Finding the Right Fit

**What kind of feedback do you need?**


This will help you to improve your performance as time goes on. Don't be afraid to ask for more feedback if you need it – ask your supervisor, any mentors, or contemporaries.

**What type of work environment do you need to be successful?**

A quiet office? A cube near the window? A dynamic, high-energy manufacturing facility? Can you wear headphones? Do you have to be in a collaborative space?

You may not have a great deal of control over your work environment. But you can make small changes that allow you to adapt to your environment (e.g.: wearing noise cancelling headphones if you are working in a cube farm and it is too noisy for you).

**How do you organize yourself?**

Do you like to make lists? Write yourself notes? Do you keep a detailed calendar? Or are you someone who can organize your thoughts in your head? Think about both what works for you and what works for the organization. Even if your style doesn’t mesh with what most folks in your office are doing – consider how that may appear to colleagues. Be open to new ways of organizing!

**Do the values of your organization match with your own?**

If not, how will you manage these competing ideals? This is a tough one to consider. If the values of your organization match well with your own, great! That should make working there a breeze. If you feel like your personal values differ from that of your employer, it is important to find connection within other areas of the company (e.g.: with your colleagues). In addition to the above self-reflection, know your strengths! Be able to talk about them, and advocate for their use. One of the best pieces of advice I ever received (in my first full-time job, no less) was this: closed mouths don’t get fed. If you don’t advocate for yourself and ask for the things you need (or to work on projects you think you’d be good for) – you can’t expect that anyone else will do it for you! As always, you can use the services of CO-OPS + CAREERS in perpetuity – so five, ten, twenty years from now, you can come back to us and ask for support!