

# Career Development Facilitator Unit 3, Lesson 4: Referral Acumen

For VA Employees

Course Transcript



# Career Development Facilitator (CDF), Unit 3, Lesson 4: Referral Acumen

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# Screen 1 - Title Screen



Screen Description	Narration
Centered in the screen is the following text:	No Narration
"Unit 3 Lesson 4 – Referral Acumen	
This course contains audio. Please turn on your speakers or enable the Closed Captioning (CC) at the bottom of the page. Click Next at the bottom of the page to begin.	
If you've never taken a MyCareer@VA web- based training course, click here to view a brief tutorial before you get started."	



# Screen 2 – Welcome



Screen Description	Narration
Centered on the screen is the course mentor smiling.	Welcome to the lesson on Referral Acumen, which brings together all of the skills covered in previous lessons.
	This lesson will provide you with the knowledge, skills, and tools to effectively connect VA employees to the career development resources that best meet their needs.  Please select the "Next" button to continue.



#### Screen 3 – Lesson Overview & Learning Objectives



Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen displays	Please take a moment to read the Lesson Overview and
"Lesson Overview" and on the right	Learning Objectives.
side, the screen displays "Learning	
Objectives" and three bullets.	If you have questions about the content in this lesson, please consult the accompanying resources that are available under
Lesson Overview:	the "Resources" button or on the final screen.
"This lesson will help you leverage your	When you are finished reading, please select the "Next"
career development knowledge and	button to continue.
helping skills to effectively connect	
employees to the tools and resources	
that meet their needs."	
Learning Objectives:	
"After completing this lesson, you	



Screen Description	Narration
should be able to:	
<ul> <li>Define the process of referring.</li> <li>Discuss the key components of employee commitment to career development.</li> <li>Practice referring employees at any career development phase."</li> </ul>	



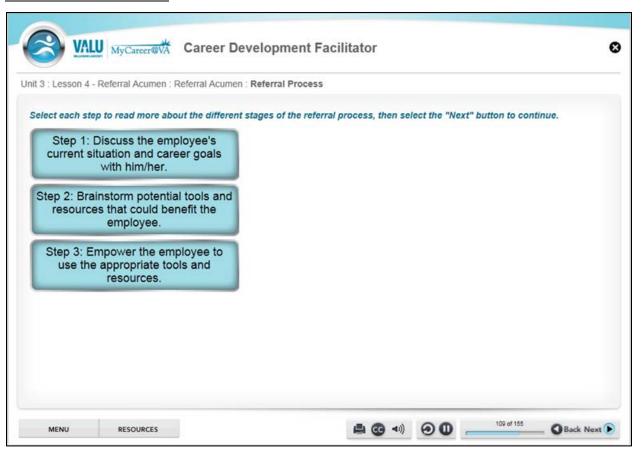
# <u>Screen 4 – Introduction</u>



Screen Description	Narration
On the right side, the screen displays	You are well on your way to making a difference in employee
the course mentor meeting an	development.
employee at her desk. On the left	
side, the screen displays the	In other lessons, you applied the building blocks of career
following text:	development theory in real-world scenarios and learned
	how to expand helping skills to better connect and mentor
"Career Development Theory and	others.
Practice + Helping Skills = Referral	
Acumen"	Now, you will learn how to develop your referral acumen so you
	can match each MyCareer@VA tool and resource to an
	employee's specific career development need.
	Please select the "Next" button to learn about the referral
	process.



#### <u>Screen 5 – Referral Process</u>



Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen displays the	As a Career Development Facilitator, you will actively work
following text:	with employees to connect them to career development tools and resources.
"Select each step to read more about	and resources.
the different stages of the referral process, then select the 'Next' button to continue.	As employees become better connected to the right tools and resources, they can make more and better informed choices about their own careers.
to continue.	choices about their own careers.
Step 1. Discuss the employee's current situation and career goals with him/her.	Select each step to read more about the different stages of the referral process.
Step 2. Brainstorm potential tools and resources that could benefit the employee.	When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue.
Step 3. Empower the employee to use	
the appropriate tools and	



