a search, or link to dozens of valuable resources for occupational and career-related information.



#### **Use O\*NET OnLine**

O\*NET OnLine is a web-based application that provides access to information in the O\*NET database of occupational information.

#### The O\*NET Database provides occupational information within the following catetgories:

- ▶ Worker Characteristics: Abilities, Interests, Work Values and Work Styles
- ▶ Worker Requirements: Skills, Knowledge and Education
- **Experience Requirements:** Experience, Training, Skills and Licensing Requirements
- ▶ Occupation Specific Information: Titles, Alternate Titles, Tasks, and Tools and Technology
- ▶ Occupation Requirements: Work Activities, Detailed Work Activities, Organizational Context, and Work Context
- ▶ Workforce Characteristics: Links to labor market information, occupational outlook and wage information

#### O\*NET OnLine Search Options

- ► Find Occupations allows you to search for occupations by entering a title, phrase or code into the Keyword Search box, or by using one of the "Browse by" options: Bright Outlook, Career Cluster, Green Economy Sector, Industry, Job Family, Job Zone, and STEM Discipline (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics disciplines).
- ▶ Advanced Search lets you "Browse by" O\*NET Data to find occupations by many different descriptors; lets you use Skills to find Occupations matching the skills you have or plan to acquire; lets you use specific Tools or Technology to find high demand occupations; lets you use Detailed Work Activities and Tasks to find similar occupations.
- ▶ Crosswalk lets you search for an O\*NET-SOC occupation using codes or titles from other classification systems such as: the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT), the Military Occupational Classification (MOC), the Registered Apprenticeship Partners Information Data System (RAPIDS), the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC), the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP), and the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH).
- ▶ **Green** lets you search for Green occupations that are part of the green economy.

#### Valuable Related Links

O\*NET OnLine offers a wide variety of links to other valuable occupation-related sites. Each Summary, Details, or Custom Report includes the option of linking directly to Wages and Employment Outlook Information for that occupation on CareerOneStop. There are also links to the U.S. Department of Labor, other government agencies, as well as links to information on disability, accommodations, and workplace issues.

#### Summary, Details, and Custom Reports

O\*NET OnLine provides information at several levels. **Summary** information is designed to provide a quick overview, focusing on the most important information on the occupation. **Details** information gives more comprehensive information. **Custom** information allows users to create their own customized reports.

#### Downloading the O\*NET Database

- ► At the upper right of the O\*NET OnLine home page, Click on O\*NET Sites then click on the link to the Resource Center (http://www.onetcenter.org).
- Click the Developers heading on the Left of the page, then select Production Database.

#### Download the O\*NET Database

The O\*NET Database may be downloaded free, for importing into other systems. The O\*NET database includes all the occupational information in O\*NET OnLine. This information can be used to facilitate career exploration, vocational counseling, and a variety of human resource functions, such as developing job orders, position descriptions, and aligning training with current workplace needs.

#### O\*NET Center Home Page

For more information about using O\*NET, or about O\*NET products or technical reports, please see www.onetcenter.org.



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U.S. Department of Labor
Mail Stop C 4526
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toolkit for business

O\*NET OnLine Guided Tour



This *Guided Tour* is designed to help you use O\*NET® OnLine more efficiently. While O\*NET OnLine has a friendly, easy-to-use interface, this guide and reference tool may speed the learning curve for site navigation and search strategy.

#### About the O\*NET Database and O\*NET OnLine

**O\*NET** (the Occupational Information Network) **OnLine** is a centralized online resource that enables you to access occupational information in the O\*NET database. O\*NET OnLine offers links to other valuable online occupational resources, including federal agencies and programs.

The O\*NET database is the nation's primary source for occupational information. It offers:

- A common language and consistent descriptors for both worker and occupational information. Because
  O\*NET information is regularly updated and is based on careful research and analysis of "real world"
  occupational data, it is a useful tool for a wide array of management and human resource activities.
- A unique approach to organizing and presenting occupational information. The O\*NET "Content Model" gives employers convenient ways to hone in on information specific to a particular occupation, yet also lets them compare occupations using common skills, job attributes, and worker attributes.
- A helpful analysis and decision support system for many key business functions. Human resource
  professionals, business forecasters, industry analysts, organizational consultants, and line managers find
  O\*NET information valuable in achieving objectives such as:
  - Efficiently developing accurate job descriptions
  - Developing more targeted and effective employee development programs
  - Aligning organizational development initiatives with identified workplace needs
  - Defining recruitment goals
  - Expanding the pool of quality candidates for open positions





#### **Using O\*NET OnLine**

The O\*NET database houses the occupational descriptors and data that can be accessed through O\*NET OnLine. O\*NET OnLine is a convenient and easy-to-use interface to the O\*NET database.



#### Logging onto O\*NET OnLine

This guided tour is most helpful if you log onto O\*NET OnLine at <a href="http://www.onetonline.org">http://www.onetonline.org</a> and follow this map to get familiar with its functions and features. Or you may select O\*NET OnLine from the O\*NET Home Page (<a href="http://www.onetcenter.org/">http://www.onetcenter.org/</a>) to reach O\*NET OnLine.



#### **Getting Oriented to O\*NET OnLine**

O\*NET OnLine is designed to be intuitive. It's easy to navigate through the web site and easy to search the database. But because there are several different levels and types of information provided, it's helpful to get a sense of what each category of information is and how it can be used.

#### O\*NET OnLine home page overview

This home page is largely dedicated to O\*NET

OnLine's search options. The other key

information available here includes:

**OnLine Help:** Assistance for navigating, searching, and retrieving information from O\*NET

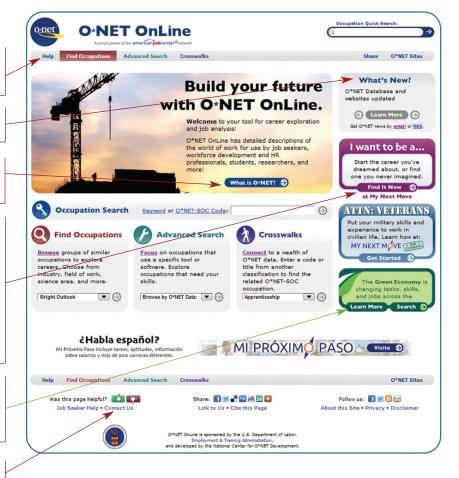
What's New: Link to other O\*NET products and tools

What is O\*NET: Link to information about O\*NET data, applications, and research

My Next Move: A web-based interactive tool for new job seekers, students, and other career explorers to learn more about their career options. Provides the O\*NET Interest Profiler, a tool that offers customized career suggestions based on a person's interests and level of education and work experience.

**Green Occupations:** Discover important information about green occupations and the green economy.

An email link for your comments and suggestions for O\*NET



#### **▼** About O\*NET OnLine search options

Occupation Quick Search

provides quick access to finding occupations by keyword or code.

O\*NET OnLine offers four easy search functions.



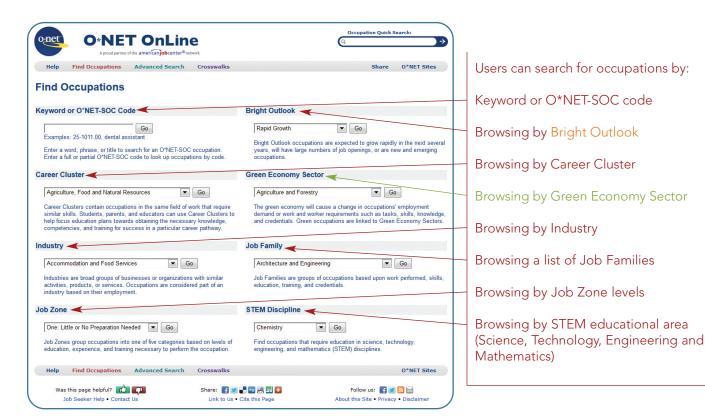
Find Occupations allows you to search for occupations by entering a title, phrase or code into the Keyword search box, or by using one of the "Browse by" options: Bright Outlook, Career Cluster, Green Economy Sector, Industry, Job Family, Job Zone, and STEM Discipline (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics disciplines).

Advanced Search lets you "Browse by" O\*NET Data to find occupations by many different descriptors; lets you find Occupations using Skills you have or plan to acquire; lets you use specific Tools or Technology to find high demand occupations; lets you use Detailed Work Activities and Tasks to find similar occupations.

Crosswalks lets you search for an O\*NET-SOC occupation by entering a code from one of several other occupational classification systems.



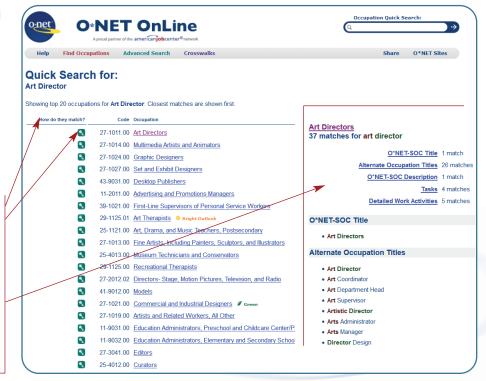
#### **Using Find Occupations**



Results for a Quick search are listed in a rank order that is calculated on the relevance of the occupational title, alternate titles, description, tasks, and detailed work activities associated with the word or words you entered.

