2-Year Master’s Career Timeline

Including:
Master of City Planning
Master of Historic Preservation
Master of Landscape Architecture

TIPS

Build your network
• Get to know 2nd year students, speak with professors and visiting lecturers about their career paths, attend networking events, and connect with alums through LinkedIn, MyPenn, and WSOD alumni association.

Use your winter and summer breaks
• Set up informational interviews 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

Tips for international students:
• 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 specialized resources like GoinGlobal, Devex, and Uniworld 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: CAREER EXPLORATION
• Familiarize yourself with Career Services resources
  • Activate your Handshake account to schedule appointments, search and apply to internships and jobs, and view events
  • Set your Career Interests to get personalized content sent to you
  • Visit Career Services for resources by career field, career plan survey reports, and “Penn and Beyond” blog
  • Login to website and set your email preferences
  • Set up a meeting with a Career Advisor at Career Services

• Join professional associations and clubs on campus and find a mentor
  • Take advantage of your free one-year membership to APA
  • WSOD clubs, networks, and LinkedIn groups
  • Sign up for APA Mentorship Program or Zell-Lurie (Real Estate)

• Start researching companies/organizations that interest you
  • Sign up for Handshake job announcements and attend company info sessions

Second Semester: INTERNSHIP SEARCH
• Update your resume
  • Review the Graduate Design Resume Guide & samples on Career Services website
  • Add first-semester coursework and new software skills
  • Review your resume with a Career Advisor
  • Have your portfolio reviewed with the Penn Weitzman Alumni members

• Prepare for Design + Creative Career Fair
  • Register for career fair on Handshake and research employers ahead of time

• Apply for internships and prepare for interviews
  • Apply for summer work study funds and scholarships
  • Review your cover letters with a Career Advisor and practice your personal pitch and interview skills via BigInterview

• Attend Career Services events
  • Workshops and events on job/internship skills

Third Semester: ACTIVELY PREPARE FOR JOB SEARCH
• Find a Mentor
  • APA and/or Zell-Lurie (Real Estate) or find alumni contacts on MyPenn and LinkedIn
  • Stay in touch with your internship supervisor!

• Update your resume to include internship experience
  • List your summer accomplishments and update your portfolio
  • Line up your professional and academic references

• Focus your job search
  • Identify where you want to work geographically and identify top employers
  • Tap into your network: let contacts know you are job hunting
  • Use Handshake to search for opportunities

• Attend Career Services events
  • Explore registered employers at all Fall Career Fairs using Handshake

Fourth Semester: JOB SEARCH
• Make your job search a “class”
  • Treat your job search as a course and set aside time to work on it every week

• Prepare for Design + Creative Career Fair
  • Research career fair employers ahead of time and update your personal pitch

• Use Handshake
  • Search and apply for jobs and follow up with employers of interest

• 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
  • Thank your references when you accept a position
  • Fill out the Career Plans Survey