Graduation is closer than you think: Prepare now for what comes next

Whether your destination after State is employment or graduate school, your entire college experience is a critical time for developing and executing a strategy to get you there. The good news is we have a great network of Career Services professionals to help you identify and develop toward your purpose — “what you’re trying to do or become.”

An effective career strategy is built upon three key parts:

- **SELF ASSESSMENT & PRIORITY IDENTIFICATION.** Your interests, values, and skills form the core of your purpose and what you offer. These remain stable even when you switch jobs, but they get refined as you gain experience. Career Assessment tools like the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator are a great starting point to help you articulate what you want and where there’s a likely fit. You also need to think about your priority for the next 2-3 years. It may be finding a dream job, experimenting with a different career, or just earning money for graduate school. If priorities change, so should your career strategy.

- **KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD OF WORK.** There are many more jobs out there than the small percentage that get advertised. Uncovering those that match your aspirations requires some digging. It starts with basic research, using resources which describe the tasks, work environments, and skills used in a given job. Advanced resources such as field-specific journals and websites (e.g., The Wall Street Journal if you’re interested in investment banking; chemistry.org if you’re interested in scientific research) help you discover the major employers offering the type of work you want. To know if you’re on the right track, you eventually will need to talk with people who work in the field. This is called informational interviewing, and it’s the best way to get the insights you’ll need to become a strong candidate.

- **UNDERSTANDING SEARCH PROCESSES.** Searching for a job isn’t like taking a class. For starters, there’s no syllabus...unless you create it yourself. Although the resume seems like a writing assignment, it’s really a personal ad. The interview, which looks like an exam, determines whether there are enough interests in common to take the relationship a step further. The process works only if you take charge, which may force you to adopt new ways of thinking. In addition, your internal processes — how you make decisions (methodically or spontaneously), how you learn (by studying, observing, or experiencing) — affect the execution of your search strategy.

Your search strategy, whether for a part time job, summer internship or full time job, starts when you know what you want to do (your purpose!) and who may hire you to do it. It’s a game plan for writing a targeted resume, going through the application process, interviewing, and negotiating an offer. Career Services offers a variety of workshops, individual advising, career fairs, on-campus interviewing, and networking opportunities that can play a vital part in developing and executing your strategy. Learn more at careernetwork.msu.edu.

What is Handshake? It’s your resource for part time jobs, internships, career events, full time jobs and much more. Only for MSU students and recent alumni, this website allows you to access job and internship postings, career fair information and career-related workshops. Log in to your Handshake account at careernetwork.msu.edu to create your profile, post your resume, apply for full time jobs and internships, research employers, manage your on-campus interviews, and access other career-related announcements and resources.

For more information about careers, internships and links to the latest career resources, visit the MSU Career Services Network online at careernetwork.msu.edu.
Visit fallwelcome.msu.edu for information on all Fall Welcome Activities.
Learning Outside The Classroom

Don't Miss This Opportunity to Showcase Your Talents

The annual University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF) provides Michigan State students with an opportunity to showcase their scholarship and creative activity. Held each spring in the Student Center, UURAF brings together an intellectual community of highly motivated students to share their work with faculty, peers, and external audiences.

Don't Miss This Opportunity to Showcase Your Talents Be Spartan Green

At Michigan State University, green is more than a color. It's an attitude of personal responsibility and hard work that is shared by students, faculty, and staff who, through both small steps and big collaborations, work to improve the quality of life at MSU and in communities around the globe.

Our actions are powered by more than a century and-a-half of commitment to employing many people to do extraordinary things. Working together we can move mountains—or preserve them for future generations. There are plenty of opportunities for students to get involved in sustainability at MSU, visit sustainable.msu.edu, to see how you can Be Spartan Green!

Report your immunization history

The University requires all new undergraduate students to complete the immunization requirement. Find more information at reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/immunization.html. Failure to provide proof of the immunization requirement will affect your ability to register and enroll. This information is helpful to the University in the routine healthcare and in the unlikely event of a disease outbreak.

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MSU Sustainability Be Spartan Green

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Quick Contacts

CAMPUS OPERATOR
(517) 355-1855
COUNSELING
(517) 355-8000
Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS)
(517) 355-5070 caps.msu.edu
CULTURAL ISSUES
Office of Cultural and Academic Transitions (OCAT)
(517) 355-7746 ocat.msu.edu
EDUCATIONAL DIVERSITY
Mosaic: The Multicultural Student Community
(517) 432-7153 mosaic.msu.edu
EDUCATION
Code Enforcement & Neighborhood Conservation
(517) 319-6870 communityliving.msu.edu
FALL WELCOME
Department of Student Life
(517) 355-8286 fallwelcome.msu.edu
FINANCIAL AID
Office of Financial Aid
(517) 353-5940 faid.msu.edu
FINANCIAL AID/ SORORITIES
Greek Life - Fraternity & Sororities
(517) 884-4070 greeklife.msu.edu
FOREIGN STUDENT SERVICES
International Student Services
(517) 335-8700 intl.msu.edu
HOSTEL
MSU Libraries
(517) 333-7060 library.msu.edu
HOUSING CODES
Code Enforcement & Neighborhood Conservation
(517) 319-6870 communityliving.msu.edu
I-9 FILL IN A FUTURE
Department of Student Life
(517) 355-8286 fallwelcome.msu.edu
IN-CAMPUS HOUSING OPTIONS
Residence Education & Housing Services
(517) 884-5483 Toll Free (877) 954-8366 housing.msu.edu
LIBRARY
MSU Libraries
(517) 333-7060 library.msu.edu
LONG DISTANCE CALLS
Office of the Ombudsperson
(517) 333-8930 ombuds.msu.edu
MAINTENANCE
Office of the President
(517) 355-2000 president.msu.edu
MAINTENANCE
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