#### Clicking on How Do They Match

and then clicking on the key symbol shows which key words were matched for each occupation. Click on one of these icons to bring up a list of the alternate titles, tasks, and work activities matching your search query. The words of the search query are highlighted, to easily see where a match occurs.



#### 6

#### **Understanding Summary, Details, and Custom Reports**



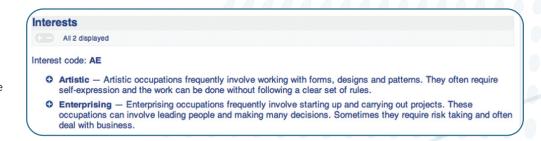
When you search for occupational information, O\*NET lets you review information at a variety of levels. The sections below illustrate these different options by showing a sample of O\*NET data retrieved for a search of the occupational title "Art Director."

#### Summary

Summary Reports are displayed when first selecting an occupation. They provide up to five descriptors rated 50% or higher on the Importance scale for each occupational and worker characteristic.

Summary Example:

For Art Director, two *Interests* categories received high importance ratings.



#### Details

The Details Reports option provides complete information, including ratings of relative importance, on all the occupational and worker descriptors. This information is useful for in-depth analysis and for comparing occupations.



Details Example: Details reports on all six Interests categories, including importance ratings When the "+" icon appears next to an item, you can click it to see a list of related occupations with this same Interest, Skill, etc.. For example, selecting the "+" icon next to Artistic occupations shows occupations where that skill is an important part of the work. Click on any listed occupation to see its full Summary report.



#### Custom

Custom allows the user to select the descriptors of interest as well as the scale (*Importance* or *Level* of expertise) and minimum ratings desired for a customized report.

- Importance ranks the relative importance of an attribute for a particular occupation.
- Level is an indicator of the relative level of expertise required for a skill, knowledge area, or ability.

While the same skill can be important to a number of different occupations, the skill level needed for each occupation may be different. For example, critical thinking ranks as Important for both Art Directors and Craft Artists. But the Level rating for critical thinking for Art Directors (57 on the Level scale) is higher than for Craft Artists (46 on the Level scale).

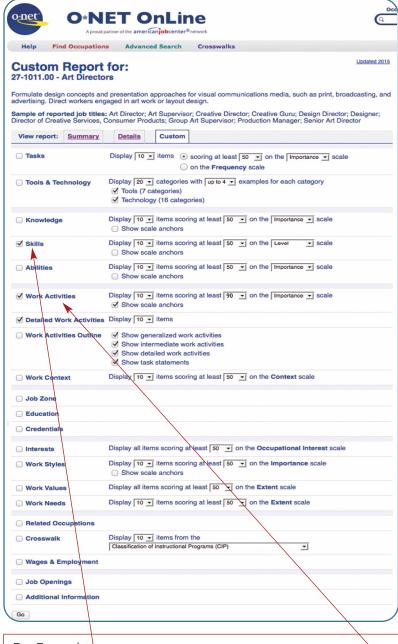
#### O\*NET Rating Scales

O\*NET descriptors are rated on several different numeric rating scales, which all range from 0 to 100.

The Importance and Level scales are applied to Skills, Knowledge, Ability, and Work Activities descriptors. In some domains additional scales are also used.

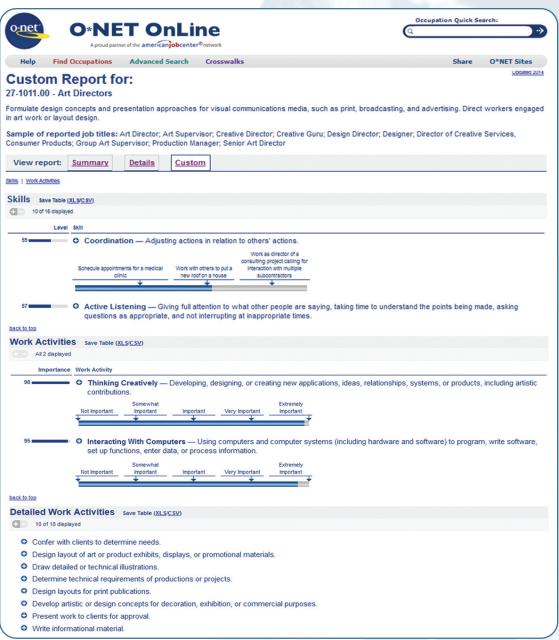
Users can also choose to include the scale anchors used in the O\*NET Questionnaires, as well as Detailed Work Activities.

Detailed Work Activities provide information on the common work activities required across occupations. These crossoccupational descriptors are less specific than Tasks, which are occupationally specific. They are provided within each of the more general Work Activities with which they are associated. In the Work Activities Outline view, an occupation's hiearchy of generalized, intermediate, and detailed work activities, and occupation-specific task statements is shown.



For Example:

Checking *Skills* at a minimum *Level* of expertise of 50 and *Work Activities* at a minimum *Importance* rating of 90, along with scale anchors and Detailed Work Activities, generates the report on the next page.



#### **Related Occupations**



At the bottom of Summary and Details reports is a list of Related Occupations. In Custom reports, under Other Information, you may choose to view Related Occupations as well as occupations that Crosswalk with the selected occupation.

Related Occupations for Art Director



#### Wages and Employment Information

O\*NET OnLine provides national wage and employment information at the bottom of each Summary or Details Report. In addition, the user can select to be taken to CareerOneStop for state wage and trends information.

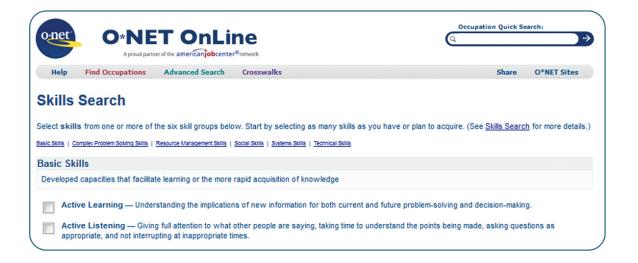


#### Performing a Skills Search

Skills Search lets a user identify occupations that utilize specific skills. This search strategy could help employees locate other positions within an organization or help an HR professional develop career ladders within a company. When you select Skills Search, a screen displays definitions for six broad skill categories:

- Basic Skills
- Complex Problem Solving Skills
- Resource Management Skills
- Social Skills
- Systems Skills
- Technical Skills

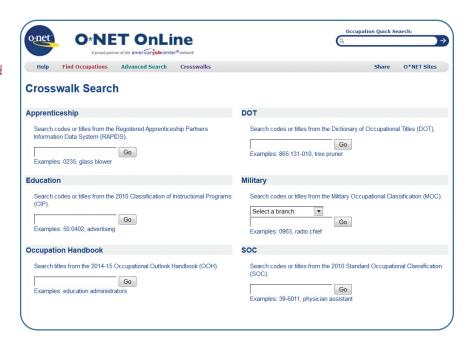
Under each skill category, you can select any number of the more specific skills listed. Then click Go at the bottom of the page. The Skills Search Results page will display a list of occupations that match the selected skills, along with a count of the skills matched.



#### **Using O\*NET Crosswalks**

**Crosswalk Search** lets you search for related O\*NET-SOC occupations using codes or titles from other classification systems:

- Apprenticeship Registered Apprenticeship Partners information Data System (RAPIDS)
- DOT Dictionary of Occupational Titles
- ► Education Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP)
- Military Military
   Occupational Classification (MOC)
- ► SOC Standard Occupational Classification
- Occupation Handbook Occupational Outlook Handbook



# Cocupation Quick Search: Aproxid purpose of the american placenter Presence Help Find Occupations Advanced Search Crosswalks Share O\*NET Sites Tools & Technology Search Use machines, equipment, tools, or software to find high demand occupations. Learn about the tools, technology, and related skills needed to successfully perform in today's world of work. Enter a specific tool or technology: Go Examples: drill, Microsoft Excel Help Find Occupations Advanced Search Crosswalks O\*NET Sites Follow us: Share: Share

## Search Tools & Technology

The user of the Tools & Technology Search enters the name of a specific tool or software product to find occupations which may use that tool. For example, the following is a partial list of the results for "Tax software"

- ▶ 13-2011.01 <u>Accountants</u>
- ▶ 13-2021.01 <u>Assessors</u>
- ► 13-2082.00 <u>Tax Preparers</u>

#### **Saving O\*NET Information**

You can print and save any information retrieved from O\*NET Details and Custom Reports.

- See Save Table and click on <u>XLS</u> or <u>CSV</u> at the top of any table of information.
- These links let you view or download the data as an XLS (Excel) or CSV (Comma-Separated Values) file.



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O\*NET at Work:
Writing Job Descriptions

Describing jobs within an organization is a common task that can consume large amounts of time and resources. This example application demonstrates how human resource personnel can use O\*NET® to develop job descriptions faster, better, and cheaper.



#### The Employer's Challenge

Vitality, Inc. is a mid-size professional services company with a growing information technology (IT) department. To better meet internal demand for technical support, the company needed to create several technical support or "help desk" positions, and to develop a new position description for computer support. Bob Garcia, the Human Resource (HR) Manager, turned to O\*NET information to help identify job requirements for computer support work.

#### Writing an Effective Job Description

Job descriptions provide information to guide many human resource applications. The amount of detail required depends on the intended use. The more detail provided, the greater the breadth and depth of human resource applications that may be addressed. The HR Manager determined that O\*NET information could provide a starting point for developing job descriptions more efficiently.

