By sophomore year, your career development journey is moving from early investigation and assessment to in-depth exploration and immersion. On your agenda this year are key actions to identify and refine your career goals. One of those actions is choosing your major. The other is gaining early professional experience through networking, program participation and experiential learning. The Center for Career Development is here to support you through each of these key exploration steps!

**Critical Steps: Two things you really must do this year!**

1. **Career Coaching**
   - Join the Davidson Career Advisor Network (DCAN) to access individual career advice from dedicated and successful alumni, parents and champions.
   - Readily connect with professionals in the field to further explore and refine your career interests, broaden your network and increase your understanding of the modern career landscape. Access valuable career advice from industry experts who pursued career paths in your areas of interest, participated in similar extra-curriculars like student organizations and sports or studied your chosen major.

2. **Professional Immersion**
   - Broaden your experience, exposure and appreciation for professional environments by undertaking an exploratory, professional immersive experience.
   - The Job Shadowing Externship Program enables you to gain firsthand experience in a career field with a host industry expert for an in-depth learning opportunity. Alternative priority experiences include research positions, summer fellowships, cultural or community immersion, and study abroad. Take advantage of at least one of these opportunities this year to heighten your skills and refine your career goals.

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**Get ahead by taking some of these additional steps**

- **Upskill**
  - We offer extensive career education programs to help you build confidence, self-advocacy skills and knowledge about a wide range of career fields. This includes a customized curriculum of workshops on topics ranging from networking strategies to interview techniques.

- **Strengthen**
  - Update your résumé or CV to include first year activities including co-curricular and extra-curricular achievements. Building a strong résumé is key to demonstrating your unique skills and work experience to employers, and your CV is a critical component of your graduate school application.

- **Connect**
  - Take advantage of on-campus recruiting events covering a variety of industries and career paths of interest. Connect with employers and graduate schools through fairs, lunch & learns and information sessions. Network for success at these events and begin applying for summer internship opportunities.

- **Brand**
  - Build and enhance your LinkedIn profile to professionally market yourself. Promote your career brand and begin to build a professional network with Davidson alumni through the Davidson College Network and other affinity groups.