4 Year Career Plan Checklist

**YEAR 1**

- Take classes on the economics track, and also in fields outside your major that are of interest to you
- Get involved in the Economics Department by attending department sponsored events
- Join RSO’s that relate to economics (Women in Economics, Econ Ambassadors, Econ Club, Illinois Economics Consulting) and also in areas that interest you
- Seek out volunteer opportunities and try to get involved on and off campus
- Work hard to build a good GPA
- Create a handshake account and a strong resume. For help contact Economics Career Services
- Attend career fairs and begin to grow your network
- Look into summer jobs and internships and **APPLY!** (Utilize Handshake)
- Meet with your advisor to choose classes and check degree progress

**YEAR 2**

- Explore career fields that will utilize your degree in economics
- Sign up for ECON 198
- Start building relationships with potential references for jobs and/or graduate school
- Update your Handshake account and resume
- Look for and apply to summer internships
- Meet with your advisor to choose classes and check degree progress

**YEAR 3**

- Try to obtain a leadership position in an RSO or on campus job
- If you are considering graduate school, begin to explore program options
- Update your Handshake account and resume
- Continue to build your network. Reach out to friends, family, alumni, and employers
- Explore internship opportunities in your field of interest
- Invest in professional clothing that can be worn for interviews, career fairs, networking events, etc.
- Attend career fairs and apply for summer internships
- Meet with your advisor to choose classes and check degree progress

**YEAR 4**

- Update your Handshake account and resume
- Start searching for jobs fall semester
- Attend career fairs and apply to jobs on Handshake
- If applying for graduate school, begin taking admission tests, writing personal statements, and asking for letters of recommendation
- Begin to consider where you would like to get a job post-graduation
- Continue to expand your network
- Meet with your advisor to make sure you are meeting graduation requirements