

TIPS

Build your network

• Get to know students further along in program, speak with professors and visiting lecturers about their career paths, attend networking events, and connect with alums through <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>MyPenn</u>, and <u>WSOD</u> alumni association.

Use your winter and summer breaks

• Set up <u>informational interviews</u> with alumni and potential employers, revise your resume and work on your portfolio, and be strategic about upcoming classes: what skills do you need to develop and refine?

Get the most out of your internship(s):

 Take on challenging projects, shadow as many of your colleagues as possible, refine your career goals, maintain contact with your supervisor

<u>Tips for international students:</u>

• Find opportunities to practice your English presentation and communication skills, see if you can identify people from your home country that work for U.S. companies, use resources like <u>GoinGlobal</u>, <u>Devex</u>, and <u>Uniworld</u> on the Career Services website

Visit the WEITZMAN OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP:

Kali Meeks, Associate Director (215) 573-9168 design.upenn.edu/information/career-resources 307 Duhring Wing | 236 South 34th Street

Visit CAREER SERVICES:

(215) 898-7530 careerservices@vpul.upenn.edu careerservices.upenn.edu 3718 Locust Walk | McNeil Building Suite 20





First Semester: EXPLORE / NETWORK

- ☐ Familiarize yourself with Career Services resources
 - Activate your <u>Handshake</u> account to schedule appointments, search and apply to internships and jobs, and view events
 - Set your Career Interests on Handshake to get personalized content sent
 - Visit Career Services <u>website</u> for resources by career field, career plan survey reports, and "Penn and Beyond" blog
 - · Login to website and set your email preferences to receive customized email
 - Set up a meeting with a Career Advisor to get an overview of resources
- ☐ Get involved with professional associations and groups
 - Look at professional associations memberships of alumni in your field <u>LinkedIn</u> is one way to do this and consider getting involved in those that also interest you. Think of one that also offer networking and professional development resources.
 - WSOD & Penn Alumni LinkedIn groups
- □ Build your network
 - Speak with professors about their professional contacts
 - Speak with visiting lecturers about their career paths
 - Use MyPenn and LinkedIn to identify Penn and WSOD alumni contacts
- ☐ Attend <u>Career Services events</u>
 - Explore registered employers at all Fall Career Fairs using Handshake

Second Semester: NETWORK / BEGIN INTERNSHIP SEARCH

- □ Update your resume
 - Review the <u>Graduate Design Resume Guide</u>
 - Place your education at the top of your resume
 - · Add first semester coursework and relevant technical skills
 - Review your resume/cover letter with a Career or Peer Career Advisor
 - Have your portfolio reviewed with the Penn Weitzman Alumni members
- □ Prepare for Design + Creative Career Fair
 - Register for career fair on Handshake
 - Research career fair employers ahead of time
 - Practice your personal pitch and practice interview skills via BigInterview

Third Semester: FULL-TIME JOB SEARCH

- ☐ Put aside regular time for your job search
 - Set goals and work diligently on your job search every week
 - Make networking goals and use LinkedIn and MyPenn to achieve them
- □ Focus your job search
 - Think about your job search as a course and set aside time to work on it every week
 - Visit firms and set up <u>informational interviews</u>
 - Tap into your network: let contacts know you are job hunting
 - Stay in touch with your internship supervisor!
- □ Interview, negotiate, accept!
 - Schedule a mock interview with a Career Advisor when you receive an interview invitation
 - Meet a Career Advisor to talk about offer negotiation
 - Say thanks to your references; fill out the Career Plans Survey