# Step 1: Identify Job Tasks, Responsibilities, and Work Context factors that will be part of the newly created positions.

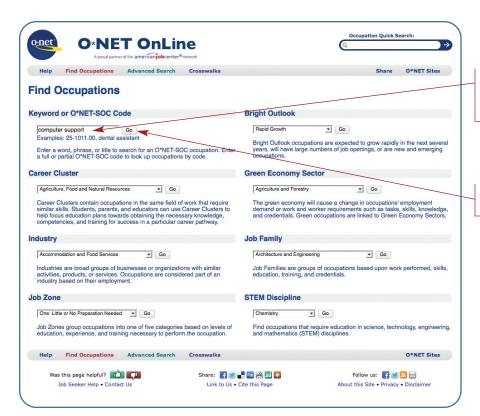
The HR Manager accessed the internet and typed in *http://www.onetonline.org.* At the O\*NET OnLine home page, he selected **Find Occupations**. From the **Find Occupations** screen, he was able to access the database of information describing work for computer support occupations.

Using **Keyword search**, the HR Manager typed in "computer support" and clicked **GO**.

The first match listed on the resulting screen was "Computer User Support Specialists." The HR Manager selected this occupation and a *Summary Report* was displayed.

The HR Manager then selected *Custom* reports, which provides options for what information the user wants displayed on the occupation.



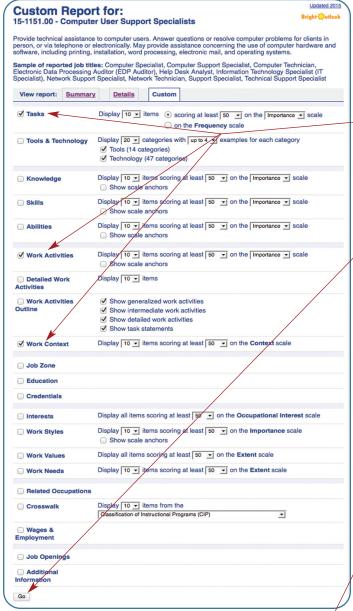


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On the **Find Occupations** screen, the user typed "computer support" in the *Keyword search* box.

The user then clicked on the Go button.





The HR Manager copied the brief occupation description to the job description document he is creating (see page 6).

A sample of job titles obtained from incumbents is provided.

Users can download the tables for selected O\*NET descriptors by clicking on either XLS or CSV by Save Table.

Activities are listed in descending order of importance.

Next, the HR Manager decided what information describing the work of Computer User Support Specialists he wanted to see.

The user selected the Tasks, Work Activities, and Work Context check boxes.

The user clicked Go to create the Custom Report.

For selected O\*NET Descriptors on the Custom Report Menu, users can choose the minimum score for the items displayed and the type of scale, such as *Importance or Level*.

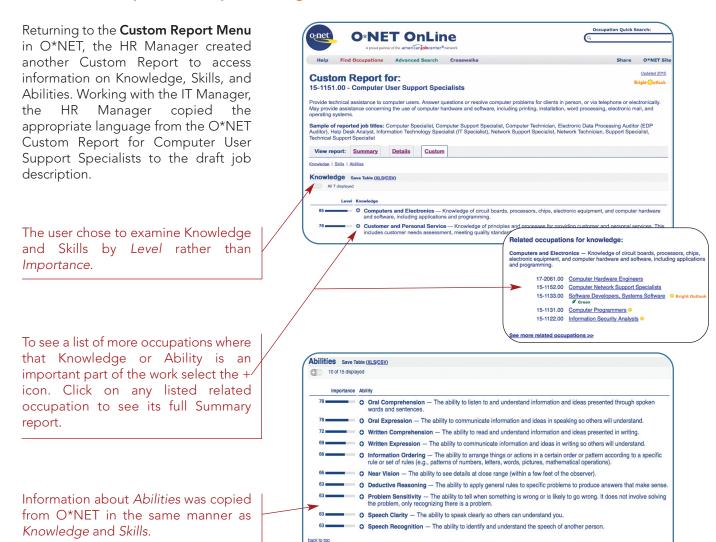


The HR Manager printed the *Custom Report* and asked the IT Manager to highlight Tasks, Work Activities, and Work Context information relevant for the position. Once the IT Manager highlighted the important information about the work of Computer User Support Specialists, the information was copied to the draft job description (see page 6).

Next, the IT Manager added information to customize the job description to the needs of Vitality, Inc. The HR Manager gave the Work Context Questionnaire\* to employees in the information technology department to complete. This gave him information about social and physical factors in the workplace. Social factors include supervision, responsibility and customer service interaction. Physical factors include aspects of the environment that affect the employee's physical comfort. This information was also added to the draft job description.

Information from the Work Context Questionnaire\* can be used to describe the working conditions in which work is performed, and adds greater detail to a job description.

## Step 2: Identify the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities that are important for performing the identified tasks.



Help Find Occupations Advanced Search Crosswalks

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<sup>\*</sup> The Work Context Questionnaire is included in the O\*NET Questionnaires on the enclosed mini CD.



Once the information was gathered using O\*NET OnLine, the HR Manager and the IT Manager completed a draft of a job description. They presented this draft to people in information technology functions within the company for final revisions.

The job description that the HR Manager and IT Manager developed using O\*NET information is shown to the right. The language for the job description was taken from O\*NET OnLine. The red text was contributed by the staff.

#### Benefits to the Employer

The employer realized the following benefits:

- The time invested in developing the job description was reduced from an average of 24 hours to 8 hours.
- The cost to the employer was reduced dramatically from approximately \$1,440 to approximately \$480.
- ► The job description was created using a standardized and common language.
- ► The standardized language used made it much easier to compare work across functions and levels.
- ► The new O\*NET based description was of much higher quality than the less specific descriptions used in the past.
- ► Through O\*NET OnLine links, the employer accessed additional information on the Internet, such as current U.S. salaries, current and projected employment, and related training.

#### **Sample Job Description:**

#### **Computer Help Desk Specialist**

Summary of Work Activities and Responsibilities: Provides technical assistance to internal computer system users for word processing, electronic mail, spread sheet, database, and project management applications. Answers questions and resolves computer problems for system users in person or over the telephone. Prepares and conducts evaluations of software and hardware and makes recommendations to management for review. Monitors software, hardware, and peripheral equipment to detect errors, evaluate effectiveness, and resolve problems. Installs software, hardware, and peripheral equipment and performs minor repairs. May be required to prepare and conduct training for system users. Help Desk Specialists are results oriented, capable of working on their own and making decisions. Work is performed from a central, well equipped technology center or at user stations. (This summary is a compilation of information found in the O\*NET Custom Report for Computer User Support Specialists)

#### **Typical Tasks:**

- 1) Installs and performs minor repairs to hardware, software, and peripheral equipment in a system using [insert required software] following design or installation specifications.
- 2) Confers daily with staff, users, and management to determine requirements for new systems or modifications.
- 3) Reads technical manuals, confers with users, and conducts computer diagnostics to investigate and resolve problems and provide technical assistance.
- 4) Enters commands and observes system functioning to verify correct operations and detect errors.
- 5) Refers major hardware or software problems or defective products to vendors or technicians for service.
- 6) Maintains record of daily data communication transactions, problems and remedial action taken, and installation activities.
- 7) Conducts office automation feasibility studies, including workflow analysis, space design, and cost comparison analysis.
- 8) Reads trade magazines and technical manuals, and attends conferences and seminars to maintain knowledge of hardware and software.
- Inspects equipment and reads order sheets to prepare for delivery to users.
   (from the Tasks section of the Custom Report)

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:** *Must have knowledge of electronic circuit boards, processors, chips, and computer hardware and software, including applications and programming. Must understand the principles and processes for providing customer services. Knowledge of instructional methods is helpful but not required.* (from the **Knowledge** section of the **Custom Report**) *Must be able to determine what is causing operating problems and decide how to solve them using active listening and critical thinking skills.* (from the **Skills** section of the **Custom Report**) *Must have the ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing, and use deductive and mathematical reasoning to detect, diagnose, and solve computer and system related problems.* (from the **Abilities** section of the **Custom Report**)

**Education and Experience Requirements:** People in this position must have a Bachelor's Degree in Management Information Systems, Computer Science, Information Technology, or a related computer field, and two years of experience in computer support and service. Must have experience with [insert required software]. (from the **Job Zone - Education** section of the **Custom Report**)

6



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O\*NET at Work: HR Planning, Employee Reskilling and Retention

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Two important challenges in today's workplace are 1) how to keep up with the changing skills requirements of jobs and 2) how to retain employees with the proper skills. This example application shows how Reliant Bank used O\*NET® to help address these challenges.



#### The Employer's Challenge

Reliant Bank, a medium-sized financial services company, has had difficulty ensuring that it has employees with the right skills to handle its computer and information technology applications. With changes in hardware and software technology, as well as user requirements, the company has needed to continuously work on reskilling its workforce.

The President of Reliant Bank feels that it has had too much turnover from its computer and information technology (IT) jobs. Exit interviews have indicated that a primary reason for turnover is that employees want to upgrade their skills and be positioned for career advancement opportunities.

The bank has not had a framework for addressing these issues. Sharon Rogers, the Human Resources (HR) Manager, determined that the O\*NET system provides the framework and tools to help address these challenges. The following examples show how the HR manager addressed 1) Human Resource Planning — the identification of future skills requirements and how to position the organization for fulfilling these requirements, and 2) Employee Retention — facilitating the development of employees and positioning them for career advancement opportunities when they become available.

