

CONSIDER OTHER OPTIONS

Be flexible and don't limit yourself

Solent's degrees are designed to provide a range of transferable skills, so don't get too focused on one industry, role or location.

Postgraduate or further study

A postgraduate qualification is sometimes the next step on your professional ladder. Use www.findamasters.com or check out the postgraduate courses available on the Solent website.

Start your own business

Want to be your own boss, run a franchise or undertake freelance work, and do something you are really passionate about? Talk to us about our entrepreneurial programme and explore the self-employment portal pages.

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THE SOLENT FUTURES TEAM

We are a professional and friendly service dedicated to helping you during university in planning your future.

Finding part-time work, volunteering or other experience during your studies will provide you with a range of valuable skills and experience, look great on a CV, give you contacts and may help financially.




Identify the skills and experience that employers want, and find and apply for work, placements, and graduate roles.

We can help!

- We offer Careers Advice for Life: virtual advice appointments with an Employability or Careers Adviser; bookable at solent.futures@solent.ac.uk
- We run an in-person advice desk in the library
- Log into Solent Futures Online (SFO), our online careers platform, then switch to 'Graduate Access' using your personal email address to keep your access after you graduate.
- Upload your CV to CV360 on SFO for instant feedback
- Record yourself answering questions on Interview360 on SFO
- Attend our events and workshops; find more information via the Careers tab on the Portal.
- Book a business start-up guidance appointment at enterprise@solent.ac.uk

For any other general advice, please email us at solent.futures@solent.ac.uk

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SOLENT FUTURES



FINDING GRADUATE JOBS

GUIDE FOR STUDENTS
ON FINDING WORK AFTER
YOUR DEGREE

GETTING STARTED

Think about what options are best for you

Graduate work? Starting your own business? Going freelance? Postgraduate study? Plan your next step and set some goals; how will you get there and when?

What do you want to do?

Your own unique profile of strengths, skills and interests will determine your career path. Attend our workshops, use career-matching tools such as Prospects Career Planner, or book a careers guidance appointment to explore your options.

Build on your successes and equip yourself with tools and experience to have a great career

Research suggests that recruiters strongly value work experience, sometimes even more so than the university that a graduate has attended and the grades that they have achieved. Give yourself the competitive edge by gaining some work experience before you apply for graduate roles.*

*The Graduate Market in 2019, High Flyers Research.



TOP 4 RESOURCES

FOR FINDING GRADUATE JOBS

1. Solent Futures Online (SFO)

Solent's online employability resource. It includes opportunities uploaded by employers looking specifically for Solent students and sources graduate level jobs from Indeed.

- Use SFO to access: CV360, Interview360, a CV builder, an e-learning hub, employability articles and more.

2. Prospects (www.prospects.ac.uk)

- Search for high quality and graduate specific jobs using the search engine.
- Explore the 'What can I do with my degree?' section to discover job options for your degree and browse vacancies that are live right now.
- Applying speculatively? The 'Job Profiles' section can tell you more about different roles and help you to tailor your CV.

3. LinkedIn

- LinkedIn has a dedicated job search function where you can filter by location, job type, company, industry and experience level. Be cautious when using 'Easy Apply' – ensure that your profile is up to date and contains in-depth information on your skills and experiences.
- Network! Use LinkedIn to speculatively contact employers that you would like to work for, even if they are not actively advertising a vacancy. You can send them a connection request, alongside a message asking to discuss relevant opportunities.

4. Alternative search engines

- Don't forget there are lots of alternative job search engines online. Here's just a few of them:
 - Glassdoor.co.uk
 - Indeed.com
 - Milkround.com
 - Monster.com
 - Reed.com
 - Totaljobs.com
 - Vercida.com
- Not all search engines will review adverts that are uploaded, so be sure to research the company well and ensure it's a legitimate opportunity.

SOLENT FUTURES' TOP TIPS

Keep an eye on recruitment deadlines

Websites such as www.savethestudent.org will list all the big graduate schemes along with their deadlines. Many schemes open early and have application deadlines as early as October. Make sure you're prepared and aware of all important dates.

Many jobs are never publicly advertised

Research suggests that at least 70% of jobs are not advertised online. Use your contacts to find hidden opportunities or send speculative applications. Research companies that you're interested in working for and, once you have some companies in mind, apply speculatively with a CV and covering letter.

Target your application

Your CV should be tailored to the company and prospective role. Tailor your CV using the information on the employer's website, and pull out skills and attributes from job descriptions, as well as relevant job profiles on Prospects.

