

NC STATE ENGINEERING CAREER FAIR TIPS

BEFORE THE FAIR

- Make a prioritized “Top 10 Companies List”. This will help you to focus your efforts.
- Research the companies and the positions you want: internship, co-op or full-time. Develop a couple of questions to ask the company reps about the position. This shows them that you are taken the time to get to know their company.
- Develop a list of talking points about yourself and why you’re a good fit with each company.
- Not all companies ask for the right majors. So apply for jobs that describe an industrial engineer.
- Print out the job postings for your Top 10 companies.
- Print out plenty of resumes so you are ready to handle unplanned opportunities.
- Find a professional outfit and be aware of your makeup choices. If you have to ask, “Is this too casual, too short or too much, it is!” Princeton researchers revealed that it takes a tenth of second to form an impression of a stranger.

AT THE FAIR

- Go early if possible. You want to talk with company reps before they get tired.
- Plan your route. It’s easy to get lost in the busy crowd.
- Don’t go to your Top 10 companies first. Visit other companies so you can practice your pitch and get some of the nerves out.
- Review the job posting sheet before you walk up to your Top 10 companies.
- Introduce yourself, shake hands and make eye contact.
- Be enthusiastic! If you are not excited to talk with them, why will they want to talk with you?
- Be confident! By researching the company and having a couple of questions ready, you can talk knowledgeably with the company reps.
- Discuss the talking points about yourself and explain why you are a good fit with them.
- Close each conversation by asking for their business card and about the application process and hiring timeline.
- Don’t be discouraged if they tell you to apply via epack. You have already started the networking connection and they often make notes of candidates who caught their attention.

AFTER THE FAIR, BUT BEFORE THE FIRST INTERVIEW

- Revisit their company website and take notes about their products and/or services. This shouldn’t take more than 30 minutes.
- Google them. What is being said about them in the press lately? This will provide you with talking points to use during your interview and will demonstrate that you took extra time to care about them.
- Review your resume. Create a short list of the points you want them to know about you. Make sure you can explain how you can contribute to your company.
- Phone interviews are your friend. Make sure to have your printouts and notes in front of you during the interview.

YOU CAN DO IT!!!!