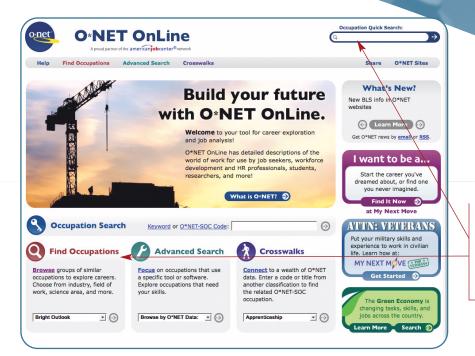
#### Example 1

#### **Human Resource Planning**

Human Resource Planning addresses the organization's future employee needs by providing a systematic process for determining current versus future knowledge and skill requirements. It requires identifying the types of knowledge, skills, and abilities needed at a future point in time and then comparing this to what is currently available. The difference, or gap, may then be addressed.

Work analysis information, as provided by O\*NET, can be a critical component of an effective HR Planning process. The Reliant HR Manager decided to use O\*NET to help address the organization's HR Planning and employee reskilling and retention issues.

The HR Manager also determined that the greatest need was in the area of information technology. Specifically, the needs were in hardware and software application support. She took these steps:



Occupation Quick Search enables the user to search for occupations by keyword or code. It can be accessed in the header of each O\*NET OnLine screen or by selecting Find Occupations on the home page.



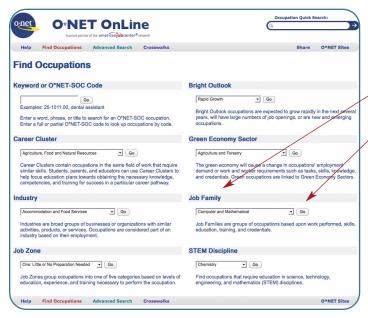
#### Step 1: Identify future staff needs.

The HR Manager met with line managers to identify future staff needs. They decided to concentrate on defining needs two years in the future. The strategic business plan for the next two years was reviewed. To accomplish its business plan, Reliant Bank needed approximately an eight percent (8%) increase in staff for computer hardware and software support.

## **Step 2:** Define Work and Worker Requirements of future staff needs

The HR Manager reviewed information in O\*NET OnLine. She accessed the Internet and typed in *http://www.onetonline.org*.





On the Job Family list screen the user selected "Computer User Support Specialists." The Summary Report for this occupation was displayed. However, the HR Manager wished to customize the report and so she chose Custom on the View Report line.

Next, the user chose to investigate Tasks, Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities by checking the appropriate boxes within the *Custom Report Menu*.

For selected O\*NET Descriptors on the Custom Report Menu, users can choose the minimum score for the items displayed and the type of scale.

The user selected the *Level* scale for Knowledge and Skills.

The user then selected Go.



More information was needed on the nature of work in computer maintenance and support.

The user went to the Find Occupations screen and selected Computer and Mathematical under Job Family.

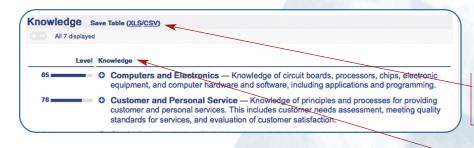
The user then selected Go.



The user reviewed the key tasks of Computer User Support Specialists. The list of tasks in O\*NET provides clarity about the application of Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities.

Tasks are listed here.





Next, the user reviewed the Knowledge areas.

Users can download the tables for selected O\*NET descriptors by clicking on the "save table" link.

Knowledge areas are listed in descending order by Level.



The user then reviewed the Skills.

Skill areas are presented in descending order for Computer User Support Specialists.

Abilities Save Table (XLS/CSV)

10 of 15 displayed

Importance Ability

Oral Comprehension — The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.

78 Oral Expression — The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.

72 Owritten Comprehension — The ability to read and understand information and ideas presented in writing.

69 Owritten Expression — The ability to communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.

66 Oral Expression — The ability to communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.

67 Owritten Expression — The ability to arrange things or actions in a certain order or pattern according to a specific rule or set of rules (e.g., patterns of numbers, letters, words, pictures, mathematical operations).

68 Ower Vision — The ability to see details at close range (within a few feet of the observer).

The user then reviewed the Abilities.

Abilities are listed in descending order of *Importance*.

# Step 3: For gaps, define Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities required.

The HR Manager compiled the O\*NET information into a listing for the target job. This was reviewed by the IT manager and selected members of the IT staff. They reported that the information was an excellent framework for the "job of the future." They added additional information that was specific to Reliant Bank's hardware and software environment and completed the effort within an hour.



# Step 4: Create a master plan for acquiring or repositioning employees to address future

The HR Manager then worked with line managers to develop a concrete plan of action for developing and acquiring employees with the required skills. A description of the jobs and job requirements was posted for current employees.

#### **Example 2** | Employee Reskilling and Retention

The second issue that the HR Manager addressed was employee reskilling and retention. What skills are required in the future? How can employees assure that they have the skills that will enable them to advance in their career? When employees feel that they have advancement opportunities, they are more inclined to stay with the organization.

#### Step 1: Identify future Knowledge, Skill, and Ability needs.

The Knowledge, Skill, and Ability requirements that were defined in Example 1 were used. In addition, the HR Manager printed out the **Summary Report** for Computer User Support Specialists.



The Summary Report displays the most important variables within each available category for the occupation of interest.

## Step 2: Identify current Knowledge, Skill, and Ability levels.

Selected employees completed O\*NET Knowledge, Skill, and Ability questionnaires. These questionnaires were included in the O\*NET Toolkit for Business that Reliant Bank received. An analysis of this information identified current knowledge, skill, and ability levels.

#### **Step 3:** Identify gaps and development opportunities.

The current Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities levels were compared to the future needs. Where gaps were identified, the employer took steps to supplement current training in preparation for future requirements.

## **Step 4:** Communicate career opportunities and development requirements.

Reliant Bank communicated to its employees about its future requirements and the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed. Where employees identified gaps, they initiated efforts to acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, or abilities. This positioned them for future job opportunities within the organization.

As a result of these actions employee turnover was reduced.

#### Benefits to the Employer

The employer realized a number of benefits by using O\*NET, including

- Creating a concrete strategy for addressing its future employee needs.
- Reducing employee turnover in mission critical jobs.
- Developing consistent and thorough job descriptions.
- Saving time by leveraging O\*NET technology and information.
- Incurring no additional expense and remaining within existing budgets.
- Adopting a framework for defining jobs and work and ensuring that the organization had a thorough and systematic means of defining jobs and worker requirements across the organization.



O\*NET is brought to you by:

O\*NET Project
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
Mail Stop C 4526
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20210

www.doleta.gov/programs/onet

National Center for O\*NET Development P.O. Box 27625 Raleigh, NC 27611

www.onetcenter.org



toolkit for business

## Reference Card the O\*NET Content Model

000000000

000000000

The O\*NET® Content Model is the conceptual framework underlying the database. It identifies the structure and types of information contained the O\*NET Database. The O\*NET Content Model provides data categories that allow you to review information from the standpoint of occupations (via job-oriented descriptors) and people (via worker-oriented descriptors).



### O\*NET's Content Model clusters information into six broad categories, called domains:

- ▶ Worker Characteristics: enduring characteristics such as abilities, interests, and work styles, that might influence both a worker's performance and the capacity to acquire knowledge and skills required for effective work performance.
- ▶ Worker Requirements: work-related attributes acquired and/or developed through experience and education related to the occupation. Knowledge refers to acquired facts and principles pertinent to a job. Skills are the application of knowledge in a work setting and may be divided into basic skills (such as reading, which facilitates the acquisition of new knowledge) and cross-functional skills (such as problem solving, which extends across several domains of activities).
- ▶ Experience Requirements: qualities related to previous activities and specific types of work activities. This category includes information about the typical experiential backgrounds of workers in an occupation or group of occupations, as well as certification, licensure, and training.
- ▶ Occupational Requirements: O\*NET identifies generalized work activities and detailed work activities that may be performed within multiple occupations. Using this framework, a single set of descriptors can be used to describe many occupations. Work context descriptors (the physical, social, or structural context of work) that may impose specific demands on workers are also included in this category.
- Occupation-Specific Information: descriptors that apply to a single occupation or a narrowly defined job family. This information includes occupation-specific tasks and machines, tools and software—referred to as Tools and Technology. This category is particularly important for specific human resource applications, such as training, developing job descriptions, or redefining jobs.
- ▶ Workforce Characteristics: general characteristics of occupations that may influence occupational requirements, including the occupation's social and economic contexts. Labor market information defined by industry or occupation also falls within this category. O\*NET provides this information through links from O\*NET OnLine to statistical labor market information including compensation and wage data, employment outlook, and industry size information. Much of this information is collected outside of O\*NET by organizations such as the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Defense, and the Census Bureau. An interactive version of the O\*NET Content Model is available from the O\*NET Resource Center home page at http://www.onetcenter.org/



O\*NET is brought to you by:

O\*NET Project Employment and Training Administration U.S. Department of Labor Mail Stop C 4526 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20210 www.doleta.gov/programs/onet

National Center for O\*NET Development P.O. Box 27625 Raleigh, NC 27611

www.onetcenter.org

Level 1: Worker Characteristics Level 2: Abilities

A closer look at the Content Model.

