

UNLOCK YOUR CAREER

5 Levels for a Smooth Transition from Student to Professional

Level 1 Building your visibility

How: Creating a LinkedIn profile

When: As early as possible

Design your profile in a format that feels right

Start your LinkedIn network with people you already know in real life

Strategize (e.g. mass networking vs. short list of contacts)

Build a routine

Expand to other platforms

Level 2 Regional Engagement

How: Getting involved locally and online

When: During your studies

Attend 1-2 regional events and get involved in 1-2 communities per year

Join 1-2 virtual groups and communities (on LinkedIn) and follow organizations

Level 3 First professional experiences

How: Gaining practical experience as a student

When: During your studies

Pick 1-2 options in your field and apply

Show and share your experiences

Level 4 Market exploration

How: In-depth research

When: Last year of your studies

Conduct field research and identify potential employers in the region (put emphasis in learning and using the right keywords for your field)

Dive deeper into your top companies

Level 5 Enter the job market

How: Strategic outreach and thorough preparation

When: At least 9 months before you need a job

Spread the word!

Prepare your job applications*

*Use your top 10 list from Level 4 as a guide to focus your efforts strategically.

Routine:

- Keep your profile up to date
- Add people to your network regularly

Tip:

Try meetup.com to find gatherings in your area. Universities also host countless groups and clubs, so be sure to check out what your university has to offer.

Hint:

Developing a sense for complex systems and work cultures is also an important part of your professional experience.

Extra guidance:

- Create a top 10 list of companies/organizations

Extra support:

- Your network

Consider:

A personal recommendation is golden and can open doors much more easily.