



# SOAR '26

Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration

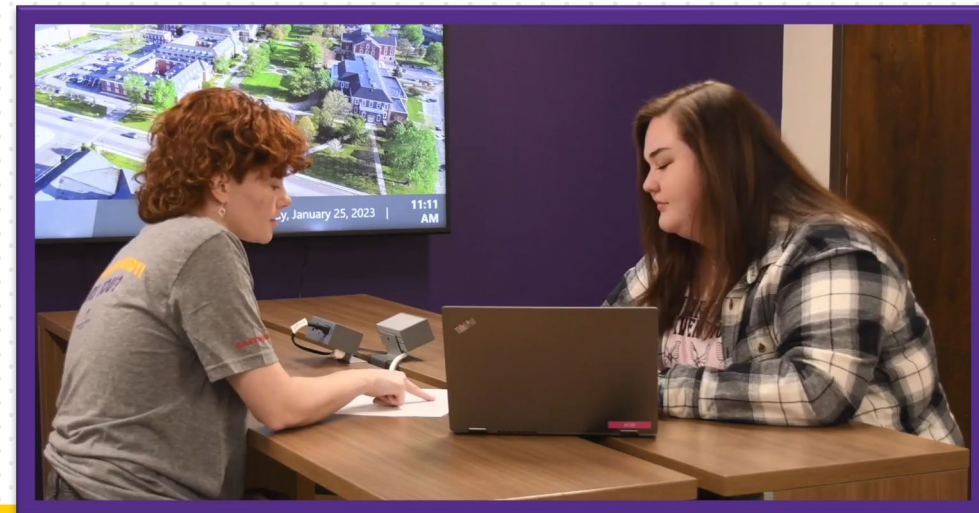


Tennessee  
TECH

Career Readiness: A Partnership with Parents

# What's important now!

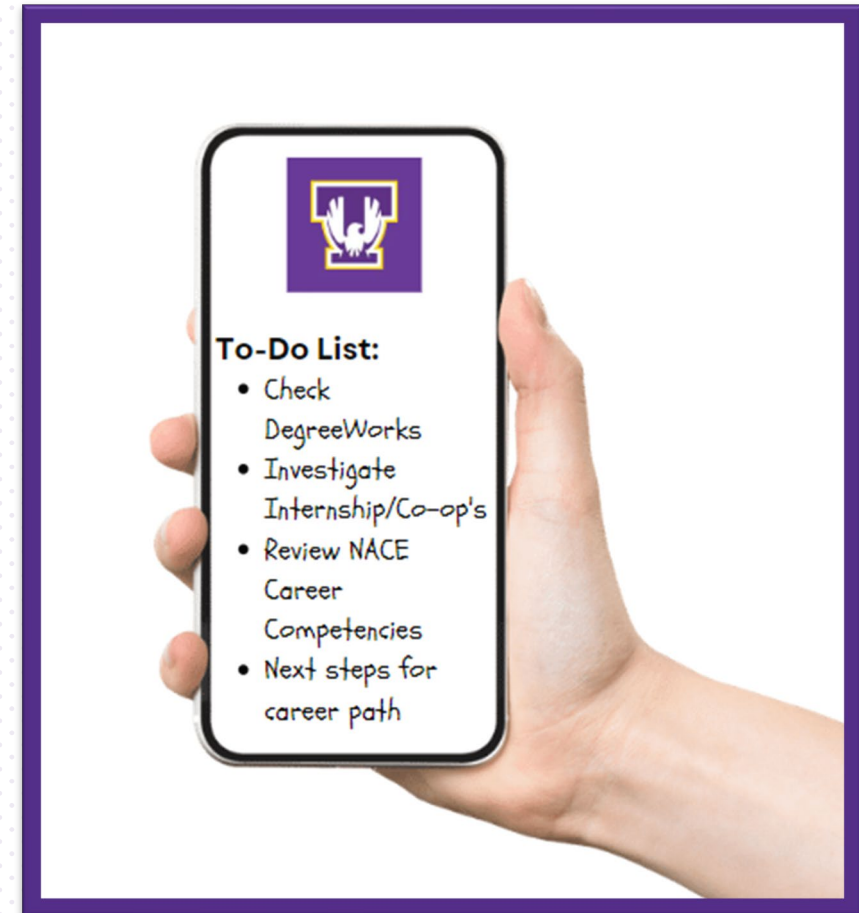
- Confidence in major!
- Gaining experience and skill building
- Transferring existing and new skills to resumes and interviews
- Learning Handshake
- Attending recruiting events



