

CSC-192 Seminar #6 : Career Opportunities at Caltrans & State

Speaker: Karl Kopper, IT Chief Security Officer, Caltrans

(Please type in full sentences)

Q1: Pro's & Con's of working for the State of California

Pros of any state job are the benefits you get and the job security. Some benefits are the insurance and the work life balance when you work for the state.

Some cons might be the pay compared to the private sector.

Q2: List the IT Career Paths for California State Jobs?

The career paths start at IT technician, then it goes to IT Associate. Then it branches to IT supervisor and or specialist roles. IT specialist goes up to IT specialist III and IT supervisor goes up to IT supervisor II.

Q3: List the IT Divisions @ Caltrans

Some of the IT divisions at Caltrans are Application development and Project of Business and Management.

Q4: Explain the difference between Defined Benefit vs. Defined Contribution Retirement Benefits? What are the Pro's & Con's between them?

Defined benefits guarantee a fixed amount of money on retirement provided and managed by the employer. Defined Contribution rely on the individual person and maybe the employer and one example would include a 401k. Defined benefits are more secure while defined contributions are more flexible.

Q5: Describe the Hiring Process @ Caltrans ?

So first you have to create a Calcareers account and fill out the application template. Then you have to take some eligibility exams for the different IT levels. Then depending on the IT level you can start applying for jobs. At the end will be an interview process.

Q6: Why would you want to work for an organization like Caltrans or State?

I personally would like to work for the state. I want a stable job after graduation and I want to stay local. The state offers just that with great benefits.