



OYO¹: THE “I WANT TO BE A MILLIONAIRE” CAREER PLAN

8 Steps For Experts (or those striving to be experts)



□ **Everything on the “Couch to \$50K” plan**

You have likely already done the basics like a resume and Handshake, but just in case.

□ **Develop compelling LinkedIn and Piazza profiles**

Both platforms help you share your story with recruiters and also offer tools to explore companies and jobs. Keep a PDF of your most recent resume uploaded. Use all of the options available – skills, badges, projects, etc. Add 500+ connections on LinkedIn.

□ **Focus on building experience year-round through projects and hackathons**

The best candidates show a passion for CS by continuously improving their skills and applying them to real world applications. Update your profiles and GitHub with your projects and hackathons. Showcase your work on a personal website or portfolio.

□ **Attend career workshops, fairs, and meet & greets**

Learn about careers and build relationships with recruiters at company events hosted at UMass. Prepare for these events by researching the visitors and brainstorming questions. Follow up by connecting on LinkedIn or sending a thank you email.

□ **Join computer science clubs or organizations**

Find ways to get involved with industry organizations such as ACM, CRA and IEEE. Contribute to events organized by student groups such as ACM or CSWomen. Consider organizing your own interest group to follow trends and demonstrate leadership.

□ **Practice technical interviewing**

Technical interviewing requires practice. Talk to your friends who have done technical interviews and invest time in training resources such as LeetCode and Cracking the Coding Interview. Schedule a mock interview to practice and get feedback.

□ **Gain professional skills through multiple internships**

Employers love interns. They stay longer and advance faster. And it’s less work to “interview once and hire twice” by offering many interns full-time positions. Set a goal of experiencing two internships (after your sophomore and junior years).

□ **Network your way to your first job**

Request informational interviews with alumni and others in your network to learn about their jobs, companies, and industries. Focus on finding a great job, not just a job. Aim to start your first day already having a network and understanding the company culture.

Done with all 8 steps? Bring your completed plan to CICS Careers!

¹ On-your-own “OYO” resources help you begin to find answers to your questions now.

For more information or other career-related questions, contact our **CICS Careers** team.

Visit our CICS Website | Join Handshake | Visit Us @ CS360