Career Ready Planning Tips: Economics Majors

Take action now to ensure post-graduation success! Below you can find different activities that will increase your career-readiness. Sometimes it is appropriate to figure out what you want and what skills you possess. In some situations it makes sense to gather info about a potential career path. Lots of students find that internships and other work experiences enhance their resumes. You might be ready to search for a full-time job.

Whatever stage applies to you, do something soon, so you’ll be ready for life after you get your diploma!

Assess Your Interests- Explore your interests, skills, and values.

- Use FOCUS2 to self-evaluate your career values and interests, resulting in a matching list of career titles. Register for Careers4Terps (C4T) and click on the link for FOCUS2 to get started.
- Complete a skills inventory. Then make sure examples of your skills are prominently displayed on your resume. Request a resume review by the University Career Center.
- Request an appointment with the university’s Counseling Center to take a career assessment and have it reviewed by a career counselor to identify occupations that match your interests.
- Test your interests by joining campus clubs. EAM could be a great fit!

Explore Career Options- Learn about career fields that fit your interests and start preparing to apply for co-curricular opportunities.

- Learn about a range of careers by reading online guides available through Vault (sample career titles to the right).
- Review position titles of recent UMD Economics graduates on the Careers: Economics guide and explore the titles that are new to you.
- Intern for a Day: Invest one day to shadow a position of interest.
- Career Shuttles: Visit local organizations to hear about the opportunities they offer and experience the office culture.
- Use the UMD Alumni Advising Network to connect with alumni and ask questions about their field of work/career paths.
- Review required skills for specific positions using the Occupational Outlook Handbook.
- Participate in Career & Internship Fairs to learn about and gather information on potential careers and employers.
- Review opportunities listed in C4T for Economics majors and note position titles and skill requirements which match your aspirations. Create a “Saved Search” in C4T to receive customized alerts about events and positions related to your interests.

KEY RESOURCES

Take a self-assessment inventory on FOCUS2 to produce a list of career options based on your interests.

Explore majors and careers.

Connect with UMD alumni to learn about career options.

Careers: Economics: explore position titles from ECON graduates and employers who have hired them.

Candid Careers videos: watch UMD alumni speak about their career paths.

Vault Career Guides:
- Consulting
- Investing
- Leveraged Finance
- Actuarial Careers
- Banking & Finance
- Sales & Trade
- Real Estate
- Private Equity
- Hedge Funds
- Public Policy
Gain Experience - Engage in opportunities to test your interests, network, and gain valuable skills.

- Choose a co-curricular opportunity that allows you to experience a career field of interest: volunteer, education abroad, research, on-campus leadership.
- Browse through the internship listings on C4T, and apply for positions. Consider registering for ECON386 to receive academic credit for your internship experience.
- Consider pursuing a part-time job to gain soft skills and make some money.
- Sharpen your interviewing skills and prepare for internship interviews.
- Develop an industry specific resume for your career areas of interest and have it reviewed by the University Career Center.

Transition - Start planning your post-graduation steps.

Job Search

- Network with employers at information sessions, events, Career Shuttles, and fairs and stay in touch with connections you made last year.
- Analyze your skills and the skills required by your field of interest to identify any gaps.
- Schedule a career consultation appointment with the University Career Center @ BSOS to map out a job search action plan.
- Join the UMD BSOS alumni group to connect with alumni and ask about hiring practices.
- Continue to research organizations of interest and connect with them on LinkedIn or other social media outlets, prior to a position being posted.
- Practice the art of interviewing by participating in a mock interview with an employer or use Interview Stream to find sample interview questions for your field of interest.

Graduate School

- Consider if graduate school in economics is your path. Email Dr. Clement to schedule an appointment if you want advice.
- Review the graduate school application timeline and plan ahead!
- Take graduate tests if needed (i.e. GMAT, GRE, LSAT).
- Research programs of interest, review their application process, and visit the campus (if possible).
- Request a review of your personal statement by the Writing Center or the University Career Center @ BSOS.

Read more about creating your career action plan: http://ter.ps/CareerAction