



# Career Prep

## Process Map



### Career Exploration

Wave-Makers have a clear and motivating post-college vision to guide their actions.

### Research & Self Assessment

Research careers/majors that are of interest, use self assessments to gain info and narrow major/career options that excite you:

- [BigFutures.com](http://BigFutures.com)
- [myfutures.com](http://myfutures.com)
- [Strong Interest Inventory](#)
- Check resources at specific school

### Reflection & Goals

Take time to reflect and set goals throughout the process. Some questions to ask yourself:

- What SMART goals can I set with this information?
- What are my priorities, values, and what matters to me?
- What are my interests? (hobbies, courses enjoyed, careers that seem interesting)
- What strengths, skills, personality traits do I want to utilize?

Continue to reflect and update goals throughout your experiences and into life! Check-in with yourself, and pivot as you need to.



### Career Readiness

Wave-Makers have the confidence, resources, and network to apply and grow their career skills.

### Major - Career Connection

Major doesn't always determine career, however it can have implications. Consider how your major connects to career:

- Typical careers that major leads to
- Skills gained via major that prepares you for other careers
- Experience needed to supplement where major may lack

### Network

Networking has MANY benefits! You should try to network throughout your career journey:

- Network for: Exploration, insight and advice, determining whether a role/company/industry is or isn't for you, opportunities and resources, etc.
- Network with: Professors, peers, managers, mentors, alumni, folks you meet, at internships, etc.
- Network by: Casual conversations, informational interviews, attending career fairs, joining clubs/groups, being active on LinkedIn

### Application Materials & Process

Crafting application materials and learning how to navigate the application process is vital to obtaining opportunities. Take time to develop and get feedback on:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- Interviewing skills
- LinkedIn profile
- \*CV, portfolio, website



### Career Experience

Wave-Makers gain tangible career experience through internships and are ready to transition from college to a strong first job.

### Internships

Internships are one of the best ways to explore careers, industries, and companies, skill build, gain tangible career experience, network, and more. Sometimes trying something out is the best way to discover, learn and grow.

- Aim to have at least 2 internships while in college
- Make the most of your summers! Majority of internships take place in the summer.

### Other Experience & Skill Building Opportunities

Experience building opportunities aside from internships can also be beneficial. Some examples include:

- Courses outside of major
- Volunteer experience
- Freelance
- Passion project
- Service experiences
- Experiential / professional development programs
- Clubs and extra curriculars
- Online courses and certificates
- Attend workshops, seminars, conferences