Each information category (or domain) in the O\*NET Content Model contains subcategories or subdomains, which further define each category. For example, the Worker Characteristics domain includes additional subdomains: Abilities, Interests, and Work Styles.

Level 3: Cognitive **Physical** Sensory

Psychomotor

Level 2: Interests

Level 3: Realistic

Investigative Artistic Social Enterprising

Conventional

Level 2: Work Styles

Level 3: Achievement Orientation

Social Influence

Interpersonal Orientation

Adjustment

Conscientiousness

Independence

Practical Intelligence

# **Mailing to POC with Thank You/Reminder Postcards**

- RTI Letter to POC to Accompany Thank You/Reminder Postcard
- Thank You/Reminder Postcard to Employee

# RTI Letter to POC to Accompany Thank You/Reminder Postcard



[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

Enclosed, please find the thank you/reminder postcards we discussed during our recent phone call. Each employee who was sampled to participate in the O\*NET® Data Collection Program should receive one of these postcards in the next day or so. The purpose of the postcard is to say "thank you" if they have already completed the questionnaire or to remind them to complete the questionnaire soon if they have not yet done so.

If you have not yet distributed the questionnaires to the sampled employees, please do not send a thank you/reminder postcard to them yet. Rather, distribute the questionnaires to them as soon as possible. Then, in about a week or so, send each one a postcard. That should allow enough time for them to have had a chance to complete the questionnaire.

I suggest that you use the employee roster or list you created to decide which employees should receive the postcards.

Let me thank you once again for your company's participation and more specifically, for your personal efforts in support of this important data collection program.

Sincerely,

[NAME OF BL] Business Liaison 1-877-233-7348, ext. [BL EXTENSION]

Enclosure



Dear Madam or Sir:

I recently mailed you a questionnaire and asked for your help to update and expand the National Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®) database. If you have completed and returned it to us, please accept my sincere thanks. As one of the randomly sampled respondents from across the country, your answers are critical to keeping the O\*NET database accurate and up-to-date.

If you have not yet completed and returned the questionnaire, please do so today. Your answers will ensure that the O\*NET database remains a useful tool for business, educators, and individuals seeking career information. If you have access to the Internet, you may complete the questionnaire on our web site at http://onet.rti.org.

Thank you for your help.

Michael 7 Walsz

Sincerely,

Michael F. Weeks O\*NET Project Director

P.S. If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 2-6475.

# THANK YOU!



# Mailing to POC with Replacement Questionnaire Packets for Non-Respondents

- RTI Letter to POC to Accompany Replacement Questionnaires
- Replacement Questionnaire Packet

# RTI Letter to POC to Accompany Replacement Questionnaires



[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

As we recently discussed, enclosed are the replacement questionnaires for the employees who were randomly sampled to participate in the O\*NET® Data Collection Program and from whom we have not yet received a completed questionnaire.

While their participation in this program is voluntary, we want to be sure that each sampled employee has an opportunity to participate, and we are providing these replacement questionnaire packets in case they may have forgotten or misplaced the original set of materials.

The roster line number, occupation and initials of the employee (optional) who should receive each packet are indicated on the label affixed to each envelope. Please distribute these packets as soon as possible. Please use the roster that you previously created to ensure that the questionnaire is sent to the appropriate employee.

Let me thank you once again for your company's participation and more specifically, for your personal efforts in support of this important data collection program.

Sincerely,

[NAME OF BL] Business Liaison 1-877-233-7348, ext. [BL EXTENSION]

**Enclosure** 

### **Replacement Questionnaire Packet**

- Employee Questionnaire Packet Envelope\*
- O\*NET Folder\*\*
- O\*NET Brochure\*\*
- Association Endorsement List\*\*
- Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O\*NET Questionnaire\*
- RTI Letter to Accompany Replacement Questionnaire
- Web Option Reminder Post-It\*
- Business Reply Mail Return Envelope\*

<sup>\*</sup>Please refer to the "Selected Employee Packet" to view this document.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Please refer to the "Information Package Mailing to the Point-of-Contact" to view this document.

RTI Letter to Accompany	Replacement Questionnaire



Dear Madam or Sir,

Some weeks ago, I wrote you to seek your help with the National Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®) Data Collection Program. This data collection effort is being conducted to update the O\*NET database, our nation's primary source of occupational information. As of today we have not yet received your completed questionnaire.

Your participation is critical to the success of the O\*NET program, so it is very important that we receive your completed questionnaire. In case your questionnaire has been lost or misplaced, a replacement is enclosed. It should take you approximately 30 minutes to complete the questionnaire. If you have access to the Internet, you are encouraged to fill out the questionnaire on our web site at http://onet.rti.org.

I have also enclosed an O\*NET brochure, instructions for completing the questionnaire on our website, and a postage-paid envelope for returning the completed questionnaire to RTI. If you would like more information on the O\*NET program, please visit the O\*NET website at <a href="http://www.onetcenter.org">http://www.onetcenter.org</a>. If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571 ext. 26475.

As we mentioned previously, your participation is completely voluntary. You can skip over any question you do not want to answer. Your answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way. Neither your name nor your company's name will be associated with your response. Data will only be used in summary form to describe occupations, not specific jobs or the individuals performing them.

Thank you for your support of the O\*NET project. The voluntary participation of businesses and employees across the country in O\*NET data collection efforts will help to ensure the O\*NET system continues to be an accurate and useful tool to business, educators, and individuals exploring careers.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Weeks

O\*NET Project Director

Enclosure

Michael 2 Week

### **Avoider Letters**

- RTI Avoider Letter for Verification
- RTI Avoider Letter for Screening
- DOL Avoider Letter for Recruiting
- DOL Avoider Letter for Sampling
- DOL Avoider Letter for Follow-Up Calling

# **RTI Avoider Letter for Verification**



[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

RTI, a non-profit research organization, is assisting the United States Department of Labor in an initiative to build and maintain an occupational database known as the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). As the nation's primary source of occupational information, the O\*NET project represents a vital component of the Department of Labor's effort to provide current job-related information that workers can use to prepare themselves with the requisite skills to ensure success in the workplace.

Your establishment has been randomly selected to participate in this important program. Over the past several weeks, I have telephoned your company several times, but have been unsuccessful in identifying someone to help us. I only need to ask a few short questions about occupations performed in your organization to determine your eligibility to participate in the O\*NET Data Collection Program. This call should take only about 5 minutes of your time.

There is not much time left in the data collection schedule, so it is important that we talk with a representative of your organization as soon as possible. Therefore, I would greatly appreciate your calling me, hopefully within the next few days, toll free, at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL EXTENSION]. You may call any time between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience, and thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

[Name of BL]
O\*NET Business Liaison

Reference Number: 000000





[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

RTI, a non-profit research organization, is assisting the United States Department of Labor in an initiative to build and maintain an occupational database known as the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). As the nation's primary source of occupational information, the O\*NET project represents a vital component of the Department of Labor's effort to provide current job-related information that workers can use to prepare themselves with the requisite skills to ensure success in the workplace. Your establishment was randomly selected to participate in this important program.

Several weeks ago, I spoke with someone who identified you as someone who could answer a few short questions about the occupations performed in your organization. The purpose is to determine whether your company is eligible to participate in the O\*NET Data Collection Program. Over the past few weeks I have tried several times, although unsuccessfully, to reach you by telephone.

Since there is not much time left in the data collection schedule, I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to talk with you about the O\*NET Program at your earliest convenience – hopefully within the next few days. The call should take only about 5 minutes of your time.

Please call me, toll free, at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL EXTENSION] any time between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Again, it is important that I speak with you as soon as possible. I look forward to hearing from you, and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

[Name of BL]
O\*NET Business Liaison

Reference Number: 000000



Employment and Training Administration 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W Washington, D.C. 20210



[DATE]

[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

As you may recall, the U.S. Department of Labor is sponsoring an important data collection project for the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). Some weeks ago, our representatives at RTI, a non-profit research organization, sent a package of materials to you describing the O\*NET project.

[COMPANY NAME] is one of a relatively small sample of companies in your industry that has been randomly selected to participate in the O\*NET Data Collection Program, so it is very important that we receive some critical follow-up information from you. Since our initial conversation, we have tried several times, although unsuccessfully, to follow-up by phone. The purpose of our call is to verify that you received the package and to obtain additional information about the occupations within your company (as a representative of your industry) that is not available elsewhere.

The enclosed brochure provides more information about the O\*NET Data Collection Program and the level of participation we are requesting from your company. Additional O\*NET information is available on the Internet at http://www.onetcenter.org.

