How Can I Help?

A guide for families & support systems

for students in college exploring careers.

Students need and rely on your support to guide them through exploring and deciding on careers. Parents, families, and other members of their support system have a significant impact on students' decision-making.

✓ Start Early

Encourage your student to visit the Career Center as a first-year student. Become familiar with the services and assessments the Career Center offers students and help your student understand the importance of developing the time management skills needed to navigate their busy collegiate schedules and make time for career exploration and professional competency development.

✓ Show Up

Students have busy schedules. However, investing in the process of acquiring career-ready skills is essential and necessary to land a successful career. Students should take time to attend career workshops, information sessions, and career fairs whenever available to them. Students can access career-related events in Handshake!

✓ Promote Career-Building Experience

Get familiar with Maryville College Works and encourage your students to pursue multiple career-building experiences, such as part-time or work-study jobs, community service, study abroad, undergraduate research experiences, internships, and observational experiences. Internships and observational experiences specifically can teach your student what they like or do not like about an intended profession. They also provide great connections for future jobs after graduation!

✓ Encourage Independence

Decision-making can be one of the most difficult realities in college. Careers are rarely linear paths, so encourage your student to explore many different work experiences during college. Communicate to them that every experience is an opportunity to meet a contact, gain experience and professional contacts, or learn valuable technical skills.

✓ Help Network

Expose your student to many different occupations. Refer your student to community members, clergy, co-workers, and friends who have careers that may interest them. Familiarize them with the practice of informational interviewing so that they can learn about an individual's industry and career path.

✓ Understand Career Competencies

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, there are career readiness competencies that prepare students for success in the workplace and lifelong career management. For new graduates, career readiness is key to ensuring successful entrance into the workforce. Find the complete list of **Maryville College's Scottie 9 Career Readiness Competencies** on the reverse side of this resource.

The Scottie 9 Career Readiness Competencies

CAREER & SELF-DEVELOPMENT
Proactively develop oneself and one's career through continual personal and professional learning, awareness of one's strengths and weaknesses, navigation of career opportunities, and networking to build relationships within and without one's organization.

COMMUNICATION
Clearly and effectively exchange information, ideas, facts, and perspectives with persons inside and outside of an organization.

CRITICAL THINKING
Identify and respond to needs based upon an understanding of situational context and logical analysis of relevant information.

EQUITY & INCLUSION
Demonstrate the awareness, attitude, knowledge, and skills required to equitably engage and include people from different local and global cultures. Engage in anti-racist practices that actively challenge the systems, structures, and policies of racism.

LEADERSHIP
Recognize and capitalize on personal and team strengths to achieve organizational goals.

PROFESSIONALISM
Knowing work environments differ greatly, understand, and demonstrate effective work habits, and act in the interest of the larger community and workplace.

TEAMWORK
Build and maintain collaborative relationships to work effectively toward common goals, while appreciating diverse viewpoints and shared responsibilities.

TECHNOLOGY
Understand and leverage technologies ethically to enhance efficiencies, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

GLOBAL COMPETENCE
Understand and appreciate local and global issues, diverse perspectives and world views and interact appropriately and effectively with people from different cultures and identities.