



BEFORE THE FAIR

- **Update your résumé and other digital versions of you** which includes your Handshake profile, LinkedIn, etc. Find VMOCK here: <https://students.grainger.illinois.edu/ecs/tools-and-resources/>
- **Create a word document.** Think of the things that you'll be sharing with recruiters over and over. Elevator pitch, what type of positions you're looking for, next-step questions. Don't type them 15 times...instead, copy/paste.
- **Prepare.** Here's a list of upcoming programs <https://students.grainger.illinois.edu/ecs/home/> Here are some great tools: <https://students.grainger.illinois.edu/ecs/tools-and-resources/> Participate in a live tutorial <http://www.illinoisexpo.org/>
- **Test the platform.** Spend an hour or two over the next week to test/use CareerEco. Get a feel for the platform. Do not wait until the day of the event to figure this out.
- **Create your schedule** - know when companies are available to chat.

DAY OF FAIR

- **Know your day.** Sept. 9 is Internship ; Sept. 10 is Full-Time. Most likely you don't need to attend both days.
- **Look your best for the Career Fair!** Business professional is recommended. Ideally, your computer is at eye level. You'll also need good lighting, a quiet space, and a clean background. Need a good virtual background for an interview? Represent Illinois with some customized Zoom backgrounds: <https://publicaffairs.illinois.edu/resources/zoom-backgrounds/>
- **Before you ask** - Read through the chat as your question may have already been answered.
- **Access:** You can chat via mobile, but Video chat and event-related broadcasts are only available from a desktop or laptop using Google Chrome or Firefox.
- **Create your own ATS:** Application Tracking System for Career Fair (and more). Use Excel to track all of the companies you've talked to. Include company name, recruiter name, job posting (if available) and next steps to take. This will help keep you accountable and move forward in your job search. Once the event is over, it's closed. ***You will not be able to go back into CareerEco to access information.***
- **Don't see a job posting for a company on CareerEco?** Take a look on Handshake and employer websites. This is brand new for many employers too – it might be that they didn't have a chance to post.

AFTER THE FAIR

- **Follow up:** What are the next steps you need to take? Apply for the job? Connect with the recruiter on LinkedIn? Check your ATS and follow up.
- **Be ready for the interview.** **Big Interview** lets you practice those interview questions. <https://illinois.biginterview.com/> Many employers are using HireVue. Here are some tips (and more) to ace your upcoming virtual interview <https://www.hirevue.com/candidates/interview-tips>
- **Didn't see the employer you were looking for?** Look on Handshake, LinkedIn, and of course, employer websites. They might be recruiting using different platforms that are zero cost to them.
- **Remember: Career Fair is ONE job search strategy.** Connect with Engineering Career Services before and after the fair to create a personalized career search strategy.

