Career Planning for Seniors

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University Career Services

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Mason Parent and Family Council
University Career Services Mission

• We prepare and connect career-ready students for post-graduate success
University Career Services Model

• What should I do after graduation?
  Career Counseling (Explore)

• How do I get there?
  Industry Advising (Strategize)

• Made it! Now what?
  Professional Development (Succeed)
UCS Offerings

- Individual appointments
- Walk-ins
- Group workshops
- Events
- Career fairs
- Online resources
HireMason Perks

• Apply directly online to jobs/internships for which you qualify

• Create saved searches and receive e-mail alerts when jobs/internships matching your criteria are posted

• “Publish" your resume in Mason Resume Books for employers to query
Senior Year

• Meet with career counselor or industry advisor (September-October)
• Get resume reviewed (September)
  1:1 appointment, Resume Clinic
• Submit applications to graduate/professional schools (October-January)
• Register for UNIV 420-1 College to Career/Grad School for spring (November)
Senior Year

• Connect with employers (September-April)
  Career Fair, On Campus Interviews, programs

• Conduct a practice interview (as needed)
  1:1 appointment, Practice Interview Days, InterviewStream
Job Search by the Numbers

1312 full-time jobs posted on HireMason
Average length of job search ~6 months
~12-40 hours/week job search time
Up to 80% of jobs are filled through networking
Have a list of 100 potential employers
Role of Parents: Don’ts

• Fill out or send in job applications
• Write cover letters
• Contact an employer
• Accompany your student on interviews
• Share outdated information
Role of Parents: Do’s

- Point out skills and natural talents
- Teach your student professional demeanor
- Buy your student a suit and accessories
- Talk about what to expect in an interview
- Help set realistic expectations
- Facilitate introductions to your contacts
4 Step Job Search

- Documents
- Research
- Network
- Apply
80:20 Rule

- Informational interviews
- Conferences/professional meetings
- Volunteering
- Happy hours
Career Fair October 1-2

Johnson Center, Dewberry Hall

• Teach for America
• Boeing
• Amazon
• CIA
• Deloitte
• American Cancer Society
• Enterprise
• SRA International
• U.S. State Department
• And many more (~160 total employers)
We are here for your student!
Ways to mentor

• Take a Patriot to Work Day
• Mason CareerLink
• Hire a student/recent graduate!