

Career Timeline

Career exploration can begin at any time. Below are some ideas to get your career path started. You will begin to steadily gather knowledge and experience to prepare yourself for exciting and challenging careers.

First Year: Self Assessment

- Take career inventories to discover your personality type, interests, values, and work style. These are available to you for free in the Career Development Center.
- If you already have a career goal, research it in depth to see if it is compatible with your personality type and life goals.
- Consider joining campus organizations. While making friends, you will also develop useful career skills.
- Visit the Career Development Center. Make an appointment with a career coach to become familiar with the available resources.
- Create/develop your Handshake profile to begin learning what employers are hiring.
- Visit our website at www.loyno.edu/career to explore more opportunities.

Sophomore Year: Exploration

- Complete a job search on Handshake and visit the Career Development Center to explore job and internship opportunities.
- Find courses that will improve your overall professionalism in areas such as communication, public speaking, technology, cross-cultural awareness, and leadership.
- Seek leadership opportunities in campus organizations.
- Apply for a summer internship by attending career fairs, meeting with a career coach, and checking out the internship resources available in the Career Development Center.
- Consider study abroad and other off-campus experiences.
- Develop a network of career contacts through professional organizations in your chosen career field.

Junior Year: Evaluating & Decision Making

- Update your resume and upload in into Handshake.
- Attend an interview success skills session in preparation for this year's career fair or schedule a mock interview with the Career Development Center.
- Make an appointment with a career coach to clarify career goals.
- Attend the annual job/internship fair & city wide Mardi Gras career exposition in the spring semester.
- Check Handshake regularly for company listings and interview dates.
- Get a summer internship to test out your field of interest, learn first-hand about the company and career, and make contacts within the field.
- If considering attending graduate school, do some preliminary research on various programs.

Senior Year: Planning, Preparation & Implementation

- Return to school with a professional interview suit or interview attire.
- Attend career workshops to refine job-seeking skills, polish your resume, and establish an action plan.
- Consult Handshake regularly for campus interview schedules and to submit resumes.
- Research employers and/or graduate and professional schools.
- Participate in career fairs.
- If you wish to attend graduate school, apply to schools a year prior to intended enrollment/ Do not forget to apply for graduate, teaching, and/or research assistant positions. A career coach will be happy to critique essays and answer questions.
- Keep good notes and follow-up on all applications and interviews.
- Select faculty, administrators, and current/former employers to act as references; discuss interests, skills, personal strengths as related to the positions being sought.
- Secure one or more job offers or admission to graduate or professional school. Consider your options, make a decision, accept only one offer, and decline all others.
- Network, network, network!

