



**COLORADO  
COLLEGE**

**Career Center**



1130 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO • 719.389.6893 • [careercenter@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:careercenter@coloradocollege.edu)  
[www.coloradocollege.edu/careercenter](http://www.coloradocollege.edu/careercenter) • [sites.coloradocollege.edu/careercenter](http://sites.coloradocollege.edu/careercenter)

# Career Development Action Plan

## Explore ■

Start your Colorado College experience by learning about yourself, your interests, and your values. We encourage you to try new courses, get involved in new activities, and discover the resources available on campus to help plan for your future possibilities.

- Join campus organizations and seek a variety of volunteer and leadership opportunities.
- Participate in campus-wide programming related to your interests.
- Explore areas of interest by doing self-assessments.
- Choose classes (and eventually a major) that allows you to explore possibilities, gain skills, and target your interests.
- Prepare your resume and have it reviewed by the Career Center.
- Explore opportunities (volunteering, internships, part-time): research, apply, and obtain experience.
- Begin talking to professors, alumni, family, and friends who do work that interests you.
- Use Tiger Link to connect with alumni to learn from their experiences.

*What additional steps do you need to take regarding your specific interests and ideas?*

## Develop ■■

As you gather information, begin to: focus your options, explore career possibilities in depth, gain additional and relevant experience, and talk with alumni who are experienced in your field of interest. In today's economy, a minimum of one internship or other career related practical experience before your senior year is critical.

- Become a leader in a student organization or increase your involvement in campus activities (depth and quality matter much more than quantity).
- Participate in relevant Career Center programs as well as a variety of campus-wide events that spark your interests.
- Network directly with employers, alumni, and mentors to begin setting yourself up for opportunities and referrals.

- Become more aware of industry timelines related to your interests and be prepared for early deadlines.
- If graduate school is in your future, discuss graduate school options with faculty and Career Center staff and begin preparing for the application process and studying for the appropriate exams early.
- Seek out training, skills, and coursework that will enhance your transcript and resume in ways your targeted employers will be expecting.
- Research and apply for practical and relevant summer experiences as well as competitive post-graduate fellowships.
- Consider taking a Dynamic Half Block offering to further develop your professional skill set.
- Create a LinkedIn account and connect with alumni and others in your industries of interest.

*What additional steps are necessary to specifically target and achieve your future goals?*

## Connect ■■■

It is time to solidify plans for the first steps of your life beyond Colorado College. It's important to start your job search or complete the graduate school application process early. There are numerous opportunities for you to engage with speakers and alumni to continue to make connections. Stay dedicated to your coursework and manage your time effectively. Stay focused; work you put in now will help you transition to life after CC.

- Research and target specific positions and organizations.
- Re-clarify your values, interests, skills, and goals using self-assessments.
- Continue networking with new and former contacts.
- Continue participation in all campus programs relevant to your interests and opportunities search.
- If planning to attend graduate school immediately after CC, narrow program choices, take appropriate exams by early fall, and finalize application materials in advance of deadlines.
- Apply for jobs and fellowships. Be aware of appropriate timelines and early deadlines.
- Participate in relevant on-campus recruiting events and the Selective Liberal Arts Consortium virtual and off-campus interviewing days.
- Continue participation in Career Center events and networking opportunities.
- Update your LinkedIn account.

*What additional steps do you need to solidify your plans for the coming years?*

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## Additional Considerations to Ensure Your Success

- Do I feel like I have a plan for what's next?
- What do I want to look back on and be glad I participated in?
- Do I feel reasonably able to complete my intended plan?
- How can I make the time necessary to complete my plan?
- What will I need to give up or re-prioritize in order to give this plan the focus necessary?
- What strengths do I have that I can continue to build upon?
- What challenges do you foresee?
- What are skills and strengths that will make me more marketable upon graduation?

Please contact the Career Center to discuss your process along the way.  
We are here to support you throughout your journey!