



LAES has developed a series of immigrant issue instructional modules entitled "Tierra de Oportunidad" for orientation to our complex society.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Module 21**  
**Transferring Professional Skills,**  
**Degrees or Credentials from One's Native Country**

**Instructions:** Please join with a partner to work on this activity together. The activity is divided in two parts. The first part asks you to develop a career action plan for a person or group of people in a situation described below. The second part asks you to reflect on your work with this module and tell us what you learned.

**Part I. Students should work with partners**

- A. With your partner read the following 3 situations or problems.
- B. Choose one and together make a career action plan for the person or persons. What do they need to do? Who do they need to talk with? What documents do they need?
- C. Write the action plan on the answer sheet provided with this activity.

**Situation 1.**

Rodrigo has lived in California for 5 years. He is 33 years old. He speaks some English but needs to improve his English language skills if he wants to get a better job. He is working for a landscape contractor for \$7 an hour. In Mexico, he worked as a certified accountant for a large exporting company. Make a plan of action for Rodrigo so that he can find a job where he can use his skills in the United States. What does he need to do? Who does he need to talk to? List the steps he needs to take to reach his goal. What different options should he consider? How should he decide among them?

**Situation 2.**

Carmen lives in California with her husband and 2 children. She works part-time in a Mexican restaurant as a waitress. She took English classes and speaks very well. Before coming to the United States to join her husband, she was a nurse at a large hospital in Mexico. She loved her work. Now her children are all in school. She has more time to make some changes in her life. She wants to earn more money and get a nursing job in the United States. Make a career action plan for her.

**Situation 3.**

Rogelio is from Guadalajara. His family owns a small restaurant there. He lives in the United States now. He and his brother Jose want to open a restaurant in the United States. They speak English but they can't write very well. Rogelio cooked at the family restaurant and Jose waited on customers and cleaned tables and dishes. Neither of them have any experience actually running a restaurant. Their father bought everything for the restaurant, paid the bills and kept the books. Make a career action plan for them. Who do they need to talk to? What do they need to do?

**Answer Sheet Module 21 Transferring Professional Skills, Degrees or Credentials from One's Native Country**

Situation you are working on from previous page: 1 2 or 3

1. Career Action Plan for :

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2. Job desired:

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3. Education and/or Experience from Home Country :

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4. Important papers or documents:

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5. Skills, licenses and requirements for U.S. job:

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6. People and agencies to talk to:

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7. Related alternative jobs or careers:

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8. Step-by-Step Career Plan:

a.

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b.

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c.

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d.

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e.

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**Part II. Please tell us what you learned from your work with this module**

**1. Did you benefit from your work on this module regarding any of the following?**

<b><i>Understanding better how to:</i></b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Please comment on either: &lt; How you benefited; or &lt; Why you feel this module was not useful for you in this area</b>
a. Formulate a strategy for career and professional development?		
b. Translate professional degrees and/or school documents from another country into English and organizing them for presentation?		
c. Get your transcripts of schooling from another country evaluated by a professional here, to see what careers or academic choices are open to you?		
d. Identify and consider new employment options which differ from, but are related to, your primary career objective?		
e. Create ways to "network" among people working in your field of expertise or interest?		

f. Enroll in a Career Guidance course at a local community college?		
g. Do "informational interviews" with firms or individuals connected with your profession?		

**2. Did your work in this module help you in any of the following areas?**

<i>Understanding better how to:</i>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Please comment on either: &lt; How you benefited; or &lt; Why you feel this module was not useful for you in this area</b>
a. Determine a reasonable time-frame to prepare to reach your career or professional goals?		
b. Weigh different options for career change or development, taking into account realistic expectations for earnings from it?		
c. Assess your skills within the context of U.S. job, career, and professional requirements?		
d. Evaluate how useful and reliable the advice you get from professionals you consult for advice and career or job development services might be?		
e. Assess conflicting information?		
f. Review all the material which provides accurate information on current skills requirements which might affect you?		
g. Use up-to-date information to predict trends in your field of expertise?		
h. Anything else? Please write it below		

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