

WE'D LIKE TO DISPEL
10 MYTHS
ABOUT WORKING FOR THE
**CENTRAL
INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY**



MYTH #1

YOU'LL NEVER SEE
YOUR FAMILY AND
FRIENDS AGAIN.

At the CIA, the work we do may be secret, but that doesn't mean your life will be, too.

Our careers are similar to those of any major corporation — with a variety of opportunities available. You will most likely work on location at CIA Headquarters, experiencing a life style that



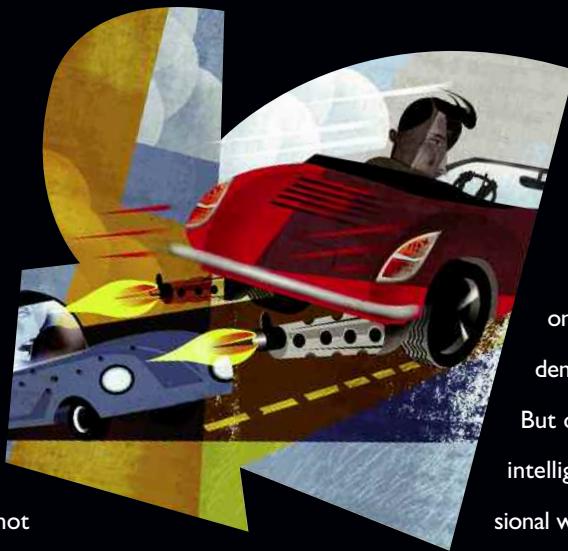
includes social and cultural activities in the nation's capital and the Virginia and Maryland suburbs. Our professional

environment also encompasses more areas of activity and expertise than any commercial enterprise or university.

So, your friends and family will still be part of your life every day — as they would with almost any other career choice you make.

MYTH #2

EVERYONE DRIVES A
SPORTS CAR WITH MACHINE
GUNS IN THE TAILPIPES.



Although high-speed car chases through the narrow alleyways of a foreign city may seem commonplace on TV, it's not what the CIA is really about.

And it doesn't compare with the reality of being part of worldwide intelligence operations supporting

a global mission. Of course, there are certain career choices at CIA that will put you in more immediate touch with world events

on an international scale, or demand that you carry a gun. But our mission is to collect intelligence, and every professional we hire is part of that effort, whether they work within, or outside of, an office. Driving a sports car is up to you. But we don't recommend the machine guns.

MYTH #3

YOU HAVE TO BE
SUPER HUMAN
IN EVERY WAY.



You've seen it in the movies, but you don't have to know karate, be able to withstand a jolt of electricity while playing a computer game with a madman, or look good in a tuxedo to work at the CIA.

You must, however, possess a deep intellect, the ability

to make good decisions and a dedication to serving the nation through the collection and analysis of intelligence.

Our work involves assessing and monitoring international developments — political, economic, military, technological, scientific, environmental and social. The difference here is that your work will be part of history.

MYTH #4

A GLAMOROUS LIFE STYLE
A W A I T S Y O U.



If you think that working for the CIA means you'll be jet-setting around the globe to attend parties with billionaires and showing off your Tango skills, you'll be disappointed.

The reality is, CIA employees are normal, everyday people who lead normal, everyday lives.

Some do travel the world and have opportunities to do exciting things. Yet, many of our professionals perform essential administrative office functions, at home

and abroad. Granted, they do so on the cutting edge of global change — dealing with technological advances that are increasing the complexity, scope and speed of potential risks to our national security every day. But that's the real life style that makes this career choice exciting.

MYTH #5

HARDLY ANYONE EVER
MAKES IT THROUGH THE
BACKGROUND CHECK.



Because of the CIA's national security role, there are specific qualifications candidates must meet, but cutting class once or twice during your senior year of high school probably won't disqualify you.

The fact is, it takes a while to go through the stringent process of

completing the qualifications screening, medical exams, security procedures and

polygraph interview. We want to ensure that only the most qualified and committed individuals are selected. Your intellect, skills, experience and desire to serve the nation by helping us to succeed in our mission are very important to us.

MYTH #6

YOU MIGHT HAVE
TO SPY ON FAMILY.



Some aspects of the work we do at the CIA could be clandestine and covert in nature. Others are less “spy like” and could involve assignments pertaining to science and technology, linguistics,

analytical assessments and other activities. One thing is for certain: as America’s premier intelligence agency, our work

involves collecting information from sources outside the United States. So the odds of ever having to spy on your family are, well, absolutely nil.

MYTH #7

IF YOU DON'T SPEAK
A FOREIGN LANGUAGE,
FORGET ABOUT IT.



Sure, every CIA officer in the movies speaks fluent Farsi or Mandarin. In reality, most people who work at the agency aren't bilingual. But, if you need to be versed in a foreign language for a particular position, we'll teach

you. In fact, the CIA has one of the most advanced foreign language teaching laboratories in the world, staffed by exceptional linguists and

instructors. That said, if you currently possess superior foreign language skills, all the better. You can look forward to generous hiring bonuses, language awards and additional pay for maintaining your linguistic skills.

MYTH #8

ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN
US CITIZENS FOR GENERATIONS
CAN REALLY GET A JOB HERE.



