Career Guidance Services in Tirana: Empowering Youth Beyond School

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The Career Counseling Office of the Municipality of Tirana aims to guide and educate young people and the broader community towards a successful career by assisting and encouraging them towards the development of professional skills.

The Career Counseling Office provides independent information on education, training, and career development planning. Its goal is to support and advise young people and adults towards their career choices but also to introduce to young people, students, how to become professionals in various fields.
Our services

- Information and Online Self-Service
  Through the career online platform [www.karriera.tirana.al](http://www.karriera.tirana.al), but individuals can also visit the service office to obtain necessary information.
- Individual Counseling
  One-on-one guidance tailored to individual needs and aspirations, for anyone choosing a profession, exploring interests and skills in relation to job market opportunities, or clarifying thoughts and ambitions for career development.
  - Career Tests
  - Group Counseling (in-out house)
  Interactive sessions to address common career-related concerns and provide peer support.
- Information on the job market for specific professions
- Training
  - Career folder training
  - Soft skills
Understanding youth needs

• Conducting surveys, interviews, and focus groups to understand the diverse needs and challenges faced by young people in Tirana.
• Identifying common barriers such as lack of information, career indecision, and limited access to resources.

By...
• Providing comprehensive and accessible information about career options and pathways.
• Offering mentorship programs connecting youth with professionals in their desired fields.
• Encouraging self-awareness and skill development through workshops and training sessions.
• Fostering a supportive environment for exploring interests and setting realistic goals.
Importance of Guidance Services Outside of School

• Complementing school-based guidance by reaching youth who may not have access to such services during school hours.

• Addressing the evolving needs of youth in a rapidly changing job market and society.

• Empowering young people to make informed decisions about their education, careers, and personal development.
Impact and Evaluation

- Conducting regular evaluations to assess the effectiveness of our programs and services.
- Monitoring participant feedback and outcomes to measure the impact of our interventions.
- Collaborating with local partners and stakeholders to continuously improve and expand our offerings.
Data from the evaluation period 2022-2023

- Information and self-service online - 3400 users of the portal

The online page karriera.tirana.al, but they can also visit the service office to get the necessary information.

- 838 training topics
- 100 professions with description and video

- Individual counseling session - 357 individual counseling sessions (30-45 minutes each).
• Career Tests - 144 tests

• Group Counseling/Training/Exhibitions - 95 Activities, a series of activities with an average of about 30 participants, where approximately 2730 beneficiaries have benefited.
Testimonials

“Happy for this service that helps us in the steps of choosing the study branch and the decision-making process”- high school students of the economic technical school.

“Finally, a website where I can find all the necessary information regarding the educational offer in the country.”- Ema, student of Bajram Curri school (middle high school)

“I think this service will help me during the years of study for internships, trainings, or assistance in various applications”. – Alban, student of Misto Mame school (High school)

"Impressed by the quality of service" - Sofiola, psychologist at an educational institution.

“Navigating Careers, Empowering Futures: our Path, our Potential, your Expertise – Discovering the Future with Tirana Municipality’s Career Consulting Services.”- Klodeta, expert for victims with trauma from war and genocide
Conclusions

Having guidance services outside of school is crucial because they provide additional support and resources for individuals beyond what is offered within the educational system.

• Tailored service: Guidance services outside of school can offer personalized support based on individual needs, interests, and circumstances. This personalized attention is often difficult to provide within the constraints of a school setting in Albania.

• Extended Reach: Not everyone's needs can be fully met within the school environment. Having guidance services outside of school extends support to individuals who may not be currently enrolled in education or who require assistance beyond the scope of what schools can offer.

• Specialized Resources: These services often have access to specialized resources, such as career assessments, vocational training programs, job placement services, and networking opportunities that may not be available through the school system.
Thank you!

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