

Families, Parents, and Friends Frequently Asked Questions

While this might not cover all of your questions, these are typical questions that might be helpful in assessing your situation. Please don't hesitate to contact the Career Center should you have additional concerns or questions: careercenter@coloradocollege.edu or 719.389.6893

1. When should my student visit the Career Center?

The career exploration and development process can seem scary and overwhelming to students. Often students are hesitant to engage with the Career Center because they lack clarity around their career direction. Most Colorado College students enter college without a clear understanding of various career paths, skills and knowledge desired by employers, or how to approach the career development process. Even students who “know” frequently change their minds. The Career Center team looks forward to working with first year students and sophomores in starting this exploratory process and continuing to engage with them throughout their CC experience.

2. Where is the Career Center located?

The Career Center team is located in the [Morreale House](#). Students will most likely recognize us for the bronze cone roof on our building on Cascade.

3. How does the Career Center communicate with students?

The Career Center communicates with students in several ways. All students receive a weekly “Events” email featuring events being hosted over the next two weeks. Students also receive a “Class newsletter” once a block featuring tips, videos, events, and advice for their particular class. Students also have the ability to sign up for [“Pathway newsletters”](#) to receive curated information about their specific pathway(s) of interest.

4. How can my student make an appointment?

Students can schedule an appointment online 24/7 through [Handshake](#), our online career management platform. The Career Center also offers “Drop In” hours throughout the year, where students can ask quick questions without an appointment. Students can find the Drop-In schedule [here](#).

5. Is an internship really that important?

The majority of employers are seeking candidates who have completed at least one internship during their college career. While many companies offer internships, there are alternative ways that students can gain experience. Students can develop skills and knowledge through jobs (campus, part-time, and summer), volunteer work, research projects, etc. Our Career Coaches can work with your student to develop a plan based on the skills, knowledge, and experience they need for their field of interest.

6. When should my student begin their internship or job search?

The timing really depends on the industry they are pursuing both in the class year as well as the time of year.

For example, banking usually begins recruiting students in their sophomore year, and companies that have large campus recruiting programs usually begin posting in the summer and interviewing early in the fall. While other industries hire on a different timeline or engage in “just in time” hiring.

Our Career Coaches can support your students in understanding the timelines of the industries they are interested in.

7. What resources does the Career Center offer to help my student find job and internship opportunities?

In addition to workshops and Career Coaching, students can find opportunities on our online recruiting database, [Handshake](#). Within Handshake students can search for internships, full-time employment, and even student employment jobs. Students can access tools to help them in their searches on the Career Center's [Internship](#) and [Job](#) webpages.

Research suggests that networking is also an important way to learn about and connect with opportunities. Students can identify and network with alumni through the resources identified in the next FAQ

8. How can my student network with alums?

Colorado College has a strong alumni community eager to connect with and support current students. Students can connect with alumni who have volunteered to assist CC students through [TigerLink](#), our student-alumni mentoring platform. They can also create a LinkedIn profile and join the Official Colorado College Alumni Group and follow the Colorado College Career Center LinkedIn page. The Career Center offers opportunities to connect with alumni through signature programs like [TigerTreks](#), Executive in Residence, 5 Under 25, Family and Friends Networking event, and many others. Students can find out about the opportunities on our [events page](#) or in [Handshake](#).

Students can find more information about networking [here](#).

9. What is your “placement rate”?

Colorado College Career Center does not place students. By law, we are unable to select candidates or make decisions on behalf of employers. We do support students in exploring industries, networking with alumni and others, crafting their application materials, preparing for interviews, and throughout the decision-making process. However, it is our students who ultimately do the work that secures them the opportunity. You can learn more about where CC graduates go after Colorado College [here](#).

10. My student wants to go to graduate/professional school can the Career Center help?

There are many resources on the Colorado College campus to assist your student. The Career Center can help them with everything from talking through their application plan, offering feedback for essays, preparing for grad/professional school interviews, to polishing their resume or CV for applications. Your student's faculty members are a wonderful resource to consult for advice on schools and programs. The [Writing Center](#) can also help students with their personal statements and application essays. Students interested in pre-law can join the Pre-Law Club and set up a meeting with our Pre-Law Adviser through Handshake. Those students interested in a path in the Health Professions (for example: MD, DO, Vet, Dental, etc.) may also seek assistance from the [Health Professions Manager](#) at the Advising Hub and join the Pre-Health Club.

More Questions?

Contact the Career Center at careercenter@coloradocollege.edu or 719.389.6893