First-Generation Students

Did you know that more than half of UCI’s graduating class of 2018 identify as first-generation students? There can be confusion and difficulties along the way when navigating a new setting like the university system. However, there are many resources available both at the Division of Career Pathways and outside of it that can help you capitalize your time and succeed at UC Irvine. You are an important part of UCI’s success!

DIVISION OF CAREER PATHWAYS:

**Drop-In Advising**
Brief drop-in career consultations for quick questions and resume / cover letter reviews.

**Division of Career Pathways Workshops**
Offered to assist undergraduate and graduate students with their career development. Topics cover resume writing, interviewing techniques, job search strategies, internship planning, and graduate / professional school preparation.

**Career Fairs**
The Division of Career Pathways hosts four career fairs throughout the year for students to meet employers and learn about job and internship opportunities offered by companies, government agencies, and non-profit organizations.

**Handshake**
The ultimate job search engine! Handshake personalizes career recommendations based on your interests, and it connects you to employers across various industries.

**Professional Panels**
The Division of Career Pathways holds a variety of panels featuring professionals from different industries – many of whom are also UCI alumni. Attending these panels is a great opportunity to gain knowledge about particular career interests and to network with professionals.

**Job Shadow Program**
The Job Shadow Program pairs students with professionals across industries. It involves shadowing a working professional through a normal day’s activities, and it allows students the opportunity to get exposure to different career fields they may not have considered before.

**Networking**
The Division of Career Pathways offers numerous networking opportunities through the Job Shadow Program, panels like the Career Discovery Series, and career fairs. There are “Build Your Network” workshops and quick tips that can help students learn how to strengthen and maintain their networks.

CAREER READINESS

Students can gain professional skills through a variety of experiences. Did you know your unique experiences can be used to show employers that you are career ready?

**Problem Solving**
**Leadership**

**Professionalism**
**Technology**

**Communication**
**Career Management**

**Teamwork**
**Intercultural Fluency**

For example:
If you’ve ever had to show someone how to use technology (ex. showing someone how to use a computer), you may have shown experience with the Technology, Communication, and Problem Solving competencies.
First-Generation Students

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

- **First-Generation Faculty Initiative**
  The FGF is comprised of professors across UC Irvine’s schools / departments, who self-identify as first-generation college students.
  [http://firstgen.due.uci.edu](http://firstgen.due.uci.edu)

- **First-Generation, First Quarter Challenge**
  This program is offered through the School of Social Sciences. It is a 10-week program where first-generation freshmen and transfer students meet weekly for workshops, sessions, and other activities. These workshops are led by high achieving 3rd and 4th year first-generation student leaders.
  [http://firstgen.socsci.uci.edu](http://firstgen.socsci.uci.edu)

- **The Sage Scholars Program**
  This program provides undergraduates with significant financial need a wide range of resources including leadership training, career and graduate school planning, and access to internship and scholarship opportunities.
  [http://sagescholars.uci.edu](http://sagescholars.uci.edu)

- **Student Success Initiatives (SSI)**
  Student Success Initiatives is an academic support program dedicated to helping first-generation college students, low-income, former foster youth, and/or disabled students to advance and succeed at UCI.
  [http://ssi.uci.edu](http://ssi.uci.edu)

- **Transfer Student Hub (TSH)**
  The TSH works with new and returning transfer students to aid in the transition to UCI. They organize weekly workshops, provide informal and formal mentoring, and advocate to enhance the academic and social experience of transfer students.
  [http://transferhub.uci.edu](http://transferhub.uci.edu)

- **Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)**
  The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program assists undergraduate students in all schools to find research opportunities on-campus or off-campus.
  [http://urop.uci.edu](http://urop.uci.edu)

- **The Cross-Cultural Center (CCC)**
  The CCC is dedicated to fostering the cultural identities within the UCI campus community. They provide opportunities for intellectual exchange and leadership development.
  [http://ccc.uci.edu](http://ccc.uci.edu)

- **On-Campus Clubs / Organizations**
  The Office of Campus Organizations is a great way to find out more about the hundreds of activities on campus.
  [http://campusorgs.uci.edu](http://campusorgs.uci.edu)