

# Career preparation milestones:

## *BSN students seeking employment upon graduation*

### **Sophomore year**

- Begin creating an ongoing list of educational accomplishments, clinical rotations, licenses and certifications, work history, volunteer history and any other accomplishments.
  - Include date spans, addresses and contact names. Use these details to begin building your professional resume and to help identify who you might be able to use as a professional reference, once needed.
- Network, network, network! Begin building your professional network.
  - Share your career goals with your lecturers and clinical instructors. Consider participating in student nurse organizations and volunteering to build relationships with your peers and faculty advisors.
  - See the [Student Involvement Opportunities](#) page on the College of Nursing (CON) website.
- Apply for a job as a patient care assistant (PCA) or state tested nursing assistant (STNA) to gain healthcare experience while in the program. By working as a student nurse, you will have additional opportunities to learn that will assist you in being a stronger nurse down the road.
  - Different employers have different opportunities available for student nurses. They may have different job titles and required qualifications.
  - For example, at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center (OSUWMC) you will be qualified for a STNA position upon completing your first clinical. Applicants need to apply to student nurse positions via their student WorkDay account. You cannot apply on the regular OSUWMC careers website for STNA jobs.
  - You can connect with CON Career Services for assistance with your job search or application materials.

### **Junior year**

- Continue networking and volunteering!
- Continue building your ongoing list of nursing-related experiences and accomplishments. Add this information to your resume. Call CON Career Services to schedule an appointment for resume help if needed at 614-292-4041.
- Consider a summer externship or internship and start/continue working in a nursing environment as a student nurse or in another related position. This will help expose you to different specialties and help you stand out from other candidates when it is time to apply for a job.
- Start or continue working in a nursing environment as an STNA or in another related position.

### **Senior year**

- Become familiar with the [Ohio licensure process](#) and pre-register for the NCLEX. Both steps should be completed 4-6 months before graduation.
- Continue networking!
- Finalize your resume using the ongoing list of experiences and accomplishments you've been compiling.
  - Contact CON Career Services for resume, cover letter and interview prep assistance.
- Apply early!



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF NURSING