Screen Description	Narration
resources."	
After selecting "Discuss the employee's current situation and career goals with him/her" the following text is displayed:	Before you make any referral recommendation, seek first to understand the employee's current work situation and future goals.  Exercise your helping skills by asking open-ended questions
"Think about:	and actively listening during the conversations.
<ul> <li>In which phase of the career development process is the employee currently in?</li> <li>What is the employee's current situation?</li> <li>What are the employee's goals?</li> <li>How will you know if these goals are reached?"</li> </ul>	
After selecting "Brainstorm potential tools and resources that could benefit the employee," the following text is displayed:	Now that you understand the employee's current situation, it is time to start brainstorming. Think of as many tools and resources as possible to help an employee reach his or her goals.
<ul> <li>"Think about:</li> <li>What tools and resources on MyCareer@VA could help the employee meet his/her goals?</li> <li>What tools and resources on VA's Talent Management System (TMS) could help the employee reach these goals?</li> <li>Are there any barriers or obstacles that could stand in the way?"</li> </ul>	Here is where your knowledge of career development theory and practice will be put to use.
After selecting "Empower the employee to use the appropriate tools and resources," the following text is displayed:  "Think about:	Finally, empower the employee to use those tools and resources to achieve his or her career goals.  Select the "Resources" button to view tools and resources that can support your referral acumen.



Screen Description	Narration
<ul> <li>What career development actions should the employee take?</li> <li>Have they used MyCareer@VA before?</li> <li>Do they work with a mentor or meet regularly with their supervisor?</li> <li>What goals can the employee set to maintain commitment?"</li> </ul>	



# **Screen 6 – Employee Commitment**



Screen Description	Narration
On the right side, the screen displays the	As you grow your referral acumen, you may also see
course mentor meeting an employee at her	employee commitment and excitement grow.
desk. On the left side, the screen displays	
the following text:	We'll use Alex, the medical administrator's case study, to show you how this referral process can work.
"Empowering Questions:	
	Let's first review the four phases of the career
<ul> <li>What will you do starting now?</li> </ul>	development process.
<ul><li>When will you do it?</li></ul>	
<ul> <li>What could stop you from</li> </ul>	Select the "Next" button to continue.
moving forward? How will you	
overcome this?	
<ul> <li>How can you keep yourself</li> </ul>	
motivated?	
<ul> <li>What will you do one day from</li> </ul>	



Screen Description	Narration
now, one week from now, one	
month from now?"	



# Screen 7 – Career Development Refresher



Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen displays "Select each phase to learn more, and then select 'Next' to continue" and a graphic depicting the four phases of the Career Development Cycle: Assess, Explore, Plan, and Take Action.	Select each phase to read more about each Phase.  When you are finished reading, select the "Next" button to continue.
After selecting the "Assess" phase, the following text is displayed:      "During the Assess phase, it is most important for employees to learn more about themselves, their interests, values, strengths, limitations, and (most importantly) their personal career goals."  After selecting the "Explore" phase, the following text is	
<ul> <li>After selecting the "Explore" phase, the following text is displayed:</li> </ul>	



Screen Description	Narration
"During the Explore phase, employees are figuring out their options for achieving their personal career goals. It is during this phase that they are researching new opportunities at VA and identifying the challenges that may prevent them from getting where they want to go."	
<ul> <li>After selecting the "Plan" phase, the following text is displayed:</li> </ul>	
"During the Plan phase, employees have an understanding of themselves and the landscape in front of them. They have narrowed down their options and are identifying concrete, actionable steps to achieve their goals. Once complete, their plan will help them close the gaps between where they currently are and where they want to go."	
After selecting the "Take Action" phase, the following text is displayed:	
"In the Take Action phase, employees are now implementing their development plan. They are either applying for a new job within VA or taking advantage of VA's many available learning resources to grow their skills."	



