HELP! MY STUDENT HAS NO IDEA WHAT TO MAJOR IN

Being unsure about which major to pursue only becomes problematic when, in the junior and senior years, students have made little attempt to discover more about themselves or some potential career areas of interest. Encourage your student to come to the Career Center to work with a career counselor and take assessments to highlight their interests and strengths and connection to majors and work.

IS A COLLEGE MAJOR EQUIVALENT TO A CAREER?

In most cases, major does not equal career! Although some majors, such as accounting or electrical engineering, are pre-requisites for the industries they represent, dozens of other majors, from theatre to history to marketing, serve as launching pads to a vast array of career options.

Any major develops the top skills employers look for in college grads:

- Communication
- Strong work ethic
- Initiative
- Interpersonal skills
- Flexibility
- Problem-solving skills

(National Association of Colleges and Employers)
First Year/Sophomore Year Internships

JUST HOW IMPORTANT ARE INTERNSHIPS?

There are many opportunities besides internships that are just as valuable for your student’s career development and for building a competitive resume, even if they do not hold the formal “internship” title. These opportunities offered through SCU, for example, are excellent ways to build communication, team work, and leadership skills – the very skills employers seek in recent graduates:

• Community Facilitator (Residence Halls)
• Orientation Leader (New Student Programs)
• Jean Donovan Fellowship (Ignatian Center)
• Hackworth Fellowship (Markkula Center)
• Global Fellowship (Leavey School of Business)
• Global Social Benefit Fellowship (Center for Science, Technology and Society)
• Santa Clara Community Action Program (community service program)

CAN MY STUDENT FIND AN INTERNSHIP AT HOME?

The Career Center offers many ways to find internships nationally and internationally, including a database of 100+ internship boards nationwide and reciprocity with select college Career Centers. Jesuit and other private universities may offer Career Center reciprocity to provide access to a particular service such as their job postings.
Senior Year  Job Searching

WHEN SHOULD MY STUDENT START LOOKING FOR A JOB?

Your senior should prepare for fall recruiting by actively working with the Career Center, preparing in advance for our Fall Career Fair, and participating in the On-Campus Interview program. A comprehensive job search strategy involves multiple approaches and so we encourage your student to begin working with us early!

WHAT ARE THE HOTTEST JOBS FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES?

Silicon Valley is a hot spot for innovation and technology, and there are opportunities for all majors in start-ups, established tech companies, clean energy, biotechnology/pharma, medical devices, and social enterprises, among others.

WHAT COMPANIES RECRUIT AT SCU?

Thousands of employers seek out SCU students each year through career fairs, networking events, on-campus interviewing, and internship and job postings on our BroncoLink system.

Silicon Valley is home to more than 6,600 high-tech companies.

Top Employers of All SCU Majors

Apple
Google
Applied Materials
Cisco
Hewlett Packard
Intel
Lockheed Martin
NetApp
Wells Fargo
Kaiser Permanente
Senior Year  

**WILL MY STUDENT HAVE A JOB UPON GRADUATION?**

6 months after graduation...

Every year the University polls our recent alumni. In the past 3 years, 81-83% of our graduates secured full time employment 6 months after graduation.

**WHAT ARE THE SALARIES FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES?**

In 2014, the median starting salary for the SCU graduate working full time was $52,500. Depending on industry, salaries range between $20-$70K.