



B.S. MARINE SCIENCE

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

- Visit [Garnet Gate](#) & the August Student Org Fair to explore and join clubs or orgs for your major
- Check your [major map](#) for program requirements and review [Marine Science](#) overview
- Examine [success/support](#) options including the [Office of Student Advocacy](#)
- Explore [Marine Science employers](#) online and the [What Can I Do With This Major?](#) website to discover potential career paths 🧐🔗
- Review your personal brand, specific interests, & next steps with a CC or PPA and develop a resume
- Attend the [Part-Time and All Majors Fairs](#) in the fall/spring
- Identify your career goals and take [career & personality assessments](#) to understand your skills, interests, and values
- Learn more about [SEOE scholarships and awards](#)
- Explore your options to see where marine science alumni are working & what skills they have developed 🌐
- Get involved to build your [eight Career Competencies](#) employers look for
- Attend Career Center workshops & presentations and look for summer experiences related to your goals/interests 🧐

YEAR 2 | EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES

- Consider new experiences, clubs, [part-time on-campus jobs](#), [undergraduate research](#) and [leadership roles](#) to gain experience & new skills
- Join [Mentorship Hub](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to connect with USC Alum
- Visit the Career Center in TCL to review your resume and explore the [CC Toolkit](#) for additional career readiness resources
- Meet with a [Career Peer Educator](#) to review your resume
- Take MSCI 102 The Living Ocean as a prerequisite requirement for [MSCI 460 Field and Lab Investigations in Marine Science](#)
- Attend SEOE events, explore research and internship opportunities and stay current on [news](#)
- Consider [MSCI 460 Field and Lab Investigations in Marine Science](#)
- Start looking for a summer internship or co-op in the fall or consider [Study Abroad](#) 🌐
- Explore [Marine Science Student Beyond the Classroom](#) and [research](#) opportunities
- Explore companies and organizations that typically hire USC interns 🧐
- Attend Career Center workshops & presentations, graduate or professional school events, or employer events to learn about different career paths

YEAR 3 | FIND FOCUS

- Assess previous involvement & participation in leadership roles, and join a club or organization to network and enhance skills
- Secure a summer internship/co-op, [micro-internship](#), [job shadowing](#), or [faculty research](#) experience to build on skills and enhance professionalism
- Attend panels, workshops, on-site visits, job shadowing on-site and informational interviews to gain confidence & grow connections
- Explore trainings & [interdisciplinary certifications](#) to enhance skills and knowledge for employability
- Reflect on your experiences and skills to see what areas need more development and update your resume
- Review past career assessments to see what your top work values and skill sets are during year 3
- Explore [Undergraduate Research](#) and [Graduation with Leadership Distinction](#) for senior year
- Keep in touch with [SEOE faculty](#) & past employers for networking & assistance
- Start thinking about graduation plans & desired career path and work with a CC to make a game plan
- Get involved with [Community Outreach Initiatives](#) or [Sustainability Initiatives](#)
- Use online resources & the Career Center to connect with alumni & employers 🧐

YEAR 4 | PREPARE FOR LAUNCH

- Reach out to professors, supervisors, and key [connections to write recommendation letters or to serve as references](#)
- Join professional groups and set alerts for your job search 🧐
- Utilize any relevant resources to network and reach out to contacts
- Research online to know more about the companies and positions you are interested in and explore career paths, job titles, and salaries 🌐
- Verify graduation requirements & complete [GLD](#)
- Take MSCI 505 Senior Seminar
- Review and update your professional documents and online profiles 🧐
- Review your top skills & experiences from the last four years that are most relevant to a professional career
- Meet with a CC or PPA to create a plan for your job search, grad school applications, or gap year
- Engage in interview preparation & practice - create a document with your most relevant experiences and apply the STAR method
- Complete the Graduation Survey to share your post-grad plans



GAMECOCK GRADSTATS DATA



Average Annual Salary of USC
B.S. Marine Science Graduates*

\$60,019

* 5-7 years after graduation



Skills Employers Look for

(in no particular order)

Customer Service
Data Analysis
Digital Marketing
Environmental Science
Leadership
Logistics
Management
Project Management
Public Speaking
Safety Management
Sales
Scuba Diving
Social Media Management
Social Media Marketing
Teaching



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.