

Roadmap: From College to My Career

Step 1: Get Planning

- Take a **Focus 2** self-assessment to explore real occupations and your working personality, data and facts.
- Build your **Handshake** profile.
- Get involved by joining a student organization, volunteering, attending campus events or finding a job related to your career goals.
- Come to the Career Development Center for a drop-in appointment to review your résumé and/or cover letter.
- Explore relevant courses, minors and study-abroad options with your academic advisor.
- Get to know your professors during office hours, and maintain a solid GPA.

STEP

1

Step 2: Get Professional

- Begin researching and identifying 2-3 employers of interest and reach out to set up informational interviews or a job shadow.
- Increase your online presence by creating a **LinkedIn** profile or electronic portfolio.
- Attend career events, expos and workshops.
- Explore research and internship opportunities.
- Develop your elevator pitch to use during networking events.
- Take on leadership roles in student organizations.
- Start acquiring professional attire appropriate to your field.

STEP

2

Step 3: Get Connected

- Network and make **LinkedIn** connections with professors, faculty, advisors and alumni.
- Attend employer events and career panels to explore opportunities and industry-specific job/internship search strategies.
- Join relevant professional organizations/associations in your field.
- Research graduate schools and requirements for acceptance into programs of interest.
- Develop a list of professional references.
- Expand engagement in on- and off-campus activities to diversify skills, experiences and connections.
- International students: investigate Curricular Practical Training (CPT) to work in the U.S. during college.

STEP

3

Step 4: Get Hired

- Update your **Handshake** profile, résumé, cover letter and LinkedIn.
- Leverage the network you have built both on- and off-campus to find opportunities.
- Use Handshake and other job boards to apply for jobs or internships.
- Attend speed mock interviews hosted by the Career Center and use **StandOut** to practice interview skills for employment and graduate school.
- Evaluate your online presence from an employer's/program's perspective.
- Create a professional email address and phone message.
- International students: investigate requirements for Optional Practical Training (OPT).

STEP

4

