

Materials to Create

- A US-style resume
- A well-written cover letter
- Examples of your work, such as a website or portfolio
- Your Handshake account (vt.joinhandshake.com)
- A LinkedIn profile (linkedin.com)

Resources to Use

Search for these resources at career.vt.edu

- Handshake
- GoinGlobal
- InterviewStream
- CareerShift

Ways to Prepare

- Learn your work authorization benefits
- Network! Connect with faculty, employers, and alumni
- Practice American business etiquette
- Get involved on campus and find related experience
- Start your search early
- Prepare a back-up plan in your home country

People to Contact

- Cranwell International Center (for undergrads)
- International Graduate Student Services (for grads)
- Career and Professional Development
- Academic Advisor, if completing an internship/co-op
- Cooperative Education and Internship Program (CEIP), if completing Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

Find more information and resources at
career.vt.edu/job-search/search-tools/career-resources-for-international-students.html

Year 1

- Get involved on campus (student organizations)
- Seek out leadership and teamwork opportunities
- Have your resume and cover letter reviewed
- Try visiting a career fair (even just to practice!)
- Complete some volunteering experiences

Year 2

- Learn about your work authorization benefits
- Begin searching online for internship/co-op positions
- Practice your interviewing skills
- Speak with faculty about research/on-campus opportunities

Year 3

- Consider if you are interested in graduate school
- Become more active in on-campus activities
- Secure references (faculty, advisors, supervisors)
- Add your previous experience to your resume
- Search for an internship, co-op, or other summer opportunity

Year 4

- Learn about your work authorization benefits
- Begin graduate school applications (if applicable)
- Learn about salary and benefit negotiation
- Prepare for the full-time search (resumes, cover letters, interviews, references, resources, etc.)

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