

# Graduate School Survival Guide

## “It’s a Jungle Out There”

- Assess skills, interests, abilities, and values and how can relate to career paths interested in.
- Participate in at least one volunteer or service experience
- Use every guest speaker or panel presentation as a way to build up your personal network – attend departmental and university-wide programs, as well as off campus opportunities for networking (stay tuned to Career Connection for event listings)
- Join professional organizations and then attend conferences held by the organization on a local, regional, and national level.
- Attend the Career Fair in the spring – do your research, come prepared (dressed to impress with a professional and reviewed resume in hand), and network like a rockstar!
- Check Career Connection for on campus recruiting schedules to see who is interviewing at the Career Center for internships that interest you – do not miss out on opportunities for students with every major to secure a position, as early as the fall semester!
- Update your resume and Career Connection profile – drop in during walk-in hours or make an appointment for resume review at the Career Center
- Speak with professors and advisors about job options in field of study.
- It is highly recommended that you prepare to have at LEAST one internship related to your degree that will give you experience in the field you are hoping to enter upon graduation.
- Ask professors, former supervisors, advisors, and any other professional contact to be a reference. You want to have at least 3 people on hand when applying for jobs. Before using them as a reference, you want to make sure you ask them. In addition, you may want to ask them for a recommendation letter as well so you can include this with various job applications.
- Keep up your GPA!
- Make an appointment with the Career Center for job search assistance or career counseling
- Actively and professionally network with Carroll Contacts and your own personal network of contacts - everyone should know what you can bring to the table and what you are interested in doing