



# TOP CAREER PLANNING TIPS FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Congratulations on being accepted into the A. James Clark School of Engineering! Our staff welcomes you and look forward to assisting you with your career preparation and job search. Here are just a few ideas to help you get started:

## IN AUGUST, BEFORE CLASSES BEGIN:

- ☐ **Explore our website.** See tips and resources on gaining experience beyond the classroom, what to expect in your U.S. job search and how to stand out as an applicant at <https://eng.umd.edu/careers/students/getting-started>. Find statistics and student success stories at Terps at Work.
- ☐ **Get a head start on your U.S. internship search** by attending career workshops virtually. The topics below are offered in August and a few times each semester. Sign up on our website at <http://ter.ps/engrworkshop>.

*Find an Internship: Tips for International Students*  
*Resume Writing\**

*LinkedIn 101: Create an Account*

*Cover Letters & Professional Correspondence*

*Career Fair Preparation*  
*Interview Tips*

*Job Offers & Salary Negotiation*

*CPT Authorization Steps for F-1 Visa Holders*

- ☐ **Attend relevant orientation sessions** in addition to your required departmental, grad school, and immigration meetings. ISSS offers sessions that are especially helpful as you prepare for study, work, and life in the U.S. You can register on iTerp.

*Finding Jobs On Campus*  
*Transportation Services & Parking*  
*Safety & Security*  
*Understanding U.S. Healthcare*

*Preparing For Your Future: Career Services*  
*Academic Success & U.S. Classroom Culture*  
*American Culture & Tools for Adjustment*  
*Becoming a Washington, DC "Insider"*

- ☐ **Start building a network** of friends with similar interests by ...
  - joining a club: <http://orgsync.umd.edu/>
  - staying active or joining a team: <https://recwell.umd.edu/>
  - attending an engineering student society meeting: <https://eng.umd.edu/careers/employers/student-societies>
  - trying a new hobby: <https://thestamp.umd.edu/studioa>

Meeting people and making friends that grew up in the U.S. can help you gain insight into U.S. culture. Employers want to hire students who have developed interpersonal skills, not just technical expertise.

- ☐ **Follow us @UMDCareerENGR** for more career building tips!



# MORE CAREER TIPS FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

## ONCE THE SEMESTER BEGINS:

- ☐ **Have your new resume\* critiqued.** Once you are officially registered for classes, you can get it critiqued using one of the options below. Once it is critiqued, you will be given full access to the Careers4Engineers/Careers4Terps database.

### ***Three Options for Online Resume Critiques—Choose ONE!***

1. Visit [go.umd.edu/ClarkCareers](https://go.umd.edu/ClarkCareers) for a drop in critique. Available Mon.-Fri. from 1-4 pm EST.
2. Send your resume to [CareerEngr@umd.edu](mailto:CareerEngr@umd.edu) to be matched with an adviser.
3. Upload your resume in Careers4Engineers.

*\*Before we can activate your Careers4Engineers/Careers4Terps account, we strongly encourage you to attend the Resume Writing workshop. Make sure to update your resume based on the tips you learn in the workshop before you share it with employers.*

- ☐ **Explore your Careers4Engineers account.** Use this portal to search and apply for internships and jobs with employers that hire Maryland students. Having at least one internship as a student will set you on a course towards a great entry level job once you graduate.
- ☐ **Apply for on-campus part time jobs.** See which departments usually hire students at <https://eng.umd.edu/careers/students/campus-jobs>. Refrain from visiting campus offices in person to ask for a job. The answer will most likely be no.
- ☐ **Meet employers virtually** to build your professional network and learn about possible career paths or internship opportunities. On our website, you can go to *Students → Career Fairs and Events* sections for details and dates. Also, look out for the weekly Career Engineer email to learn about upcoming events.
- ☐ **Prepare for the job search process** by practicing networking, cover letter writing and interview preparation. See <https://eng.umd.edu/careers/students/job-search-tips> Learn about career paths from alumni.
- ☐ **Keep up with your classes.** Grades and learning are important to your employability. Be sure to study throughout the semester and ask for help from your instructors if you don't understand the material.
- ☐ **Take advantage of these and other campus resources** for your academic and personal well-being:

*International Student & Scholar Services  
University Health Center  
University Counseling Center  
Writing Center  
Maryland English Institute*

*Office of Multicultural Involvement & Community  
Advocacy [MICA]  
Undergraduate & Graduate Student Legal Aid  
University Recreation & Wellness  
Accessibility & Disability Service*

- ☐ **Visit [go.umd.edu/ClarkCareers](https://go.umd.edu/ClarkCareers) for drop-in advice (available Mon.-Fri. from 1-4 pm EST) OR e-mail [CareerEngr@umd.edu](mailto:CareerEngr@umd.edu)** for additional help with career planning. We are happy to answer general questions or to meet with you individually to discuss your unique job search plan.