With advanced planning, you can develop career-related skills and experiences that will help you find a great career after graduation!

Explore

- Complete the Typefocus career assessment offered in University 110 to identify career fields that fit with your interests, values and abilities.
- Meet with a Career Services Center counselor to review career goals and verify your major selection.
- Explore fields of potential career interest through Internet research, information interviews and job shadowing.
- Develop computer proficiency, effective communication skills, social skills, public speaking, research skills and organizational skills.
- Log in to Handshake to activate your profile and upload your first resume.

Experience

- Participate in an internship in your targeted career field and gain valuable experience.
- Seek experiences to broaden your global/intercultural knowledge.
- Continue building a career network through personal and professional contacts.
- Explore graduate school programs for career development. Attend career fairs.
- Begin to collect evaluations and letters of recommendation for your job search from internship and part-time job supervisors and faculty.
- Research potential employers to learn about their organizational culture, structure and recruitment patterns.
- Attend career fairs and professional development workshops. (Log into Handshake for a list of events.)

Decide

- Discuss major studies and career options with Career Services Center counselors, academic advisers and appropriate faculty.
- Begin to create your career network using Careershift and LinkedIn.
- Reach out to a Career Services Center counselor for help building a professional network of contacts in career fields of interest.
- Get involved with campus activities such as career fairs, workshops, clubs and organizations.
- Create a LinkedIn profile or professional portfolio.
- Update your resume and have it critiqued in the Career Services Center. Upload new resume to Handshake.

Achieve

- Begin your job search! Visit the Career Services Center to have your updated resume critiqued. Upload new resume to Handshake and update your account information.
- Start searching six to nine months before graduation.
- Plan a job search strategy for securing a full-time position.
- Make sure your voicemail greeting and email addresses are professional.
- Complete entrance exams and applications during the summer/fall semesters before your senior year if you are planning on going to graduate school.
- Use campus resources such as Handshake, Careershift, and Big Interview.
It is in your freshman year that you begin the career development process to decide the direction you want your career to take and what kind of college major you will need to get there.

Our professionally trained staff are here to provide high quality, personable, and accessible opportunities for students to choose a major and find and develop clear career objectives. Please schedule an appointment with a career counselor by calling our office at 843-349-2341 or emailing us at career@coastal.edu.

Visit our website and check out these online resources to help you get started:

- Handshake
- CareerShift
- What Can I Do With This Major
- Big Interview

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