# Career Plan for First-year Students

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<th>When?</th>
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| As soon as Possible!   | Visit the Career Development Center (CDC) at the Project Center (1st Floor) and explore our services. Review tipsheets & podcasts, and visit the CDC lobby library to view WPI major binders and other resources | • Familiarize yourself with CDC resources and staff  
• Gain a better understanding of your major and possible career paths |
|                        | Activate your Job Finder account to explore internships and part-time jobs posted exclusively for WPI students | • Gain access to jobs, co-ops, internships, resources, podcasts and tip sheets, as well as additional resources for self-assessment and researching careers. |
| Throughout the year but the sooner the better! | Start building your resume and begin writing cover letters with guidance from CDC workshops, Job Finder tipsheets & podcasts, and/or assistance from CDC staff via scheduled and/or walk-in appointments | • Prepare for Career Fairs  
• Apply to internships, work study and part-time jobs  
• Start thinking about your IQP application |
|                        | Attend company information sessions (keep an eye out for these events via the Job Finder “Events” tab and weekly emails) | • Learn about careers, full time and part time jobs, summer internships, co-ops and network with professionals |
|                        | Participate in informational interviews with upper class students, faculty, employers and alumni | • Explore your interests and learn about career paths for your major |
|                        | Access and utilize MyPlan (through Job Finder) | • To take self-assessments (interest, personality, skills, values) and research careers and majors. |
| A TERM                 | ATTEND THE FALL CAREER FAIR!! | • Find a summer internship/job  
• Learn about jobs  
• Meet/network with WPI alumni and employers |
| A/B TERM               | Register for Discovering Majors and Careers course in B or C Term if you are undecided about your major, trying to decide between 2-3 majors, or looking to learn more about your major  
For B term: (FY 1800-B01)  
For C term: (FY 1800-C01) | • Learn about WPI majors/careers  
• Take inventories and assessments to learn more about interests, skills, and values  
• Compare/contrast majors of interest  
• Speak with upperclassmen and alumni about majors of interest |
| C TERM                 | ATTEND THE SPRING CAREER FAIR!! | • Find a summer internship/job  
• Learn about jobs  
• Meet/network with WPI alumni |
| D TERM                 | ATTEND THE LIFE SCIENCES AND BIOENGINEERING CAREER FAIR!!  
(For BBT, BC, BCB, BME, CH, CHE, and EVE majors) | • Find a summer internship/job  
• Learn about jobs  
• Meet/network with WPI alumni and employers  
• Attend Project Presentation Day to see senior MQPs and learn more about majors of interest  
• Volunteer to gain additional skills |
| D TERM/ SUMMER         | Visit the CDC to incorporate the past year’s projects and jobs/internship/activities onto your resume | • To hit the ground running in August and to begin searching for next year’s summer internship |

**Career Development Center**  
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