# Screen 8 - Knowledge Check 1 of 9



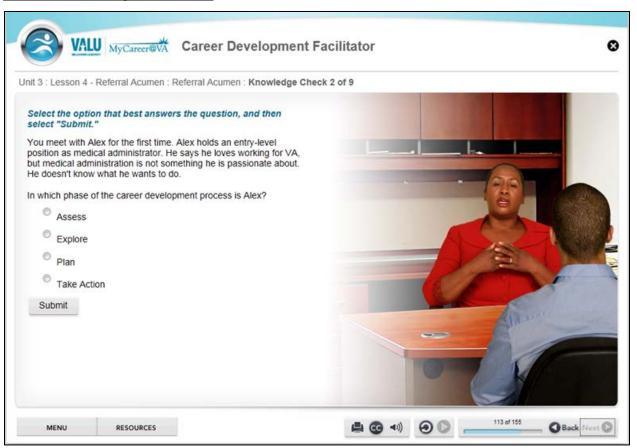
Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen displays instructions, a question, and four possible answers. On the right	Let's review what we have discussed so far.
side, the screen displays the course mentor meeting an employee at her desk.	Please read the question, select the best answer, and then select the "Submit" button.
Instructions: "Select the option that best completes the sentence, and then select 'Submit."	When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue.
Question: "The referral process:	
helps CDFs connect employees to	
appropriate career development tools and	
resources.  • is the implementation of career	
development practice and helping skills.	
<ul> <li>serves as a tool to gain employee</li> </ul>	



Screen Description	Narration
commitment to the career development	
process.	
All of the above"	
Correct Answer: "All of the above"	
After selecting "All of the above," the screen displays: "That is correct! Select 'Next' to continue."	
After selecting any other answer the screen displays: "Incorrect. I'm sorry, that is not correct. Please try again."	



# Screen 9 - Knowledge Check 2 of 9



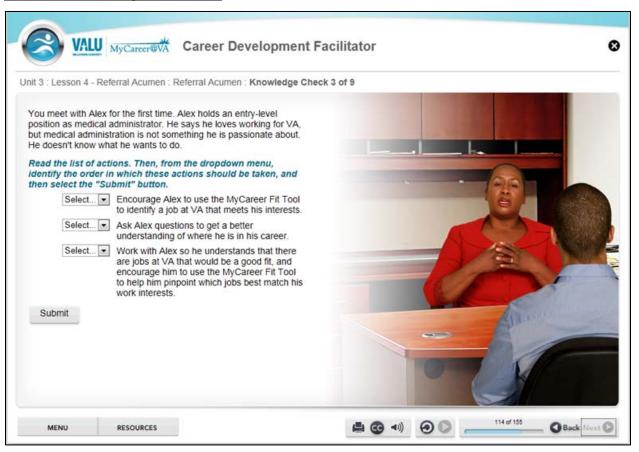
Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen displays	Select the option that best answers the question, and then
instructions, a question, and four	select "Submit."
possible answers. On the right side, the	
screen displays the course mentor	When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue.
talking to Alex at her desk.	
location at the control of the state of the	
Instructions: "Select the option that	
best answers the question, and then	
select 'Submit.'"	
Question: "You meet with Alex for the	
first time. Alex holds an entry-level	
position as medical administrator. He	
says he loves working for VA, but	
medical administration is not	
something he is passionate about. He	



Screen Description	Narration
doesn't know what he wants to do.	
In which phase of the career development process is Alex?	
<ul><li>Assess</li><li>Explore</li></ul>	
• Plan	
Take Action"	
Correct Answer: "Assess"	
After selecting the correct answer, the screen displays: "You are correct!"	
After selecting the incorrect answer, the screen displays: "I'm sorry, that is not correct. Please try again."	