It is very important that our RTI representative speak with you within the next few days, as this phase of the data collection is coming to a close. Please contact [NAME OF BL] as soon as possible, toll-free, at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL EXTENSION], to discuss your company's participation in this program. You may call any time between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. The call should take only a few minutes of your time.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

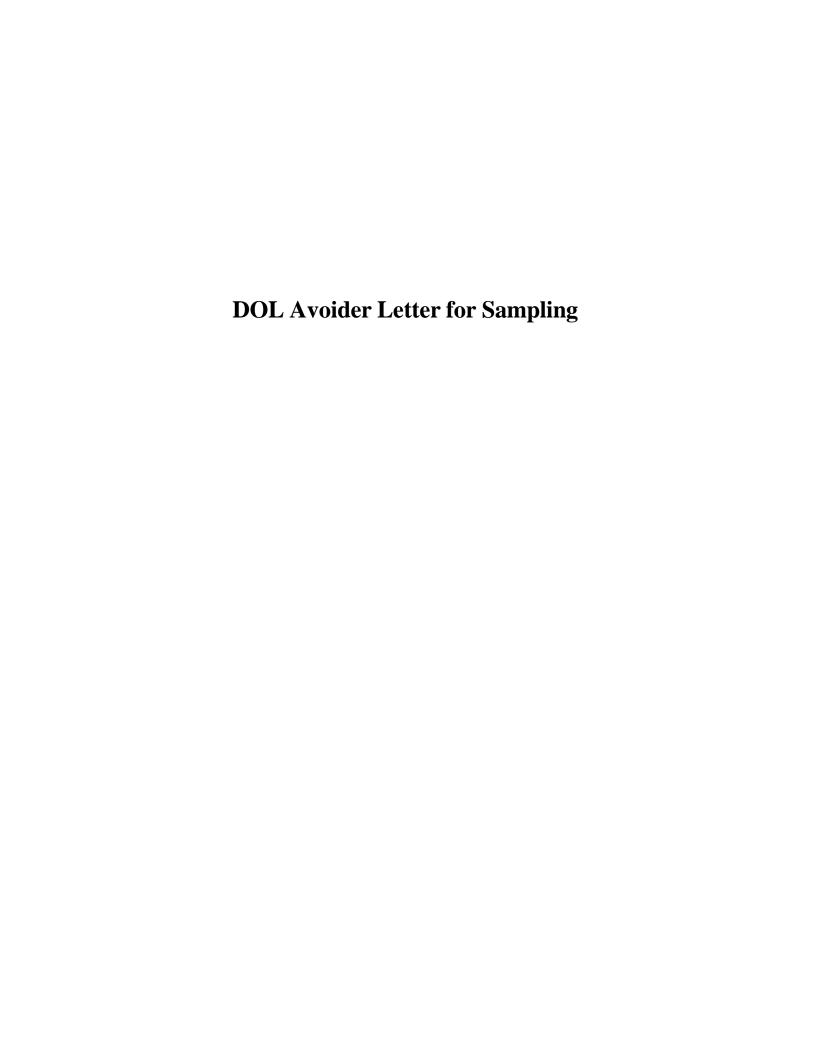
Sincerely,

Pamela L. Frugoli

O\*NET/Skill Assessment Team Lead

Office of Workforce Investment

Reference Number: 000000





[DATE]

[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

The U.S. Department of Labor is sponsoring an important data collection project for the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). Recently, a representative from RTI, a non-profit research organization, spoke with you about randomly sampling a small number of employees from your organization. We want to ask these employees to complete and return to us a short questionnaire. In the past few weeks, we have tried many times to reach you to follow up, but we have yet to speak with you directly.

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in the project to this point. However, we still need to finalize this stage of the data collection as soon as possible to complete our data collection activities with your organization. The information we are requesting from your company is not available elsewhere, and therefore, it is *very important* that we have your company's input. The sampling process will involve only a few additional minutes of your time and the information you provide will be kept private to the extent permitted by law.

The O\*NET Data Collection Program is an initiative to develop job related information that workers can use to prepare themselves with the requisite skills to ensure success in the workplace. The effectiveness of the Program depends on direct input from a relatively small number of organizations and their employees across the United States who have been randomly selected to participate. Additional information on the O\*NET Data Collection Program is available online at www.onetcenter.org.

It is urgent that our RTI representative speaks with you within the next few days, as this phase of the data collection is nearly complete. The call should take only a few minutes of your time. At your earliest convenience, we would appreciate your calling [NAME OF BL] toll-free, at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL EXTENSION], to discuss your company's participation in this program. You may call any time between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Thank you very much for your time and cooperation.

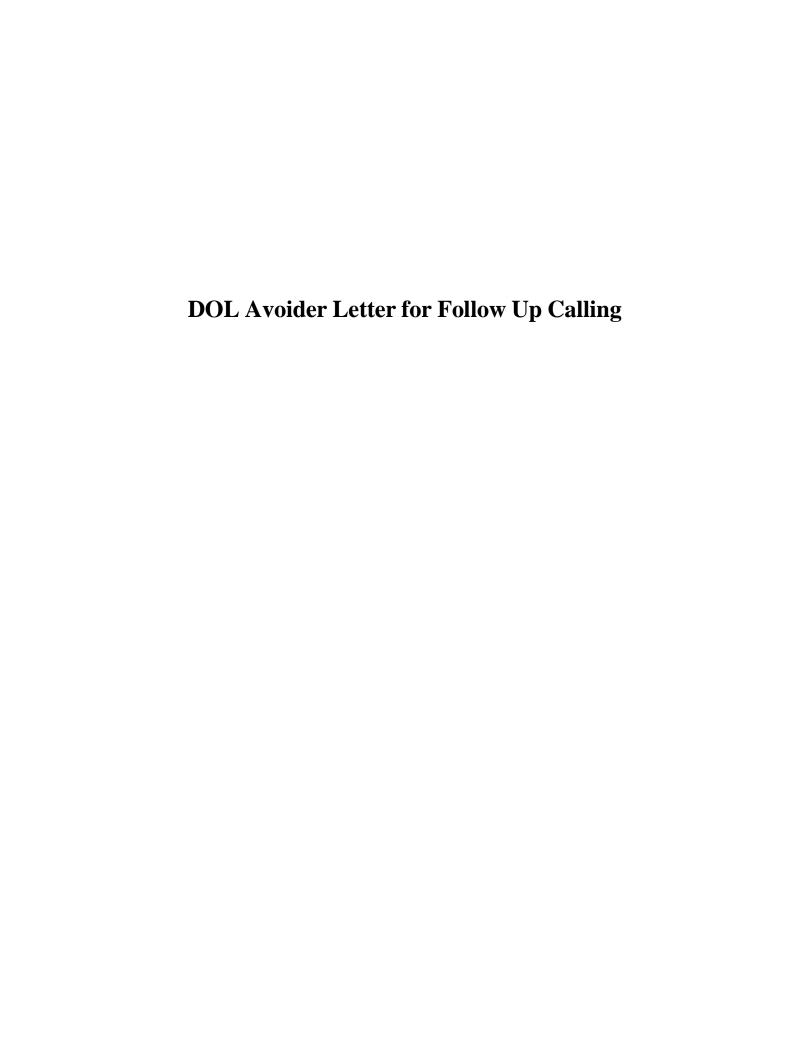
Sincerely,

Pamela L. Frugoli

O\*NET/Skill Assessment Team Lead

Office of Workforce Investment

Reference Number: 000000





[DATE]

[NAME OF POC] [COMPANY NAME] [COMPANY ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME OF POC]:

Thank you for your assistance with the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®) Data Collection Program. The information your employees provide about their occupations will guide workers in developing the requisite skills to ensure future worker and business success.

I am writing to ask your help in finalizing our data collection activities. Our project records show that some of the questionnaires we sent to your business have not yet been returned to RTI. [BL NAME], our project representative at RTI, has attempted to contact you several times to follow up, but as yet has been unable to speak with you directly. This phase of the O\*NET Data Collection Program is nearly complete, and we have only a short time to obtain this important occupational information from the randomly sampled employees at your business.

It is very important that we speak with you within the next few days to learn the status of these missing questionnaires and to determine if for any reason, any of the sampled employees will be unable to meet our request. The deadline for this phase of the data collection program is near.

Please call [BL NAME] toll-free at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL EXTENSION], at your earliest convenience so that we may finalize our activities for your company. You may call any time between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. The call should take only a few minutes of your time.

Thanks again for your continued assistance with this important program.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Frugoli

O\*NET/Skill Assessment Team Lead

Pamilah Trugoli

Office of Workforce Investment

Reference Number: 000000

#### **Occupation Expert Method Materials**

- Information Package Mailing to Occupation Expert
- Questionnaire Mailing to Occupation Expert
- Thank You/Reminder Postcard to Occupation Expert
- Replacement Questionnaire Mailing to Occupation Expert
- Occupation Expert Avoider Letters

#### **Information Package Mailing to Occupation Expert**

- O\*NET Information Package Envelope\*
- O\*NET Folder\*
- Letter to Occupation Expert from U.S. Department of Labor (With \$40 Incentive)
- Letter to Occupation Expert from U.S. Department of Labor (Without \$40 Incentive)
- Association Endorsement List\*
- O\*NETBrochure\*
- Occupation Expert Method Who, What & How Brochure

<sup>\*</sup>Please refer to the "Information Package Mailing to the Point-of-Contact" for the Establishment Method to view this document.

## Letter to Occupation Expert from U.S. Department of Labor (With \$40 Incentive)



(DATE)

(OE NAME)

(ADDRESS)

(ADDRESS)

(ADDRESS)

Dear (OE NAME):

You recently received a phone call from RTI about an important program called the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). As the caller explained, the U.S. Department of Labor is requesting your assistance with the O\*NET program. The program serves employers, human resource professionals, job seekers, trainers, and labor market analysts nationwide who depend on occupational information to perform their daily work. Individuals who are exploring and planning careers also use O\*NET information. We would like your help to keep this information current.

