

# 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 (focus on 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.