#### Screen 10 - Knowledge Check 3 of 9



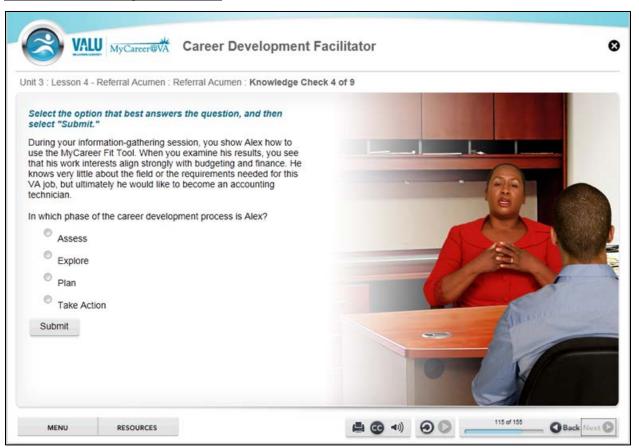
# **Screen Description** Narration On the left side, the screen displays the You know that Alex is in the "Assess" phase. scenario from the previous screen, Which referral actions should you take? instructions, and dropdown boxes next to three statements. On the right side, Make your selections and then select "Submit." the screen displays the course mentor talking to Alex at her desk. When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue. Scenario: "You meet with Alex for the first time. Alex holds an entry-level position as medical administrator. He says he loves working for VA, but medical administration is not something he is passionate about. He doesn't know what he wants to do." Instructions: "Read the list of actions.



Screen Description	Narration
Then, from the dropdown menu,	
identify the order in which these	
actions should be taken, and then	
select the 'Submit' button."	
Statements:	
"Encourage Alex to use the"	
MyCareer Fit Tool to identify a	
job at VA that meets his	
interests. "	
o Correct Answer: 2	
<ul> <li>"Ask Alex questions to get a</li> </ul>	
better understanding of where	
he is in his career."	
o Correct Answer: 1	
"Work with Alex so that he	
understands there are jobs at VA that would be a good fit,	
and encourage him to use the	
MyCareer Fit Tool to help him	
pinpoint which jobs best match	
his work interests."	
o Correct Answer: 3	
After ordering these actions correctly,	
the screen displays: "You are correct!"	
After ordering these actions incorrectly,	
the screen displays: "I'm sorry, that is	
not correct. Please try again."	



# Screen 11 - Knowledge Check 4 of 9



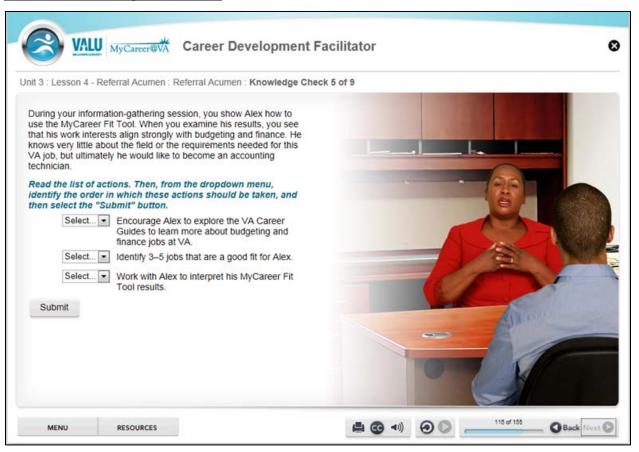
Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen displays	Select the option that best answers the question, and then
instructions, a scenario, a question, and	select "Submit."
four possible answers. On the right	
side, the screen displays the course	When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue.
mentor talking to Alex at her desk.	
Instructions: "Select the option that	
best answers the question, and then	
select 'Submit.'"	
Scenario: "During your information-	
gathering session, you show Alex how	
to use the MyCareer Fit Tool. When	
you examine his results, you see that	
his work interests align strongly with	
g ,	
budgeting and finance. He knows very	



Screen Description	Narration
little about the field or the	
requirements needed for this VA job,	
but ultimately he would like to become	
an accounting technician.	
Question: In which phase of the career	
development process is Alex?	
Assess	
• Explore	
• Plan	
• Take Action"	
Correct Answer: "Explore"	
After selecting the correct answer, the	
screen displays: "You are correct!"	
Jereen displays. Tod die correct:	
After selecting the incorrect answer,	
the screen displays, "I'm sorry, that is	
not correct. Please try again."	
, 6	



