

# Tips for Seniors: After Graduation...



## Thinking About Employment?

If you're thinking about employment after graduation, it's crucial that you have at least a general idea of what you want to do first! If you're unsure, then it's time to start asking questions and taking advantage of all of the available resources.

- Talk to professors or staff in Career Services about what alums in your major are doing.
- Contact alums using the CANE database (CAreer NEtworking), located in the Career Resource Centers.

Once you have a general idea of what you want to do:

- Come up with a job search plan - where you can start, how to obtain the necessary skills, and who to contact. Create 3 categories: "A" dream jobs, "B" strong opportunities, and "C" backup opportunities.
- Polish your resume, cover letter, and interviewing skills. Set up an appointment with Career Services to have your resume or cover letter critiqued, or make an appointment for a practice interview.
- Network. 60 to 65 percent of jobs are found through networking! Start talking to your parents, siblings, friends, professors, alums, or anyone else connected to your field of interest. Focus the conversation on career experiences and goals rather than a specific job.
- Use E-Link, our on-campus job search and recruiting tool specifically for CSB/SJU students. On campus interviews being in October, so update your profile right away!

For more information and resources, visit [www.csbsju.edu/career/students](http://www.csbsju.edu/career/students) and click on "Jobs/Internships".

## Thinking About Grad School?

If you are interested in attending grad school, you should know specifically what subject you intend to study and how you plan to apply that knowledge in the future. If you are undecided about a specific graduate program, you may want to consider taking at least a year or two off between undergraduate and graduate school.

- Request school catalogs and applications for admission and financial aid from the schools you would like to apply to.
- Register for necessary admission exams (such as the GRE, MCAT, LSAT, or others) and request letters of recommendation from faculty and employers.
- Arrange to have your official transcripts mailed.
- Have your personal essay, if required by your school, critiqued by the Writing Center or Career Services.
- Complete and mail/upload all application materials.

For more information and resources, visit [www.csbsju.edu/career/students](http://www.csbsju.edu/career/students) and click on "Graduate School".

## Thinking About Volunteering?

There are several well-established volunteer programs for graduates, like The Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, the Benedictine Volunteer Corps, and more. It is important to consider what you hope to gain from the experience and how it will help your long-term goals.

- What will the living situation will be like including safety and transportation?
- Is there a stipend/health insurance, and what do past volunteers have to say about the program?
- What does the application process involve?

Ask yourself these questions:

- What are the goals and philosophy of the organization?
- What skills or demographic traits (e.g. age or gender) are required?

Request information and application materials from programs you are interested in.

For more information and resources, visit: [www.csbsju.edu/career/students](http://www.csbsju.edu/career/students) and "Volunteering".