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How to Boost (or Restart) Your Career Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic

While the COVID-19 pandemic is considered a public health emergency, it's hard to overstate the impact it has had on the economy. More than 40 million Americans have filed for unemployment, and countless individuals have lost their businesses or experienced a significant career setback. If you have found yourself in such a situation, you're probably thinking quite a lot about where to go from here. Hopefully, the information and resources below can give you some ideas of what steps you can take to get back on your feet.

Develop a Business Idea

One thing to consider is starting your own business. Think of any interests or passions you have that could potentially earn a profit.

- If you love all things cleaning and/or [organization](#), you could start a business doing one or both of those things.
- If you're a people person and you would enjoy helping people find their dream home, consider starting a [real estate](#) business.

- Becoming a [dog sitter](#) could earn you some extra cash on the side. And if dog sitting is your passion, then you can make a successful business out of it.
- If you have a knack for social media, SEO, written content, and/or web development, then [digital marketing](#) might be right up your alley.

Equip Yourself to Work From Home

Whether you plan on starting a home-based business or telecommuting for another company, it's essential to have the right strategy, equipment, and tools for working from home.

- Start by establishing a [solid work schedule](#), and figure out ways to stay productive.
- A quality computer, desk, chair, and WiFi router are just a few types of [gear](#) you will need to work productively at home.
- Also, you will want to arm yourself with [tools](#) for effective communication, collaboration, and project management.
- If you're starting a business, you will also need to make sure you have the funds necessary to give your business a shot at success. Look into the various [small business grants](#) and other financial assistance programs out there.

Seek Out Veteran Services

There are also resources for veterans that could prove valuable during this transitional time.

- For veterans who want to work as an [employee](#), resources like GI Jobs, Hire Heroes USA, the Veteran Employment Center, and Vet Jobs are all worth looking into.
- There are also a number of [other resources](#) available to veterans who are starting or growing a business, such as Boots to Business, Warrior Rising, and the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF).

You're not alone if you're going through a rough patch in your career. The most important thing is that you respond in a way that can put you in a position to succeed now and long after the pandemic. Consider how you could turn your passion into a business, and make sure you are well-equipped to work remotely. Finally, take advantage of the many veteran-specific resources available for starting a business or redirecting your career.

For more job-related information that can help your career during the pandemic, please visit the online resources provided by the [Army Women's Foundation](#).