



Career Ladder

This is a process designed for use in the Classified Service to progress an employee to a higher classification with a higher level of job responsibility within a job family. With help from Human Resources and approval of the Personnel Board, departments establish criteria for advancing from a lower level position to the next higher level position. This is a department-driven process and helps the employee advance to a higher level of responsibility with or without competition and without moving from the work unit.

The career ladder rests on three basic preconditions:

- 1) The department must have a genuine need for the higher level work.
- 2) The target position classification must be available for career ladders.
- 3) The employee must be both interested in the higher level work and able to demonstrate the potential to perform it successfully. Managers and supervisors create criteria for advancement within the career ladder and are encouraged to discuss the criteria with Human Resources staff in the Pay and Classification section.

There are many benefits to utilizing career ladders within your work unit. For the employee, it provides the opportunity to develop new skills and competencies at their own pace while they are in their current job. Career ladders can also demonstrate initiative and willingness to work to further the departmental goals.

A career ladder may be a perfect option for your work unit. For more information, contact Human Resources for assistance at (727) 464-3367 or by email at pay.class@pinellascounty.org.