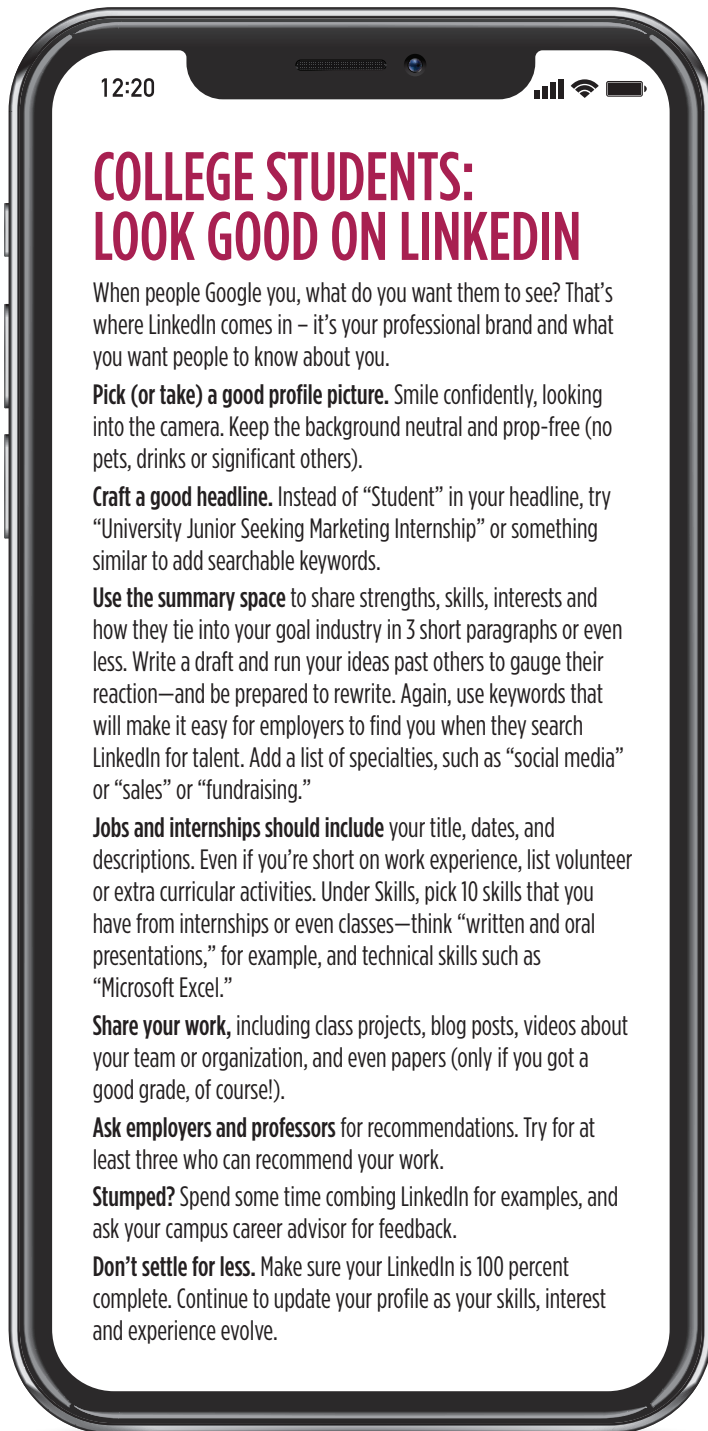


COLLEGE GRAD CHECKLIST



- Meet regularly with your advisor to make sure you're on track to graduate.
- Visit your college's Career Planning office and see how they can help you plan for your future.
- Polish your resume.
- Line up letters of recommendation from your favorite professors.

- Practice your interview skills – prepare examples of how you solved a problem, what you learned from a failure, and accomplishments you're proud of.
- Ask for contact information from your best/favorite professors.
- Make a list of friends, neighbors, professors and alumni who can help you explore job opportunities.
- If you don't already have a LinkedIn account, set one up. If you do, keep it up to date, make sure you include accomplishments and skills, and search potential job opportunities.
- Review your social media sites to ensure you represent yourself well to potential employers.



Questions to Ask Before You Apply to Grad School

Is a graduate degree (or professional degree, such as a law degree) your next step? Before you apply, seek the advice of your college advisor, professors, and people working in your industry. Ask yourself these questions:

Can I afford it? Make sure to include tuition, housing and other fees, as well as the loss of income you could be earning in a full-time career. The cost of living in various cities varies widely, so do your research and take that into account. But, don't let sticker shock of graduate tuition stop you: Many graduate programs offer scholarships, fellowships, and research or teaching stipends that can make graduate school a viable option. Living on a

graduate student's income from those sources is possible.

Will a grad school degree result in a future income that will make up for the expense of the degree? Do the math to determine how long it will take you to break even. You can use an online calculator to help inform your decision like the one at moneyunder30.com/is-graduate-school-worth-the-cost.

Will a grad school degree result in additional job opportunities or enhance your desired career? Your campus career center can help provide some guidance. Also, use your professional networks to build a case in favor (or against) a graduate or professional degree.

