

BUILDING YOUR PROFESSIONAL IMAGE AND NETWORK

SIUE CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Things to be mindful of...

Historical Documents:

- Credit history and debt
- Driving record
- Student conduct history
- Criminal history - violence, substance abuse, etc.

Appearance:

- Attire
- Hair color
- Tattoos/piercings

Your Networks & Professional Image:

- Personal relationships
- Language and grammar
- Online presence including social media platforms, blogs, videos, and photos

Things you should do...

Start building your professional resume:

- Join professional organizations - many have discounted student rates
- Join on-campus student organizations
- Volunteer for an organization that is in your field of study or for a cause you believe in
- Pursue career-related accomplishments and work experience
- Complete a co-op or internship

Build your professional image:

- Set-up your LinkedIn profile
- Clean up any other social media
- Get to know your faculty and staff
- Complete informational interviews
- Begin to build a professional wardrobe
- Attend workshops, lectures and networking events in-person and/or virtually
- Find a mentor
- Take on a leadership role in an organization of interest