STUDENT TIPS: VIRTUAL FAIRS & NETWORKING EVENTS

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**Personal Prep**
- **Create an elevator pitch**
- Research employers on LinkedIn and compare companies utilizing GlassDoor, as well as company websites
- **Update & review your resume** - Schedule an appointment on MyUI to review your resume with a peer advisor
- Rehearse using Big Interview (virtual video practice software)
- Watch a [Prepare for the Fair video](#)

**Handshake Prep**
- Register for the event **IN ADVANCE** on Handshake and research employers attending and job postings each employer has posted
- Register for group sessions and 1:1 sessions **IN ADVANCE** on Handshake to secure times that work for your schedule; you must join the session before it starts to enter the session
- Review and update your privacy settings in Handshake:
  - Update profile with current resume details: School year, Major, GPA & Work Authorization status
  - Set profile to **public** to be able to chat with employers only in 1:1 sessions, or set to **community** to be able to chat with employers, other students and alumni in the group sessions
- Students can explore and research Employers under Employers tab

**Technology Prep**
- Download a [UI virtual background](#)
- Technology Requirements:
  - An internet connection – broadband wired or wireless (3G, 4G/LTE or 5G)
  - Use Chrome as the preferred browser
  - Speakers and a microphone – built-in or USB plug-in or wireless Bluetooth
  - Supported Devices: Desktop web, iOS app, Android app, mobile web: *We strongly recommend desktop web and native mobile apps for the best experience!*
  - A webcam or HD webcam - built-in or USB plug-in
  - Make a plan: test your device and internet you plan to use on the day of the event with Handshake virtual fair technology to confirm your audio and video work
- Need a quiet space for networking? Reserve a room at the Pomerantz Career Center by calling 319-335-1023 – limited space available

**Day of the Event**
- To access your virtual fair/event, log-in to Handshake, navigate to your registered fair and click on your schedule to connect with your scheduled employer(s) sessions
- Arrive five minutes early to your sessions
- Have a pen/paper available during the event to take notes & have questions ready to ask
- Dress business casual: wear a dressy top or collared shirt to present yourself well on camera. If you are in need of free business casual attire, please visit the Clothing Closet at Iowa
- A student help room is available during the event via Zoom for help with any questions

**After the Event**
- **Sustain and build momentum with your new connections**
- Send a follow-up email to the employers you spoke with or Handshake message thanking them for the opportunity
- **Connect with an employer representative on LinkedIn**
- **Continue to search and apply for jobs and internships in Handshake**
- **Schedule an appointment** and talk with a career advisor about any aspects of your search (application, interviewing, negotiation, etc.)

**LEARN MORE**

- careercenter@uiowa.edu → careers.uiowa.edu
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Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa events. If you are a person with a disability and require an accommodation in order to participate in this event, please contact the Pomerantz Career Center, (319) 335-1023.