#### Screen 12 - Knowledge Check 5 of 9



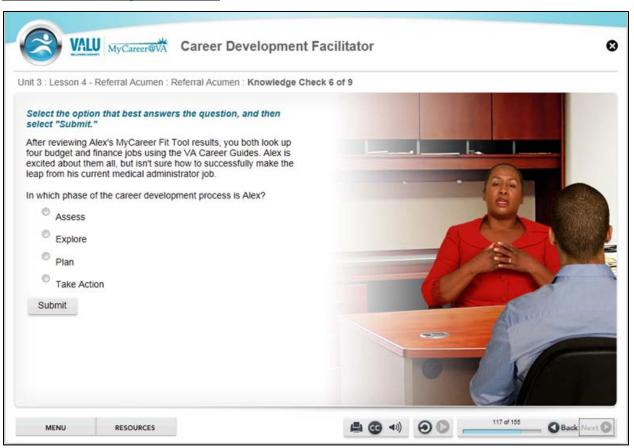
#### **Screen Description** Narration On the left side, the screen displays the You know that Alex is in the "Explore" phase. scenario from the previous screen, Which referral actions should you take? instructions, and dropdown boxes next to three statements. On the right side, Make your selections and then select "Submit." the screen displays the course mentor talking to Alex at her desk. When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue. Scenario: "During your informationgathering session, you show Alex how to use the MyCareer Fit Tool. When you examine his results, you see that his work interests align strongly with budgeting and finance. He knows very little about the field or the requirements needed for this VA job, but ultimately he would like to become



Screen Description	Narration
an accounting technician."	
Instructions: "Read the list of actions. Then, from the dropdown menu, identify the order in which these actions should be taken, and then select the 'Submit' button."	
Statements:	
<ul> <li>"Encourage Alex to explore the VA Career Guides to learn more about budgeting and finance jobs at VA."         <ul> <li>Correct Answer 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>"Identify 3–5 jobs that are a good fit for Alex."         <ul> <li>Correct Answer: 2</li> </ul> </li> <li>"Work with Alex to interpret his MyCareer Fit Tool results."         <ul> <li>Correct Answer: 1</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
After ordering these actions correctly, the screen displays: "You are correct!"	
After ordering these actions incorrectly, the screen displays: "I'm sorry, that is not correct. Please try again."	



#### Screen 13 - Knowledge Check 6 of 9



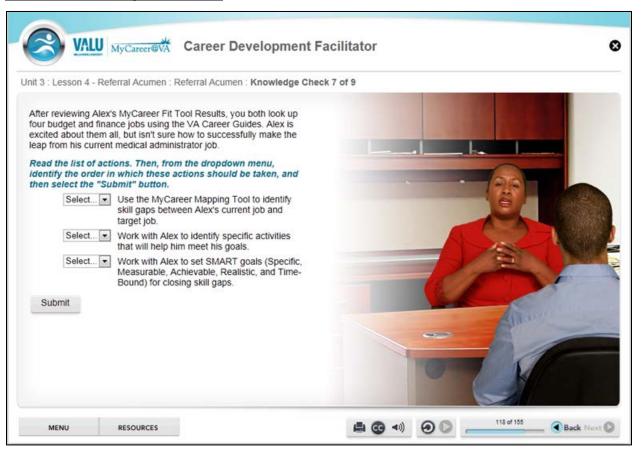
# **Screen Description** Narration On the left side, the screen displays Select the option that best answers the question, and then instructions, a question, and four select "Submit." possible answers. On the right side, the When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue. screen displays the course mentor talking to Alex at her desk. Instructions: "Select the option that best answers the question, and then select 'Submit.'" Question: "After seeing Alex's MyCareer Fit Tool Results, you both look up four budget and finance jobs using the VA Career Guides. Alex is excited about them all, but isn't sure how to successfully make the leap from



Screen Description	Narration
his current medical administrator job.	
In which phase of the career development process is Alex?	
<ul><li>Assess</li><li>Explore</li><li>Plan</li><li>Take Action"</li></ul>	
Correct Answer: "Plan"	
After selecting the correct answer, the screen displays: "You are correct!"	
After selecting the incorrect answer, the screen displays: "I'm sorry, that is not correct. Please try again."	



