



# Forestry and Natural Resources

## FOUR YEAR CAREER PLAN

### 1 DISCOVER

#### During Freshman Year:

- Take the StrengthsFinder to identify interests, abilities, and values.
- Explore majors, minors and careers related to interests, values, and skills.
- Read through the FNR Career Services website, including the job board.
- Every week read *Pines & Needles*, the FNR careers newsletter.
- Start [developing your résumé](#).
- Explore the [Center for Career Opportunities](#) (CCO) website to find out what services they provide.
- Create a myCCO account (<https://www.cco.purdue.edu/#myCCO>).
- Get involved in student organizations – one related to major and one outside of major.
- Attend the College of Ag and FNR Career Fairs to practice networking and researching opportunities to build experience.
- Register for 'Career Planning in Natural Resources' for your sophomore year.

### 2 EXPLORE

#### During Sophomore Year:

- Develop a career plan and goals to achieve.
- If haven't done so, register for 'Career Planning in Natural Resources' to take your junior year.
- Complete a task in [myCareerPlan](#).
- Update resume and have it reviewed by FNR Career Services or CCO.
- Take an active role in student organizations at the department, college and university levels.
- Attend [workshops](#) on résumé writing and interviewing skills while continuing to develop your résumé.
- Develop a basic [cover letter](#) to use and customize for specific postings.
- Start build online brand by creating a digital portfolio and ensure social media accounts are professional.
- Review [job postings](#) and read the weekly *Pines and Needles* newsletter to become familiar with potential opportunities available in your field.
- Attend Career Fairs, especially the College of Ag Fair and the FNR Career Fairs.
- Research and apply for a summer work experience related to your major area to help build job skills.



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### 3 CONNECT

#### During Junior Year:

- Review career plan and goals, and adjust as necessary.
- If haven't done so, register for 'Career Planning in Natural Resources' to take your senior year.
- Complete a task in [myCareerPlan](#).
- Update resume and digital portfolio, and have them reviewed.
- Stay active in student organizations and seek leadership positions.
- Attend Career Fairs, especially the College of Ag Fair and the FNR Career Fair.
- Explore career and graduate opportunities by looking into undergraduate research projects to enhance experience and assist with graduate school applications.
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals from my field of interest.
- Research and apply for a summer work experience related to your major.
- Network!
- Develop a list of references - ask faculty, staff, and employers.

### 4 ACHIEVE

#### During Senior Year:

- Review career plan and goals, and adjust as necessary.
- Complete a task in [myCareerPlan](#).
- Finalize your résumé and digital portfolio, and have them reviewed.
- Begin a comprehensive job search and/or applying for graduate school.
- Attend Career Fairs, especially the College of Ag Fair and the FNR Career Fair.
- Participate in a [Mock Interview](#) through the CCO.
- Continue networking!
- Apply for membership and certifications in the [national organization](#) associated with the student chapter.
- Complete the FNR Placement Survey when received.
- Plan ways to stay connected to Purdue, the College, and the Department.
- Walk across the stage and receive degree!

**Schedule an appointment with FNR Career Services through BoilerConnect to discuss personalizing your career plan.**