

## ACI's Sept. 25 Boot Camp Explores Life in the Time of Pandemic

Aug. 26, 2020



ACI will offer four [Work and Life Skills Boot Camps](#) during the 2020-21 academic year. The first, via Zoom on Friday, Sept. 25, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., will explore "Life Study and Work in the Time of Pandemic."

Open to all students enrolled at [ACI member institutions](#), the boot camps specifically target low-income, first-generation and students of color. Sessions seek to deliver skills, information and networking resources that advance career development for students who may not have family members who have earned college degrees or pursued careers that require degrees. The program was launched in 2019-20, with support from a [Council of Independent Colleges](#) First Opportunity Partners Grant.

The Sept. 25 boot camp will feature Gabriel Ruiz, M.A., LCPC, a faculty member at Chicago Institute for psychoanalysis and a first-generation college graduate who earned his master's degree at ACI member institution [Concordia University Chicago](#). Ruiz will give students strategies for identifying and managing the stress associated with the pandemic. Lynn Hazan, president of her award-winning executive search firm, will help students map their path in the current job market. Jeffrey Moss, CEO of [Parker Dewey](#), will introduce students to the opportunities offered by virtual micro-internships, and Aaron Adams, partner at [Mentoring Complete](#), will explain ACI's virtual Career Mentoring Program and its benefits to career development. Finally, Brian Walsh, senior manager, financial planning for SoFi, will help students navigate student loans and personal finance in uncertain times.

ACI Boot Camps scheduled for the remainder of the academic year include:

- **Friday, Nov. 13: *Who am I, and Where am I Going?*** -- How liberal arts education translates to careers and how students can develop a portfolio of skills and experiences while still in college. Financial literacy session on building credit.
- **Friday, Jan. 29, 2021: *The Right Image, The Right Information*** --- Interviewing skills, dressing for success, email etiquette, conforming to corporate culture and related matters. Financial literacy session on personal budgeting.
- **Friday, March 26, 2021: *Technology in the Workplace, Across Careers and Industries*** -- Technology skills for today's jobs and how technology shapes all industries and workplaces, how liberal arts majors can

transition to technology careers and entrepreneurial opportunities. Financial literacy session on financial products and how career-launchers can build a nest egg.

Registration for ACT's Sept. 25 boot camp, "Life Study and Work in the Time of Pandemic," will open online the week of Sept. 7. A registration link will be sent to all career services, multicultural directors, first-generation program directors and peer mentoring campus coordinators. For additional information, contact Leslie Millenson at [lmillenson@acifund.org](mailto:lmillenson@acifund.org).