You have been identified as an occupation expert for the occupation of (occupation name). As a participating expert, you will be asked to complete O\*NET questionnaires on the knowledge areas, work activities, work context factors, and tasks common to the occupation; we also ask for some background information about you. To express our appreciation for your expert contribution to this effort, you will receive a payment of \$40 and a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor. These items will be included when we mail the questionnaires to you. You can either complete the paper questionnaires and mail them back to RTI in the postage-paid envelope they will provide, or you may complete the questionnaires online using unique login credentials provided on each questionnaire cover.

Your participation in this effort is voluntary, yet participation by you and other occupation experts is vital to the success of this important program. A member of the RTI O\*NET team will call you in a few days to provide additional details and answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Frugoli

O\*NET/Skill Assessment Team Lead

Office of Workforce Investment

Pamelah Trugoli

Letter to Occupation Expert from U.S. Department of Labor (Without \$40 Incentive)



(DATE)

(OE NAME)

(ADDRESS)

(ADDRESS)

(ADDRESS)

Dear (OE NAME):

You recently received a phone call from RTI about an important program called the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). As the caller explained, the U.S. Department of Labor is requesting your assistance with the O\*NET program. The program serves employers, human resource professionals, job seekers, trainers, and labor market analysts nationwide who depend on occupational information to perform their daily work. Individuals who are exploring and planning careers also use O\*NET information. We would like your help to keep this information current.

You have been identified as an occupation expert for the occupation of (occupation name). As a participating expert, you will be asked to complete O\*NET questionnaires on the knowledge areas, work activities, work context factors, and tasks common to the occupation; we also ask for some background information about you. To express our appreciation for your expert contribution to this effort, you will receive a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor. This item will be included when we mail the questionnaires to you. You can either complete the paper questionnaires and mail them back to RTI in the postage-paid envelope they will provide, or you may complete the questionnaires online using unique login credentials provided on each questionnaire cover.

Your participation in this effort is voluntary, yet participation by you and other occupation experts is vital to the success of this important program. A member of the RTI O\*NET team will call you in a few days to provide additional details and answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Frugoli

O\*NET/Skill Assessment Team Lead

Office of Workforce Investment

Pamelah Trugoli

#### Occupation Expert Method Who, What & How Brochure



# O\*NET Data Collection Program: Occupation Expert

Who, What & How

An Introduction to the Occupational Information Network

#### What is O\*NET®?

The O\*NET® acronym stands for "Occupational Information Network." It is an automated database that replaces the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) as the nation's primary source of occupational information. O\*NET information is available as a timely, easy-to-use database designed to help millions of employers, workers, educators, and students make informed decisions about education, training, career choices, and work.

## What is the O\*NET Data Collection Program?

The O\*NET Data Collection Program is an ongoing effort to develop and maintain this unique database on the detailed characteristics of workers and occupations. The information is primarily collected from employees working within selected organizations. Occupation experts are providing information for some occupations. The collection of this information is designed to provide data that are valid, reliable, and current. The O\*NET Data Collection Program is a critical step in the full development of O\*NET.

#### Who is funding this program?

The United States Department of Labor (DOL) funds the O\*NET Data Collection Program. You may verify this information by checking the DOL website: http://www.doleta.gov/programs/onet.

### Who is conducting the O\*NET Data Collection?

RTI International is working with the United States Department of Labor (DOL) to collect these data. RTI International is an independent, not-for-profit research organization located in Research Triangle Park, NC. RTI is affiliated with Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State University.

#### What is an occupation expert?

An occupation expert is a person who has several years of experience and training in an occupation. He or she has the expert knowledge required to respond to questions about the skills, knowledge and activities required for work in the occupation.

#### How did you get my name?

Occupation experts are identified by contacting professional associations and educational institutions related to the occupation.

#### What kinds of questions will I be asked?

The questionnaires consist of objective questions about the activities, work context, training, and other aspects of work within an occupation.

#### Why should I participate?

Your participation is important because your responses, combined with the responses of other experts, will describe your occupation to millions of job seekers, educators, career counselors, human resource professionals, and labor market analysts.

#### What are you asking me to do?

The "Three Simple Steps" on the last page of this brochure summarizes your participation. Briefly, we will ask you to carefully complete several questionnaires in a certain order and return them to RTI in the postage-paid return envelope provided. If you have access to the Internet, you may wish to complete the questionnaires on our Web site. In your questionnaire packet, we will enclose instructions for responding online. It should take you approximately 90 minutes to complete the questionnaires.

#### Can I complete the questionnaires online?

Absolutely. Each of the paper questionnaires sent to you is also available via our secure Web site, http://onet.rti.org. As an identified occupation expert, you will be issued login credentials to allow you to access Web versions of the questionnaires. These unique credentials (username and password) are printed on the cover of each paper questionnaire for ease of reference.

## Will the information that I provide be kept private?

Yes! Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and will not affect your employment in any way. Neither your name nor your company's name will be associated with your response. Data will only be used in summary form to describe occupations – not specific jobs or the individuals performing them.

#### Am I required by law to participate?

Your participation is voluntary. However, you are a critical link in this data collection program. This is an opportunity to provide direct input to the United States Department of Labor by providing occupational information

#### Are you selling me something?

Absolutely NOT! This is not a market study and we are not selling anything. O\*NET information is available at no cost by downloading the O\*NET Database or by viewing the O\*NET data using O\*NET Online (http://online.onetcenter.org).

#### How will I personally benefit?

As our way of saying thanks for completing and returning the O\*NET questionnaires, we will send you \$40 in cash and a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor (If you wish, you may decline either or both of these items). They will arrive in a package with the O\*NET questionnaires. In addition, you will benefit from the improvement in the O\*NET database. Millions of people nationwide will better understand the occupation with the up-to-date, accurate information that you provide.

#### Who will contact me?

You will be called by one of O\*NET's professionally trained Business Liaisons, who will walk you through the data collection process and be available to address your questions and concerns. Because we are committed to providing you with the highest quality of service, O\*NET supervisors may monitor a sample of these calls. If you have questions, you can call toll-free: 1-877-233-7348, ext. 100 and the O\*NET Operations Center Manager will assist you.

## Is information on the O\*NET Program available on the World Wide Web?

Yes. General information on many O\*NET programs and resources can be found at the O\*NET Resource Center website: http://www.onetcenter.org.

## Your Participation in O\*NET Involves Only Three Simple Steps

## Step 1: When you receive the box of questionnaires, make sure all O\*NET questionnaires on the packing list are enclosed.

Review the materials in the box you receive to make sure all of the O\*NET questionnaires are enclosed. The covers for the questionnaires are different colors and are labeled according to their content and the order in which they should be completed.

#### Step 2: Complete the O\*NET questionnaires.

Please complete the O\*NET questionnaires in the order indicated on the label on the cover of the questionnaires. In order to maximize the quality of the data, we have pre-assigned the order of the questionnaires. Please complete the questionnaires in that order. Work at your own pace, in as many sittings as your schedule requires. You may wish to complete the questionnaires online at http://onet.rti.org. Your unique login credentials are printed in the upper-right corner of each printed questionnaire cover.

## Step 3: Return the O\*NET questionnaires in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope.

After completing the O\*NET questionnaires, please return them in the postage-paid return envelope. Before sealing the envelope, please review the checklist located on the back of the return envelope.

Form: 026D OE 11/2015

#### **Questionnaire Mailing to Occupation Expert**

- RTI Letter to Occupation Expert to Accompany Questionnaires (With \$40 Incentive)
- RTI Letter to Occupation Expert to Accompany Questionnaires (Without \$40 Incentive)
- Occupation Expert Questionnaire Sequence Post-Its
- Occupation Expert Method Who, What & How Brochure\*
- Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O\*NET Occupation Expert Questionnaire
- Certificate of Appreciation\*\*
- Business Reply Mail Return Envelope\*\*\*

<sup>\*</sup> Please refer to the "Information Package Mailing to Occupation Expert" for the Occupation Expert Method to view this document.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Please refer to the "Mailing to POC with Questionnaire Packets for Selected Employees" for the Establishment Method to view this document.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Please refer to the "Selected Employee Packet" for the Establishment Method to view this document.

## RTI Letter to Occupation Expert to Accompany Questionnaires (With \$40 Incentive)



(DATE)

(OE NAME) (ADDRESS) (ADDRESS) (ADDRESS)

Dear (OE NAME):

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the O\*NET® Data Collection Program as an occupation expert for the occupation of [OCCUPATION]. We greatly appreciate your contribution of expertise concerning this occupation. As we recently discussed on the telephone, enclosed you will find the O\*NET questionnaires, a postage-paid return envelope, \$40 in cash, and a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor. If you have access to the Internet, you may wish to complete the questionnaires online at http://onet.rti.org. In your questionnaire packet, you will find instructions for responding online.

Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law. The questionnaires have an identification number for mailing and tracking purposes only. Your responses will be combined with those of other experts in this occupation and will be reported in summary form only.

Participation by you and other occupation experts is invaluable to the accuracy and usefulness of information in the O\*NET database, from which educators, business professionals, counselors, researchers, and career seekers benefit. **Please complete the questionnaires in the order indicated on the questionnaire cover**, in as many sittings as your schedule requires. It should take you approximately 90 minutes to complete all five questionnaires. If you have further questions about the O\*NET program or the questionnaires, please contact me toll-free at 877-233-7348 ext. [BL extension].

