

## Think outside the box: Informational interviews and job shadowing

Securing interviews for employment can be tough. Sometimes it can be tougher to secure an interview from the application process than securing an offer during the interview process. It's a numbers game. Applications far outnumber interviewees.

So if you feel you are not getting enough interview requests, you can try securing informational interviews or creating job shadowing opportunities. This requires some outreach on your part. LinkedIn is a great place to start.

### Informational Interviews

Look on LinkedIn for people working at the company you want to work for. Start on the company page. Your best bet is UIC alumni or people with the same type of role you are interested



in. Send them an invite and let them know you would like to learn more about their company.

This approach is less aggressive than asking someone to connect you with a recruiter or to forward your resume to HR right away. You also show that you value their opinion. After building a quick rapport with the employee, they may be more willing to refer you

internally. And internal referrals will usually get priority for consideration!

### Job Shadowing

Another approach you can take is to see if the company you are interested in working for offers any opportunities to job shadow. Some companies will actually have job shadowing programs you can participate in. Just ask.

If not, simply ask if they are willing to allow you to job shadow. You really have to express your interest in their company and the particular role you would like to shadow.

The most important thing is to just ask. There is a phrase we like to use in the Engineering Career Center: "If you don't ask, the answer is always no."



Dean Nelson and Computer Science Dept. are featured in Crain's Chicago Business this week. [Check out the story](#)

**"Whether you think you can, or think you can't – you're right."**

**– Henry Ford**

**EVENTS**

#### mHUB Info Table

Mon. & Wed. (3/27 & 3/29)  
10AM – 2PM | ERF Lobby  
[mHUB website](#)

#### Morningstar Dev. Program

Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> | 5-6 PM  
Douglas Hall 230  
[Event Details](#)

#### BioE Alumni & Student Social

Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> | 1:30 – 4PM  
UIC Innovation Center  
[Details & required registration](#)

#### Guest Speaker from RTC (IEEE)

Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> | 5:30PM  
Lecture Center c6  
[Event Details](#)

#### ITA Upcoming Events

Networking, webinars, workshops,  
Tech Challenge Teaser 4/3-4/14  
[Upcoming Events - Details](#)

#### SWC Info Session (CS, CompE)

Thurs. April 13<sup>th</sup> | 5 – 6:30pm  
CS Student Lounge: SEL-E 2268  
[Event details](#)

**Watch your email this week for our Engineering Career Survey**  
**Win one of three prizes!** Movie tickets, UIC bookstore swag, Lunch with the Dean

Internships, co-ops and jobs posted on [UICcareers](#)

**ENGINEERING: 588**

Is your resume updated & uploaded?  
Employers review profiles often  
New to UICcareers? [Go here](#)

### Career Advice from the Experts

We have hand-selected recent articles with career development advice to help you prepare for your future career in engineering.

Featured articles this week: Info. Interview & Job Shadowing

- [Mastering The Informational Interview](#)
- [Maximizing your informational interview investment](#)
- [Research Companies and Careers Through Job Shadowing](#)

### Engineering Career Center

816/818/820 – SEO

Walk-in Hours

Tuesday – Thursday | 11AM – 3PM

### Services Offered

- Individual career coaching
- Resume and cover letter reviews
- Interview preparation
- Salary and job offer negotiation
- Internship & full-time job search strategies
- Career Fair preparation (Elevator speech)
- Professional etiquette
- Networking & LinkedIn tips
- Career related workshops

## NOW HIRING: Featured Employers

Companies with postings on UICcareers

Click logo to visit company website



Unilever



NORTHERN TRUST



Aerotek



BUILTWORLDS



Illinois Department of Transportation



TRADEBE