#### Screen 14 - Knowledge Check 7 of 9



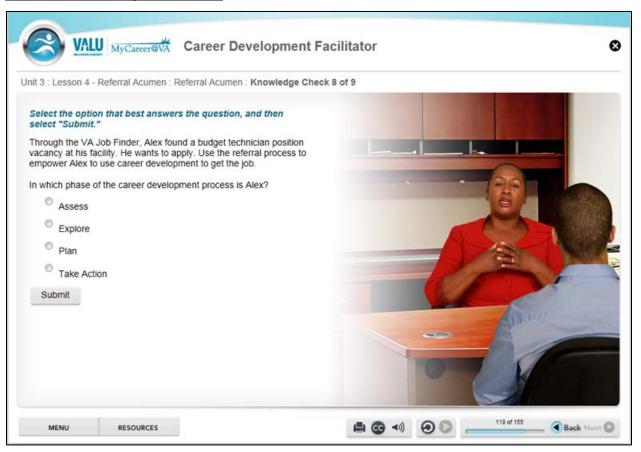
#### **Screen Description** Narration On the left side, the screen displays the You know that Alex is in the "Plan" phase. scenario from the previous screen, Which referral actions should you take? instructions, and dropdown boxes next to three statements. On the right side, the Make your selections and then select "Submit." screen displays the course mentor talking to Alex at her desk. When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue. Scenario: "After seeing Alex's MyCareer Fit Tool Results, you both look up four budget and finance jobs using the VA Career Guides. Alex is excited about them all, but isn't sure how to successfully make the leap from his current medical administrator job. Instructions: "Read the list of actions. Then, from the dropdown menu, identify the order



Screen Description	Narration
in which these actions should be taken, and then select the 'Submit' button."	
Statements:	
<ul> <li>"Use the My Career Mapping Tool to identify skill gaps between Alex's current job and target job."         <ul> <li>Correct Answer: 1</li> </ul> </li> <li>"Work with Alex to identify specific activities that will help him meet his goals."         <ul> <li>Correct Answer: 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>"Work with Alex to set SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time-Bound) for closing skill gaps."         <ul> <li>Correct Answer: 2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
After ordering these actions correctly, the screen displays: "You are correct!"	
After ordering these actions incorrectly, the screen displays: "I'm sorry, that is not correct. Please try again."	



# Screen 15 - Knowledge Check 8 of 9



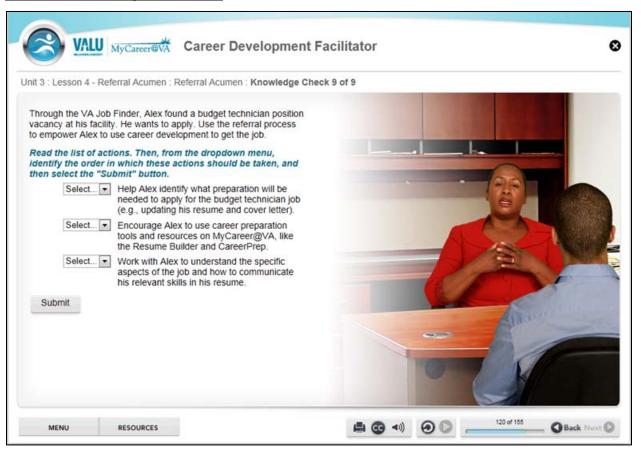
Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen disp	Select the option that best answers the question, and then
instructions, a question, and for	r select "Submit."
possible answers. On the right s	
screen displays the course ment	When you are finished, select the "Next" button to continue.
talking to Alex at her desk.	
Instructions: "Salast the option	hat
Instructions: "Select the option	
best answers the question, and select 'Submit.'"	nen
Select Submit.	
Question: "Through the VA Job	inder,
Alex found a budgeting technici	n
position vacancy at his facility. H	e
wants to apply. Use the referral	process
to empower Alex to use career	



Screen Description	Narration
development to get the job.	
In which phase of the career development process is Alex?	
<ul><li>Assess</li><li>Explore</li><li>Plan</li><li>Take Action"</li></ul>	
Correct Answer: "Take Action"	
After selecting the correct answer, the screen displays: "You are correct!"	
After selecting the incorrect answer, the screen displays "I'm sorry, that is not correct. Please try again."	