Thank you for completing and returning the questionnaires at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

[BL Name] Business Liaison

### RTI Letter to Occupation Expert to Accompany Questionnaires (Without \$40 Incentive)



DATE)

(OE NAME) (ADDRESS) (ADDRESS) (ADDRESS)

Dear (OE):

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the O\*NET® Data Collection Program as an occupation expert for the occupation of [OCCUPATION]. We greatly appreciate your contribution of expertise concerning this occupation. As we recently discussed on the telephone, enclosed you will find the O\*NET questionnaires, a postage-paid return envelope, and a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor. If you have access to the Internet, you may wish to complete the questionnaires online at http://onet.rti.org. In your questionnaire packet, you will find instructions for responding online.

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Participation by you and other occupation experts is invaluable to the accuracy and usefulness of information in the O\*NET database, from which educators, business professionals, counselors, researchers, and career seekers benefit. **Please complete the questionnaires in the order indicated on the questionnaire cover**, in as many sittings as your schedule requires. It should take you approximately 90 minutes to complete all five questionnaires. If you have further questions about the O\*NET program or the questionnaires, please contact me toll-free at 877-233-7348 ext. [BL extension].

Thank you for completing and returning the questionnaires at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

[BL Name] Business Liaison

Occupation Expert Questionnaire Sequence Post-Its

#### **OE Questionnaire Sequence Post-it Notes**



Please Complete this Questionnaire

**FIRST** 

Prefer to complete the questionnaire online?

Log into <u>onet.rti.org</u> today!



Please Complete this Questionnaire

**THIRD** 

Prefer to complete the questionnaire online?

Log into <u>onet.rti.org</u> today!



Please Complete this Questionnaire

SECOND

Prefer to complete the questionnaire online?

Log into <u>onet.rti.org</u> today!



Please Complete this Questionnaire

**FOURTH** 

Prefer to complete the questionnaire online?

Log into <u>onet.rti.org</u> today!



Please Complete this Questionnaire

**FIFTH** 

Prefer to complete the questionnaire online?

Log into <u>onet.rti.org</u> today!

## Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O\*NET Occupation Expert Questionnaire



### Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O\*NET® Occupation Expert Questionnaire

Username: [FILL HERE] Password: [FILL HERE]

You can complete the questionnaires *online*, if you prefer. Just follow these simple steps.

- **Step 1.** Go to the Web address http://onet.rti.org.
- **Step 2.** Click on the Login link to gain access to the questionnaires.
- **Step 3.** Enter your username and password. This information can be found above or in the upper-right corner of the front cover of any one of the questionnaire booklets that you received.
- **Step 4.** Click on OK. Once you are logged in, you will receive further instructions on completing the questionnaires.

Please be assured that your online responses are completely secure and are protected by the same technology used by businesses to secure credit card transactions.

If you have any problems accessing the Web site, please call 1-877-233-7348, ext. 100. Technical assistance is available through this toll free number Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM Eastern Time. You can also email your technical questions to onethelp@rti.org.

If you have any questions about this research study, please contact Mr. Derek Stone, Data Collection Task Leader, toll-free at RTI at 1-800-334-8571, ext. 26475. If you prefer, you can email him at dstone@rti.org.

Thank you again for your participation in the O\*NET Data Collection Program!

O=000000 S=00000 B=00000

# Thank You / Reminder Postcard for Occupation Expert



#### Dear Occupation Expert:

An O\*NET questionnaire package was recently mailed to you. If you have completed and returned the questionnaires, please accept my sincere thanks. Your responses are critical to keeping the occupational information accurate and current.

If you have not yet completed and returned the questionnaires, please do so as soon as possible. You may find it convenient to complete the questionnaires online; if so, please refer to any of the questionnaire covers for your unique login credentials, and then visit http://onet.rti.org to participate. Your answers will ensure that O\*NET data provide useful information for individuals and businesses across the nation.

If you have questions, please call the O\*NET Operations Center Manager toll-free at 877-233-7348, ext. 100.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Weeks O\*NET Project Director

O\*NET Data Collection Program Research Triangle Institute P.O. Box 12194 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-1294

Michael & Week

Affix stamp Here

OE Postcard Affix Address Label Here

### Replacement Questionnaire Mailing to Occupation Expert

- RTI Letter to Occupation Expert to Accompany Replacement Questionnaires
- Occupation Expert Questionnaire Sequence Post-Its\*
- Occupation Expert Method Who, What & How Brochure\*\*
- Instructions for Completing the Web Version of the O\*NET Occupation Expert Questionnaire\*
- Business Reply Mail Return Envelope\*\*\*

<sup>\*</sup> Please refer to the "Questionnaire Mailing to Occupation Expert" for the Occupation Expert Method to view this document.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Please refer to the "Information Package Mailing to Occupation Expert" for the Occupation Expert Method to view this document.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Please refer to the "Selected Employee Packet" for the Establishment Method to view this document.

## RTI Letter to Occupation Expert to Accompany Replacement Questionnaires



(DATE)

(OE NAME)

(ADDRESS)

(ADDRESS)

(ADDRESS)

Dear (OE):

As we recently discussed on the telephone, enclosed are the replacement questionnaires you requested for participation in the O\*NET® Data Collection Program. **Please complete the questionnaires in the order indicated on the questionnaire cover**, in as many sittings as your schedule requires. You will also find a postage-paid return envelope for their return. If you have access to the Internet, you may wish to complete the questionnaires online at http://onet.rti.org. In your questionnaire packet, you will find instructions for responding online.

Please accept our sincere thanks for your valued input concerning the work of (occupation). Your participation as an occupation expert helps to ensure the success of this important program. If you have further questions about the O\*NET program or the questionnaires, please contact me toll-free at 877-233-7348 ext. [BL extension].

Thank you for completing and returning the questionnaires at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

[BL Name] Business Liaison

### **Occupation Expert Avoider Letters**

- RTI Avoider Letter to Occupation Expert for Screening
- DOL Avoider Letter to Occupation Expert for Recruiting
- DOL Avoider Letter to Occupation Expert for Follow-up Calling

# RTI Avoider Letter to Occupation Expert for Screening



[DATE]

[OE NAME] [OE ADDRESS] [OE ADDRESS]

Dear [OE NAME]:

RTI, a non-profit research organization, is assisting the United States Department of Labor in an initiative to build and maintain an occupational database known as the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). The O\*NET program represents a vital component of the Department of Labor's effort to develop job-related information that workers can use to prepare themselves for success in the workplace.

You have been selected to participate in this important program. Over the past several weeks, I have telephoned you several times but have been unsuccessful in reaching you. I only need to ask you a few short questions to determine your eligibility to participate as an occupational expert on the work of [OCCUPATION NAME]. This call should take only about 5 minutes of your time.

There is not much time left in the data collection schedule, so it is important that I talk with you as soon as possible. I would greatly appreciate your calling me within the next few days, toll-free, at 877-233-7348 ext. [BL extension]. You may call anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience, and thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

[BL NAME]
O\*NET Business Liaison

# DOL Avoider Letter to Occupation Expert for Recruiting

#### U.S. Department of Labor

Employment and Training Administration 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W Washington, D.C. 20210



[DATE]

[OE NAME] [OE ADDRESS] [OE ADDRESS]

Dear [OE NAME]

As you may recall, the U.S. Department of Labor is sponsoring an important data collection program for the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®). Some weeks ago, our representatives at RTI, a non-profit research organization, sent a package of materials to you describing the O\*NET program.

You have been selected to participate in the O\*NET Data Collection Program as an occupational expert on the work of [OCCUPATION NAME]. Since our initial conversation, we have tried several times, although unsuccessfully, to follow up by phone. The purpose of our call is to verify that you received the package and to talk with you about your voluntary participation in this very important program.

The enclosed brochure provides more information about the O\*NET Data Collection Program and the level of participation we are requesting from you. Additional O\*NET information is available on the Internet at http://www.onetcenter.org.

It is very important that our RTI representative speak with you within the next few days, as this phase of the data collection is coming to a close. Please contact [BL NAME] as soon as possible, toll-free, at 877-233-7348 ext. [BL extension], to discuss your participation in this program. You may call anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. The call should take only a few minutes of your time.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Frugoli

O\*NET/Skill Assessment Team Lead

Office of Workforce Investment

Pamela L. Trugoli

Reference number 000000

# DOL Avoider Letter to Occupation Expert for Follow-up Calling

#### U.S. Department of Labor

Employment and Training Administration 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20210



[DATE]

[OE NAME] [OE ADDRESS] [OE ADDRESS]

Dear [OE NAME]:

Thank you for your assistance with the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®) Data Collection Program. The information you provide about the occupation of [OCCUPATION NAME] will guide workers interested in learning about those skills that are important for success within this occupation.

I am writing to ask your help in finalizing our data collection activities. Our program records show that the questionnaires we sent you have not yet been returned to RTI. [BL NAME], our program representative at RTI, has attempted to contact you several times to follow up, but has not yet been able to speak with you directly. This phase of the O\*NET Data Collection Program is nearly complete, and we have only a short time to obtain this important occupational information from you.

It is very important that we speak with you within the next few days to learn the status of your questionnaires. The deadline for this phase of the data collection program is near.

Please call [BL NAME], toll-free at 1-877-233-7348 ext. [BL Extension] at your earliest convenience. You may call anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. The call should take only a few minutes of your time.

Thanks again for your continued assistance with this important program.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Frugoli

O\*NET/Skill Assessment Team Lead

Office of Workforce Investment

Pamela L. Trugoli

Reference number 000000