# What do we mean by confidence?

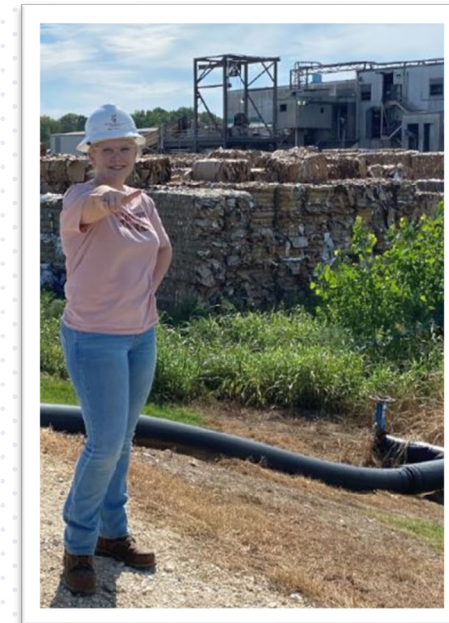
Answer these questions.

- Do I have the ability to master the curriculum in my major?
- In general, do I know what occupations my degree is preparing me for?
- Do I know when to do an internship and how to find one?
- Do I know the types of skills I'm developing and what I need to improve?
- Do I know if a Master's or professional degree will be needed for my occupation?



# Gaining experience

- Inside the classroom
  - Content knowledge
- Outside the classroom
  - Get involved with clubs, groups, organizations (freshman)
  - Professional student affiliations (sophomore)
  - Campus jobs (anytime)
  - Volunteer/service learning (freshman/sophomore)
  - Internships / Co-ops



# Transferring skills to resumes and interviews

- GOLD Career Readiness Program
  - Designed for freshmen and sophomores
  - Intended to accelerate readiness for internships
  - Completed in one semester
  - 1,000+ awarded last fall!

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# EASTMAN


 Enterprise Mobility™



Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tech Email: \_\_\_\_\_ T#: \_\_\_\_\_

## GOLD 2.0 NEW AND IMPROVED!

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**EASTMAN**

  
Center for Career Development  
TENNESSEE TECH

GOLD Career Readiness Certification has been streamlined for academic year 2024-2025! GOLD is now easier for students to accomplish. More online, self-paced assignments, less in-person attendance. See below for details.  
Applications and all documentation need to be completed in Spring semester 2025 and turned in by April 25, 2025 at 11 a.m. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline.  
Submit applications at <https://tntech.edu/view.php?id=161073>, email [career@tntech.edu](mailto:career@tntech.edu), or by dropping off at Rowden University Center, 325.

### Part 1 - Self Exploration

COMPLETE BOTH ASSIGNMENTS IN PART ONE:


- Complete one of the following and upload the career plan summary to the document section of your Handshake account under "other documents."
  1. Complete My Career Plan Builder on <https://isuriz.com>.
  2. Complete a My Career Plan appointment with the Center for Career Development.
- Complete TypeFocus self-assessment at <https://www.tntech.edu/career/students/assessment.php>

### Part 2 - Skill Building

COMPLETE BOTH ASSIGNMENTS IN PART TWO:

- 1. Watch "Applying Career Competencies" on ISURIZ.com. Take knowledge test after completion and download the certificate of achievement. Then upload the certificate of achievement to the documents section of your Handshake account under "other documents."
- 2. Complete ONE of the following:
  - Participation in one of the following:  
To receive credit, the club, organization or professional affiliation must appear on your resume.
    - Affinity Club
    - Professional Organization
    - Greek Organization
    - Other campus organization not on list
  - Complete a 750-word academic paper on an occupation of interest that cites at least two sources. (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/home.htm>, Moody's.com) You will not receive credit if AI was used to create the paper.
  - Attend one of the following CO-OP Meet-ups:
    - January 30 | 11 a.m.  
RUC, Tech Pride Room
    - February 18 | 11 a.m.  
RUC, Tech Pride Room
    - February 27 | 11 a.m.  
RUC, Tech Pride Room
    - March 11 | 11 a.m.  
RUC, Tech Pride Room

Quizzes on ISURIZ.com are under "Knowledge and Certificate of Achievement."



# TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY

Presents

**Awesome Eagle**

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With

**Gold Career Readiness Certification**

**EASTMAN**



*Russ Coughenour* 11-18-23  
Tennessee Tech University Date



# What is Handshake?

- **24 / 7 / 365** Career Resource Software
- Leverages machine learning
- Only for students in college or alumni
- Currently on approximately 1,850 campuses
- Resume storage, jobs and internships
- We approve about 300+ jobs per day
- Employers can post positions, register for job fairs and browse potential applicants
- It is the “where” to find internships and jobs

# *Handshake*



*Easily accessed on  
Tech Express  
In Fall!*

# Attend job fairs

- Primary and best way for students to meet employers
- Our line up
  - Part-time Welcome Back Fair (August or early September)
  - Employer Expo (September)
  - Agriculture Fair (February)
  - Spring Engineering Fair (March)
  - Education Fair (late March)
  - Nashville Area Career Fair (April)
  - Student Athlete Career Fair (April)
  - 50+ “one company events” throughout the year



# Partnership with Parents!



## YOUR FOUR-YEAR CAREER PLAN

### Freshman Year

- Log in to your Handshake account and complete your profile via Tech Express.
- Let us help you get started preparing your first college resume (RUC 328).
- Explore career interests with TypeFocus and Career Spots on the Center for Career Development website.
- Decide on a major, if you haven't already, by the end of your first year.
- Attend one of our annual career fairs and numerous workshops as part of your career exploration.
- Complete a Career Plan on [elevatetrak.com](http://elevatetrak.com).
- Join at least one affinity group, campus club or become a student member of a professional organization.
- Gain the GOLD Career Readiness Certification (freshman-sophomore).

### Sophomore Year

- Update your resume and upload it to your Handshake account.
- Update your profile on Handshake and begin considering internship opportunities. Visit [www.tntech.edu/career/students/internships.php](http://www.tntech.edu/career/students/internships.php) for more information.
- Improve your interview skills by going to [elevatetrak.com](http://elevatetrak.com) and explore the Practice Interview Module.
- Obtain your GOLD Career Readiness Certification (freshman-sophomore) to increase workplace knowledge.
- Join a career-related or professional organization.
- Start a LinkedIn account at [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com).

### Junior Year

- Participate in a cooperative education or internship program to gain experience in your major.
- Network by attending career fairs on and off campus and pursue a leadership role in a campus organization.
- Don't forget to start working toward PURPLE Career Readiness Certification (junior-senior) and upload your updated resume to your Handshake account.
- Considering graduate or professional school? Begin researching programs of interest, review requirements and track testing deadlines. Let us help you with personal statements and resumes.

### Senior Year

- Be sure to upload an updated resume to your Handshake account and get ready for your senior year.
- Begin applying for full-time jobs seven to eight months before graduation.
- Participate in Career Development on-campus interviews, workshops, Careers n' Coffees and Employer Spotlights.
- Obtain PURPLE Career Readiness Certification (junior-senior) to earn valuable transition skills.
- Attend as many on and off job fairs as possible. Consistently review the "events" and "fairs" sections of Handshake to remain aware of all recruiting activity.

Center for Career Development  
Roaden University Center, Room 328  
Phone: (931) 372-3232  
Email: [career@tntech.edu](mailto:career@tntech.edu)  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Scan to see our  
LinkedIn page!



# Partnership with parents

## How can you help?

- Encourage your student to access Handshake early and often
- Encourage them to watch our new internship videos on our website
- Help them to remember and get ready for job fairs
- Encourage your student to get Career Ready certified



# Partnership with parents (great questions for fall 2026)

- Are you a part of the Career Readiness Program?
- Are you planning on attending the Employer Expo scheduled for September in the Hooper Eblen Center?
- What do you plan to wear to the Job Fair?
- Is your Handshake profile built?
- Have you been working on a resume in your classes or with Career Development?

**Scan to go to internships page!**



# Center for Career Development

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*Follow us on  
LinkedIn!*



[www.tnitech.edu/career](http://www.tnitech.edu/career)

# Questions?

