CAREER PLANNING TIPS: ECONOMICS MAJORS

Take action now to ensure post-graduation success! Below you can find different activities that will increase your career-readiness, depending on what stage of career development you are in.

Whatever stage applies to you, do something soon so you’ll be ready for life after graduation!

Assess Your Interests- Explore your interests, skills, and values.

- Use FOCUS2 to self-evaluate your career values and interests, resulting in a matching list of career titles.
- Create a skill based resume. Request a resume review appointment with the University Career Center for help.
- Request an appointment with the university’s Counseling Center to take a career assessment.
- Test your interests by joining campus clubs. EAM could be a great fit!

Explore Career Options- Learn about career fields that fit your interests and start preparing to apply for co-curricular opportunities.

- Use UMD Terrapins Connect to connect with alumni and ask questions about their fields of work/career paths.
- Review position titles and organizations who have hired recent UMD Economics graduates in the Careers: Economics guide.
- Review required skills for specific positions using the Occupational Outlook Handbook.
- Learn about a range of careers by reading online guides available through Vault- access through your Careers4Terps account.
- Participate in Career & Internship Fairs to learn about and gather information on potential careers and employers.
- Review opportunities listed in Careers4Terps for Economics majors and note position titles and skill requirements which match your aspirations. Create a “Job/Internship Alert” in C4T to receive customized email alerts to events and positions related to your interests.

Programs:

- Intern for a Day: Invest one day to shadow a professional in a position of interest.
- Career Shuttles: Visit local organizations to hear about the opportunities they offer and experience the organization’s culture.
- Classes: Register for EDCP108I, a one-credit online class to prepare and plan for an internship search, or PSYC123: The Psychology of Getting Hired, a one-credit online course for freshmen and sophomores that looks at what’s behind the hiring process.
- Economics Career Fair and Networking Event: Scheduled each fall and spring at UMD to bring alumni and employers working in the field of economics to campus to share experiences and opportunities with students.

KEY RESOURCES

Take a self-assessment inventory- FOCUS2.
Explore careers related to economics.
Explore majors and careers.

Connect with UMD alumni to learn about career options.

Careers: Economics: Explore position titles from UMD graduates and employers who have hired them.

Vault Career Guides:
- Economics Jobs
- Consulting
- Investing
- Leveraged Finance
- Actuarial Careers
- Banking & Finance
- Sales & Trade
- Real Estate
- Private Equity
- Hedge Funds
- Public Policy

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CAREER the Turtle...because SUCCESS starts here.
Gain Experience - Engage in opportunities to test your interests, network, and gain valuable skills.

- Choose a co-curricular opportunity that allows you to experience a career field of interest: service learning, international experiences, research, on-campus leadership, etc.
- Browse through the internship listings on Careers4Terps, and apply for positions. Consider registering for ECON386 to receive academic credit for your internship experience.
- Consider pursuing a part-time job to gain soft skills and make some money.
- Sharpen your interviewing skills so you’ll be ready when you’re offered an interview.
- Develop an industry-specific resume for your career area of interest and have it reviewed by the University Career Center.

Transition - Start planning your post-graduation steps.

Job Search

- Network with employers at events, Career Shuttles, and fairs, and stay in touch with connections you made last year.
- Register for ECON387, Career Preparation for Economics Majors, to learn about career paths, job search tools, and strategies for successfully obtaining a job with a BA or BS in economics.
- Analyze your skills and the skills required by your field of interest to identify any gaps.
- Schedule a career consultation appointment with the University Career Center @ BSOS to map out a job search action plan.
- Join the UMD BSOS alumni group to connect with alumni and ask about hiring practices.
- Continue to research organizations of interest and connect with them on LinkedIn or other social media outlets, prior to a position being posted.
- Practice the art of interviewing by participating in a mock interview with an employer, or use Interview Stream to find sample interview questions for your field of interest.

Graduate School

- Consider if graduate school in economics is a path you’d like to pursue. Email Dr. Clement to schedule an appointment if you want advice.
- Review the graduate school application timeline and plan ahead!
- Take graduate tests if needed (i.e. GMAT, GRE, LSAT).
- Research programs of interest, review their application process, and visit the campus (if possible).
- Request a review of your personal statement by the Writing Center or the University Career Center @ BSOS.

KEY RESOURCES

Browse ECON internship positions in Careers4Terps

Engagement options:

- Internship
- Research
- Leadership
- Service learning
- Part-time job
- Study abroad
- Learning communities

Research organizations of interest and start networking:

Best firms - Economic Consulting

- Participate in the on-campus interviewing program for off-campus positions.
- Prepare for interviews:
  - Quantitative Interviewing tips.
  - Develop a networking plan.
- Search C4T for positions posted by organizations interested in recruiting Terps.
- Create an elevator pitch to articulate your skills to employers.
- Review the graduate school application timeline.

Read more about creating your career action plan: go.umd.edu/BSOSactionplan