

FIRST-YEAR

CAREER MILESTONES

The Career Milestones are an action-oriented four-year program that enables you to develop and implement an effective career strategy to accomplish professional goals. What can you do in your first year to prepare for success?

LEARN about yourself and your career/academic options:

- Talk to faculty and upperclassmen about possible majors/minors, and explore how those connect to your interests, skills, and the Career Pathways using the Career Advancement Center's Focus 2 career assessment tool
- Take new and interesting courses, and join an on-campus organization to apply your skills outside the classroom
- Attend a CAC event related to at least one Career Pathway to explore your interests further
- Begin to develop your resume and drop by the CAC's Express Advising Center in the Student Center M-F, 11am – 1pm, for help getting started
- Activate your Handshake account to learn more about summer opportunities and CAC resources
- Think about possible major(s) you might want to declare and select a faculty advisor

LOOKING AHEAD

Every semester, continue to attend one career-related event like Speed Networking and Career-A-Palooza to further refine your interests, develop relevant skills, and build your resume.

Year Two:

Target a (few) professional pathway(s) and DEVELOP relevant skills.

- *Talk to professionals to gather career specific information*
- *Pursue job shadowing, research, volunteer work, or a summer internship*
- *Update your resume with new experiences*
- *Declare a major and select a faculty advisor*

Year Three:

Refine your professional pathway(s) and STRENGTHEN relevant skills.

- *Research potential companies, organizations, and graduate/professional schools*
- *Talk to professionals at the sites you've identified or in your field(s) of interest*
- *Identify ways you need to strengthen your skill set and pursue additional coursework, internships, job shadowing, research, or other development opportunities*
- *Practice articulating your unique skills and experiences by updating your resume, preparing for interviews, and developing a brief self-introduction*

Year Four:

POLISH your credentials and pursue opportunities with employers and graduate/professional schools that fit your skills, interests, and values.

- *Mobilize your network to help with the search; keep contacts informed about your progress and transition*
- *Complete an additional internship or research opportunity in your target field*
- *Refine your resume and interviewing skills*
- *Identify and apply for employment, graduate school, fellowships, or other opportunities*
- *Prepare to negotiate, navigate, and accept offers*

Want to check in with a career advisor about your progress? Drop by our Express Advising hours or schedule an appointment on Handshake.

Learn more at lakeforest.edu/careers/for-students/