#### Screen 16 - Knowledge Check 9 of 9



#### **Screen Description** Narration On the left side, the screen displays the scenario You know that Alex is in the "Take Action" phase. from the previous screen, instructions, and Which referral actions should you take? dropdown boxes next to three statements. On the right side, the screen displays the course Make your selections and then select "Submit." mentor talking to Alex at her desk. When you are finished, select the "Next" button to Scenario: "Through the VA Job Finder, Alex continue. found a budgeting technician position vacancy at his facility. He wants to apply. Use the referral process to empower Alex to use career development to get the job. Instructions: "Read the list of actions. Then, from the dropdown menu, identify the order in which these actions should be taken, and then select



Screen Description	Narration
the 'Submit' button."	
Statements:  • "Help Alex identify what preparation	
will be needed to apply for the	
budgeting technician job (e.g., updating his resume and cover letter)."	
<ul><li>Correct Answer: 2</li><li>"Encourage Alex to use career</li></ul>	
preparation tools and resources on	
MyCareer@VA, like the Resume Builder and CareerPrep."	
o Correct Answer: 3	
"Work with Alex to understand the"	
specific aspects of the job and how to	
communicate his relevant skills in his resume"	
o Correct Answer: 1	
After ordering these actions correctly, the screen displays: "You are correct!"	
After ordering these actions incorrectly, the screen displays: "I'm sorry, that is not correct. Please try again."	



# Screen 17 - Summary



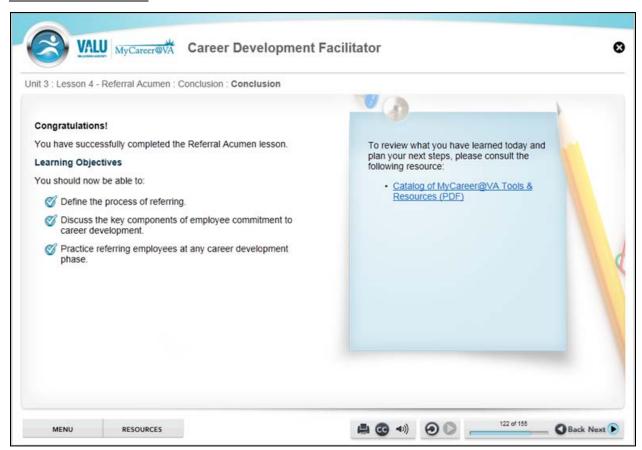
Screen Description	Narration
Centered on the screen is the course mentor smiling.	Thanks to your excellent referral work, Alex got his target job as an entry-level budget technician. While he adjusts to his new job, it is important for you to emphasize that his career development is not over; he must set new career goals and begin working now to achieve them.
	Even if Alex is not currently looking for a new job, he can focus on building skills or making valuable professional connections that will further advance his career.
	Keep in mind that each employee is different and will have different needs. Some may be just like Alex, while others may have vastly different career goals and needs.
	It's important that you approach each employee with a clean slate and an open mind. Use your helping skills to gain



Screen Description	Narration
	understanding and perspective as well as your career development knowledge to connect employees to tools and resources that best meet their needs.
	Please select the "Next" button to continue.



#### Screen 18 - Conclusion



Screen Description	Narration
On the left side, the screen displays	Congratulations! You have successfully completed the lesson on
"Congratulations! You have	Referral Acumen.
successfully completed the Referral	
Acumen lesson" and the Learning	Please review the Learning Objectives and access any resources
Objectives.	to reinforce the information covered in this lesson.
Landa Objection	Select the "Next" button to return to the course homepage.
Learning Objectives:	Select the Next button to return to the course nonlepage.
"You should now be able to:	
<ul> <li>Define the process of</li> </ul>	
referring.	
<ul> <li>Discuss the key components</li> </ul>	
of employee commitment to	
career development.	
<ul> <li>Practice referring employees</li> </ul>	



Screen Description	Narration
at any career development phase."	
On the right side, the screen displays Resources:	
"To review what you have learned today and plan your next steps, please consult the following resource:	
<ul> <li>Catalog of MyCareer@VA Tools &amp; Resources (PDF)"</li> </ul>	