B.A./B.M. MUSIC

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 Music B.A./B.M. with various concentrations, performance areas & focus areas and verify all first year academic grade requirements
- ❍ Examine success/support options, including the Office of Student Advocacy and Music Living and Playing Community
- ❍ Explore music employers online
- ❍ Attend the Part-Time Job Fair & All Majors Career & Internship Fair in the fall/spring
- ❍ Identify your career goals and take career & personality assessments to understand your skills, interests, values and strengths
- ❍ Explore your options to see where music education alumni are working & what skills they have developed
- ❍ Get involved to build on the eight Career Competencies employers look for
- ❍ Meet with CAS CC to review your personal brand and specific interests and to develop a customized career plan and resume

YEAR 2 | EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES

- ❍ Consider new experiences, part-time on-campus jobs, student organizations, undergraduate research, performance and teaching opportunities and leadership roles to gain experience
- ❍ Review Music B.A./B.M. overview
- ❍ Explore the Career Center Toolkit for additional career readiness resources
- ❍ Explore the performance halls, practice spaces, resource facilities and the Music Library
- ❍ Investigate Graduation with Leadership Distinction or the Undergraduate Performance Certificate
- ❍ Join Mentorship Hub and LinkedIn to connect with USC Alumni
- ❍ Meet with a Career Peer Educator to review your resume
- ❍ Attend School of Music concerts and events and stay updated with their event calendar
- ❍ Explore Ensembles to gain performance experience, discover networking and mentoring opportunities and more
- ❍ Read up on School of Music news
- ❍ Start looking for a summer internship or co-op in the fall, or consider study abroad or gig opportunities to perform and teach
- ❍ Explore companies and organizationsthat typically hire USC interns

YEAR 3 | FIND FOCUS

- ❍ Assess previous involvement & participate in leadership roles
- ❍ Join a new major-related club or organization to network and enhance skills
- ❍ Secure a summer internship to build on skills and enhance professionalism
- ❍ Secure a summer internship/co-op, micro-internship, job shadowing or faculty research experience
- ❍ Explore trainings & Interdisciplinary Certificates to enhance skills and knowledge for employability
- ❍ Attend panels, workshops, on-site visits (CAS tabling), job shadowing on-site and informational interviews to gain confidence & grow connections
- ❍ Explore study abroad programs for a global experience to study music at the National University of Ireland Maynooth
- ❍ Reflect on your experiences and skills to see what areas need more development and update your resume
- ❍ Review past career assessments to see your top work values and skill sets
- ❍ Maintain relationships with School of Music faculty and past employers for networking and assistance
- ❍ Start thinking about after graduation plans & desired career path and work with a CAS CC to make a game plan
- ❍ Use online resources and the Career Center to connect with alumni and employers

YEAR 4 | PREPARE FOR LAUNCH

- ❍ Reach out to professors, supervisors, and key connections to write recommendations or serve as references
- ❍ Join professional groups and set job alerts for your search
- ❍ Use 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
- ❍ Investigate graduate school vs. full-time job and confirm your path for applications
- ❍ Verify graduation requirements and complete GLD
- ❍ Review & 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 CAS CC or PPA to create a plan for your job search or grad school applications
- ❍ 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

Legend

CC Career Coach
PPA Pre-Professional Advisor

Handshake
Gamecock GradStats

Revised June 2026

Career Center
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
sc.edu/career

GAMECOCK GRADSTATS DATA

Average Annual Salary of USC B.A./B.M. Music Graduates*

$74,697

** 5-7 years after graduation, includes Music Education and Music Industry Studies*

Skills Employers Look for

(in no particular order)

Communication
Customer Service
Data Analysis
Education
Leadership
Management
Music
Music Education
Organizational Skills
Problem Solving
Project Management
Sales
Software Development
Teaching
Web Development

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.