

ACI's Career Development Conference and Employer Expo Builds Career Readiness for Freshmen Through Seniors

Register now for Oct. 4 event at North Central College

Aug. 27, 2019



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ACI's 2019 Career Development Conference will welcome students from ACI's [26 member institutions](#) for a full-day career development experience on Friday, Oct. 4, 2019, at North Central College, Naperville. Free to students, staff and faculty at ACI member schools, the Career Development Conference builds knowledge of available career paths, enhances job readiness and showcases some of Illinois' top employers, many

of which already employ significant numbers of alumni from ACI colleges and universities.

High profile keynotes and seminars on hot-button topics

This year's Career Development Conference features two plenary keynote sessions:

Keynote breakfast with J.D. Gershbein, CEO of Owlsh Communications and nationally recognized expert on networking and the LinkedIn platform, who will highlight the value of developing a networking mindset. Keynote luncheon with Michelle Silverthorn, founder of Inclusion Nation, speaking on implicit bias and the realities of diversity in the workplace

Skill-building seminars throughout the day explore career paths in specific fields, share job search success stories from young alumni, teach email etiquette and basic employment law, introduce students to micro-internships and much more.

"We've designed ACI's Career Development Conference to deliver high value to students at every stage of their college careers, even if they are not currently seeking full-time jobs," said Executive Director Mick Weltman. "Our goal is to help students discover the career path right for them, show them how to build a compelling resume during their college career, and equip them to conduct an effective job search and perform well once they're actually on the job."

A select group of employers and graduate schools

Morning and afternoon Employer Expo sessions offer students access to senior talent acquisition professionals representing key employers. Participants include Aon, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, Call One, Central Intelligence Agency, Dayton Freight Lines, Fifth Third Bank, Northwestern Mutual, Quad Jobs and Shure Incorporated. In addition, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, is a participating sponsor and its speaker and will be available to chat with students at the

Financial Services Career Paths seminar. Employers may reserve a booth at the Employer Expo by calling Eli O'Sullivan Kurtz at 312-263-2391, ext. 0 or write to ekurtz@acifund.org to reach him by email.

Because the next logical step for many students may be graduate school, the expo will feature a selection of ACI-member graduate schools, including Dominican University, Judson University, Lewis University and Saint Xavier University.

ACI students, staff, faculty and board members are welcome. ACI's Career Development Conference is free to all students, staff and faculty only from ACI member colleges and universities, as well as to ACI's Board of Trustees. All attendees must register in advance, and only employers who are participating as partners or sponsors may register and attend.

Transportation grants help colleges bring delegations

"We hope ACI member college and university will send a delegation of students to our Career Development Conference," said Weltman. "This conference represents one of the most rewarding benefits we offer to our members." To help colleges fund transporting students to the Naperville conference, ACI offers grants of up to \$300 to fund van rentals, van drivers, bus or train tickets. All campuses are eligible to receive grants, but funds are limited. Campuses most distant from Naperville will have priority. Apply for a grant and send the application to Eli O'Sullivan Kurtz no later than Sept. 16.

For additional information about ACI's Career Development Conference and Employer Expo, call Eli O'Sullivan Kurtz at 312-263-2391, ext. 0 or email ekurtz@acifund.org.