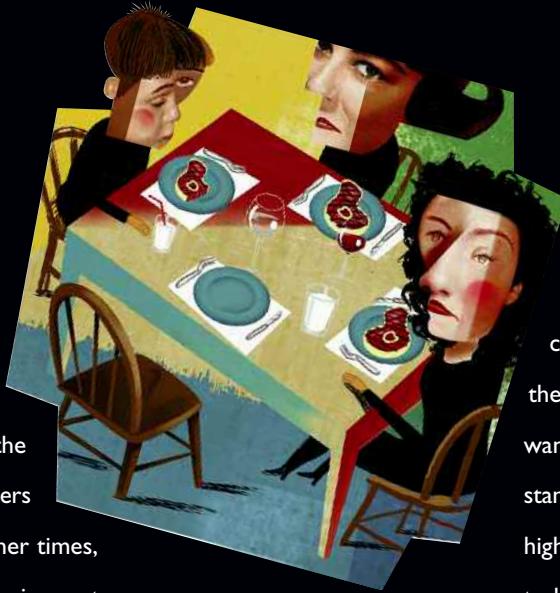
Not really. In fact, the opposite is more true. We make a point of interviewing many Americans who have been exposed to foreign cultures by their families, and who have an understanding of the world outside the US. For example, some people grew up with parents whose

careers led them to live in various locations around the world. So, while US citizenship is required

when you apply, it's not imperative that you were born a US citizen. Oh, and your relatives don't have to be US citizens, either. We are committed to building and maintaining a workforce as diverse as the nation we serve — the most diverse nation on earth.

MYTH #9

YOUR FAMILY WILL NEVER
KNOW WHERE YOU ARE.



Of course they will. Sometimes you could be living right here in the US near our headquarters in McLean, Virginia. Other times, although some foreign assignments may not be suitable for your entire family to experience, they could travel and live overseas with you

while you're working there. Either way, your immediate family will know where you are, and you

can travel home to be with them several times a year if you want to. Under some circumstances, you could be sent on highly classified assignments not to be shared with anyone. If so, the US Government will act as an intermediary in order for you to keep in touch with your family.

MYTH #10

YOU'LL ALWAYS CARRY A GUN
AND USE LOTS OF SECRET WEAPONS.



If you're hired as a CIA analyst, why would you need a gun to write a report while working outside Washington, DC in a secure location? You wouldn't. But if you are performing an ultra-sensitive covert operation in an unsecured location, a firearm could be neces-

sary. It all depends on the situation. Except in Hollywood spy movies, there really aren't that many secret weapons a CIA Officer would ever

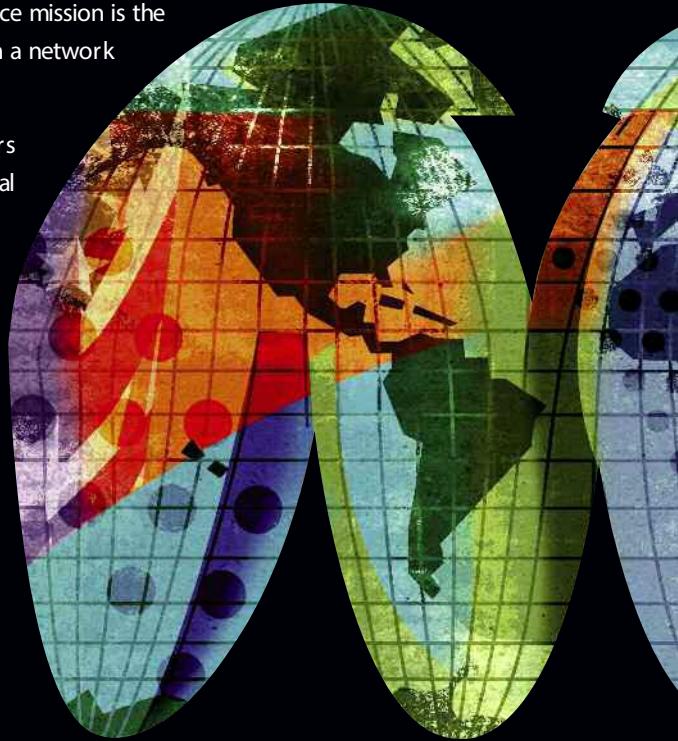
use. Unless you call a secure cell phone a secret weapon. Some of the technology that is being developed at CIA is unheard of. In fact, if you are a scientist or engineer, you could get to work on technology so advanced, it's classified.

At the CIA, the challenges of today's fast-paced global changes present opportunities for exceptional careers. Our intelligence mission is the work of the nation — and our success depends on a network of professionals around the world.

From the technical expertise of scientists, engineers and IT professionals who develop the latest technical gizmo, to the adventurous individuals in the Clandestine Service who collect important national security secrets. From language instructors conducting research, examining foreign media and teaching crucial language skills, to analysts with experience in international economics, military analysis and quantitative methods, to administrative personnel who support everyone else in performing their work. Ours is a mission like no other.

Candidates must successfully complete a medical examination, polygraph interview and an extensive background investigation. For additional career information, job postings and to apply, please visit: www.cia.gov

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