

Virtual Networking

HOW TO PREPARE FOR AND GET THE MOST OUT OF VIRTUAL NETWORKING EVENTS

Before

- Consider what you hope to get out of this event. Do you have specific questions you want answered? Are you just hoping to get a better sense of your options?
- Familiarize yourself with the panelists – who will be there, and who do you hope to learn from?
- Prepare some questions in advance (see sample questions below). You may think of additional questions during the event, but it is helpful to have some prepared.
- Pick your location: ideally, somewhere quiet and with minimal distractions.
- Dress as you would for an in-person networking event; no need for a suit, but be aware of appearing too casual (e.g., hoodies, graphic tees).

During

- Take notes – this will not only help you retain information from the session, but also document unanswered questions for follow-up.
- ASK QUESTIONS! Use the chat, or raise your hand and ask with just mic, or mic and video.
- Be professional, concise, and mindful of not monopolizing the panelists' time.

After

- Take a few minutes to jot down any other thoughts, impressions, and items for follow-up while they are still fresh in your mind.
- Consider connecting with the panelists on LinkedIn using a personalized message and/or thank you.

Sample Questions

- Can you tell me about your educational background? Is that typical for people working in your field?
- Is this the type of work you pictured yourself doing when you were in university? In high school? How have your career goals shifted over time?
- How can I prepare myself for an entry-level role in your field of work? What kind of work/volunteer experiences, courses, or other professional development would you recommend?
- If you had one piece of advice to give to a university student who is planning for their future, what would that be?

Additional Resources on CourseLink

[CBS Career Readiness: Informational Interviews](#)

[Career Advising from the Experiential Learning Hub](#)



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