



STUDENT VETERANS

Each year of this plan includes milestones that support the four pillars of career development — self-discovery, exploration, experience, and action. These milestones are here to guide you, not limit you — your journey may move at a different pace, and that's completely okay.

YEAR 1 | BUILD FOUNDATIONS

- Prior to your first academic semester, [certify your enrollment](#)
- Check the [major map](#) to verify academic grade requirements & understand your [college/school's](#) curriculum
- [Subscribe to the newsletter](#) to receive important VA benefit information & see opportunities to get involved with veteran & military students
- Review [options of your educational benefits](#) based on your student classification e.g. Active Duty, Reservist, Veteran, etc.
- Find resources or secure accommodations to help you succeed through the [Student Disability Resource Center \(SDRC\)](#)
- Visit & connect with the [Veterans and Military Center of Excellence \(V&MC\)](#): learn about the offerings & space accommodations designed for you
- Review your personal brand, specific interests & next steps with a CC or PPA
- Attend your major-specific or college/school-related [Career & Internship Fair](#)
- Review [Certificate of Eligibility](#) to use your earned G.I. Bill educational benefits (Ch.33)
- Utilize your Joint Service Transcript to learn about companies and positions of interest & explore career paths, job titles and salaries through the [OOH](#) or [O*NET](#)
- Get involved with a [veteran-associated student or alumni organization](#)
- Apply to [scholarships](#) and [funding opportunities](#) supporting participation in internships, co-ops and career-related professional development
- Apply to [National Fellowships](#) that provide funding to pursue opportunities in research, study abroad or public service
- Connect with your [V&MC team](#) or visit the main location
- Find volunteer experiences through the [Leadership & Service Center](#): elevate your campus involvement & enhance your [career-readiness skills](#) by securing a leadership role
- Conduct industry research for your major to see where alumni are working, positions held and skills needed
- Explore top employers of USC alumni and complete [personality & career assessments](#) to identify interests, values, & personality traits to clarify career choice 🧐
- Shift to USC's [online courses/online degree programs](#) as a learning alternative that may better meet your needs

Legend

CC Career Coach
PPA Pre-Professional Advisor

[Handshake](#)
 [Gamecock GradStats](#)

YEAR 2 | EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES & FIND FOCUS

- Add a new experience to your portfolio through a major-related student club/organization or a [part-time job](#)
- Join [Mentorship Hub](#) and complete your profiles on [LinkedIn](#) and [Handshake](#) to connect with USC Alumni
- [Meet with a CC](#) to create/update your resume; review your Transition Assistance Process (TAP's) and share with your CC to help transition your military experience into civilian language
- Explore the [Career Center Toolkit](#) for additional career readiness resources
- Attend [V&MC events](#); explore [Faculty Research](#) and [VMS News](#)
- Explore pursuing an [Interdisciplinary Certificate](#) or a minor.
- Seek out [Ch.55 South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation](#)
- Start looking for a summer [internship or co-op](#) in the fall 🍂
- View informational interviews on [Candid Career](#) for the inside scoop on careers; engage in [interview preparation & practice](#) — create a document with your most relevant experiences to discuss with the STAR method
- Create & practice an elevator pitch for upcoming networking events or fairs

YEAR 3 | PREPARE FOR LAUNCH

- Assess previous involvement & [participate in leadership roles](#)
- Visit [Garnet Gate](#) & visit the fall/spring [Student Org Fair](#) to get involved
- Secure an internship/co-op to build skills and enhance your [professionalism](#)
- Reach out to key connections to write recommendations or serve as references for you
- Secure a summer internship/co-op, [micro-internship](#) (Parker Dewey), job shadowing or faculty research experience
- Explore trainings & [Interdisciplinary Certificates](#) to enhance skills & knowledge, and improve employability
- Attend [panels, workshops, on-site visits, employer tabling, and informational sessions](#) to meet professionals in your field and grow connections
- Explore graduate school vs. full-time job
- Verify graduation requirements & explore [Graduation with Leadership Distinction](#)
- Reflect on your [skills](#) to see what areas need more development and update your resume with new experiences
- Stay in touch with faculty & seek guidance during student office hours; join professional groups to network, learn about current best practices and tap into job postings
- Be ready to engage in [salary negotiations](#) once receiving job offers
- Start thinking about after graduation & your desired career path, and work with a CC or PPA to craft a job search plan or grad school applications
- Continue to connect with alumni and employers online
- Complete the graduation survey to share your post-grad plans



Career Center

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

sc.edu/career

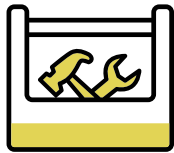
GAMECOCK GRADSTATS DATA



Average Annual Salary
of USC Student Veterans*

\$74,721

* 5-7 years after graduation



Top Skills of Student Veterans

(in no particular order)

Customer Service
Cybersecurity
Data Analysis
Inventory Management
Leadership
Logistics
Management
Operations Management
Organizational Skills
Project Management
Public Speaking
Software Development
Strategic Planning
Team Leadership
Team Management



DON'T FORGET THESE IMPORTANT TASKS!

- Build & update your [Handshake](#) profile.
- Create & update [professional documents](#) (resume, CV, references, etc.).
- [Schedule an appointment](#) with Career Coaches and/or Pre-Professional Advising staff.

» [DISCOVER EMPLOYERS HIRING YOUR MAJOR](#)

CAREER CENTER TOOLS

Check out the links below and explore all the tools the Career Center has to offer.

[CANDID CAREER](#) »»

Candid Career is our provider for thousands of video informational interviews with industry professionals. You can get real insight on careers, as well as tips to sharpen your the job search.

[CAREERSHIFT](#) »»

CareerShift is an online tool that allows you to search, select and store job listings from all job boards and all company job postings. You can also find up-to-date contact information for millions of companies.

[GAMECOCK GRADSTATS](#) »»

Explore the possibilities! Search & view USC students' post graduation career paths: where they work, skills they use, & how much they earn.

[HANDSHAKE](#) »»

Handshake is the Career Center's online resource for jobs, internships, events and employer connections. Handshake is also where you can find resources and make appointments with a career coach.

[INTERSTRIDE](#) »»

Interstride is a one-stop-shop that empowers you to thrive internationally.

[MENTORSHIP HUB](#) »»

Mentorship Hub is an online platform that connects the USC community. The platform provides career support, career resources, and an opportunity to mentor or seek mentorship.

[WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS MAJOR?](#) »»

Explore unexpected career possibilities for your degree and see how other students turned their major into amazing careers.

Other Campus Resource Links:

- [Academic Advising](#)
- [Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning](#)
- [Leadership and Service Center](#)
- [Office of Undergraduate Studies](#)
- [Undergraduate Research](#)

The Career Center realizes that every student has a unique journey during their time here at the University of South Carolina. All students move at different paces along different paths. We acknowledge your individual needs and will meet you at whatever stage you are in. This document is meant to serve as a milestones guide to help you plan your future and your goals.