



Job and Internship Fair MINNESOTA PRIVATE COLLEGES

International Student Prep Guide

As an international student, the MPCCC Job and Internship Fair may be a venue to connect you with employers who are able to consider international students. Sophomores and Juniors who are seeking internships will likely have more opportunities than seniors looking for jobs. Below are some tips to prepare for the fair:

Before the Fair:

- Download the [Job Fair app](#) (search for MNPC Fair on Android or IOS).
- Identify organizations that have indicated on the [Job Fair Website](#) or [App](#) that they are open to hiring international students (Students Menu → Employers Attending the Fair → Narrow Your Search).
 - Employers who WILL consider international students will be noted by the following statement: *"This organization will hire candidates who are not currently authorized to work in the US beyond one year of practical training."*
 - Employers who WILL NOT typically consider international students will be noted by the following statement: *"This organization will not hire candidates who are not currently authorized to work in the US beyond one year of practical training."*
- Research those organizations to make sure you are able to talk about how you are a strong candidate.
- Brainstorm the qualifications/skills you bring from your major, research, writing ability, or internship experience that are important to employers.
- Ensure you feel comfortable with the various work authorization regulations and visa types that might be applicable in your situation (ex. CPT/OPT/STEM Extension/H1B) so you feel you have the needed information to discuss those details with employers of interest.
- If you need more information on work authorization questions, stop by the Piper Center for Vocation and Career.

During the Fair:

- Take a minute to walk around the Fair and identify which organizations have marked the sign at their booth indicating they will hire international students and the type of role (Internship vs. Job).
- Prioritize that list to ensure you make time to stop at those organizations of interest
- Stop by the Immigration Attorney booth to get any questions answered about the hiring/work authorization process. It will be marked "International Candidate Lawyer Booth" and will be to the left as you enter [Exhibit Hall A](#).
- If there are any organizations that said online they would hire international students, but have not indicated that on the sign at their booth, it is ok to stop by their booth to clarify their hiring policy.
- Keep notes on what conversations went well and any action steps you need to take after the Fair.

After the Fair:

- Follow up with any employers you had interactions with during the Fair to ensure you are aware of the next steps in the hiring process.
- Contact the International Student Program office on your campus to make sure you are following the correct steps as you move forward in the hiring process.