



Looking to get ahead in your career? Here are the top 10 milestones for your path to the top – from accomplishments and achievements critical to competencies for continued progression in leadership.

Top 10 Career Milestones

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10. Increased knowledge base.

Pushing yourself to learn about other service lines within your firm will increase your understanding of the big picture of your firm's business.

9. Active membership, even leadership, in a professional or charitable organization.

Volunteering provides a completely different perspective of the world around you and will ultimately help you be more successful in your career.

8. Participation in meaningful professional development programs such as a mini-MBA and/or achievement of advanced degree credentials.

Expanding your mind and learning how other industries thrive under similar circumstances – and then translating them into your own environment – is a key factor for those who ultimately succeed.

7. Experience leading projects with significant organizational impact with measurable return on investment.

Stepping outside your service line and working across various internal groups for the greater cause is a marker of ultimate success.

6. Achievement of significant, periodic promotions in title, compensation and responsibility levels.

Moving up the ladder will show that you have the skills, ability and hustle to take your role to the next level.

5. Publication in industry magazines.

Having your expertise validated by the outside world will provide additional credibility inside your organization.

4. Development of specialized knowledge or participation in a niche market, demonstrating a differentiation among peers.

Finding something that is of particular interest to you that is also impactful for your role, and then making sure others know of your expertise, is a key way to be successful.

3. Presentation at a high-profile conference, workshop or seminar.

Speaking is not for everyone, but pushing yourself to present will enhance your credibility among your peers.

2. Strategic involvement in significant initiatives such as a merger or launch of a new practice area.

By understanding other service lines in your firm, and being a connector of people and ideas, you will position yourself as someone who is invaluable in times of transition.

1. Proven ability to lead and develop other professionals to achieve their full potential.

Ensure that you have the training you need to be at your best to help others achieve the same. In particular, make the effort to understand both the goals and motivations of those who report to you (and/or you are mentoring) and provide access for them to shine. Then provide meaningful feedback and coaching to continue helping them develop to their true capabilities.

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