

Student's Career Development Plan

The Career Development Center follows a developmental pattern of student awareness, exploration, experience and choice, taking into account personal values and opportunities that contribute to society.

Student career preparation should begin in freshman year. Following a specific plan each year of college enhances career development.

1

FRESHMAN YEAR Goals

- Learn about career development at www.fdu.edu/careers.
- Register for online job search at www.fdu.edu/careers.
- Create a personal career development plan.
- Become knowledgeable of career options related to specific majors.
- Initiate and continue the career development self-exploration process.
- Become involved in extracurricular activities.

Activities

- Develop an initial curriculum plan, including internships, cooperative education, community service and summer jobs, with assistance from the academic adviser.
- Take an assessment test to guide in educational and career planning.
- Join a club or organization to practice and develop interpersonal, communication and leadership skills.
- Seek help in obtaining part-time and/or summer jobs.
- Nonbusiness majors should consider taking some business courses.
- Enroll in as many writing and speaking classes as possible. Good communication skills are essential for everything!

- Explore a wide variety of career areas by reading and talking to faculty, staff and alumni in your field of interest.

2

SOPHOMORE YEAR Goals

- Strive for a strong grade point ratio (GPR).
- Develop specific career alternatives and explore options.
- Continue the career development self-exploration process.
- Learn about cooperative education and/or internships.
- Take responsibility for life/career decisions.

Activities

- Attend on-campus information programs.
- Utilize the Career Resource Library.
- Continue to use assessment tools.
- Learn and prepare for a co-op or internship, or work a part-time or summer job.
- Reaffirm curriculum plan with adviser.
- Participate in career-related workshops.
- Attend on- and off-campus career fairs.
- Investigate and join professional association(s).

3

JUNIOR YEAR Goals

- Validate career choice.
- Consider graduate or professional school options.
- Become better prepared to enter the job market.

Activities

- Complete co-op or internship.
- Continue to investigate graduate school options.
- If considering graduate school, take GRE, GMAT, LSAT, etc. Prepare alternate plan if graduate-study plans change.
- Continue to network with professionals and attend career fairs.
- Update résumé and practice interviewing skills.
- Maintain membership in professional association(s).

4

SENIOR YEAR Goals

- Complete second co-op or internship.
- Transition from student to employee or graduate student.
- Continue to expand career network.
- Secure employment or graduate-school acceptance.

Activities

- Arrange for interviews off campus.
- Participate in on-campus interviewing.
- Obtain additional career-related work experience.
- Explore and apply for graduate internships.
- Utilize the alumni network.
- Attend on- and off-campus career fairs.
- Apply to graduate-school programs.
- Maintain membership in professional association(s).