CONGRATS
TO OUR MAY GRADUATES
CAREER GUIDE FOR THE AGE OF COVID-19
This is a proud accomplishment, especially in these challenging times.

We understand that even as you celebrate, this is not the world you thought you’d be graduating into. Employers are making difficult decisions and many college graduates are having to reconsider their professional pathways. Still, there are plenty of immediate and long-term actions you can take to increase your appeal to organizations that are still hiring. You will need to network and connect with professionals online, manage your resources wisely, enhance your (virtual) competencies, and set action-oriented goals for yourself.

This guide will introduce a variety of resources, ideas and mindsets to help you navigate this next chapter.

Phase 1: GETTING STARTED
Phase 2: LOOK AT WHO’S HIRING NOW
Phase 3: RESOURCES FOR LONG-TERM SUCCESS
These are extraordinary times where you will have to think critically and stretch beyond your comfort zone to adapt to the world as it is. For many of you, your professional plans and career launch strategies may change. The companies you're interested in may not be hiring right now, and while this may be somewhat disappointing, it can also be a call for action. You will need to adopt a practical approach and align your job search with organizations that are still hiring. Your flexibility and ability to adapt to a changing environment will prove essential to your long-term success.

**Stay Connected**

You probably know that many people find jobs through networking and personal connections. Staying connected with people and communities, and growing your network is paramount to success in a virtual world. Make a plan to increase your network on a weekly basis; reach out to people you met at work, your professors, fellow students, alumni, advisors and family. **Take advantage of your connections to a diverse network.**

**Be Action Oriented**

As the market struggles and reinvents itself, it is up to you to be assertive, action-oriented, entrepreneurial, and to show perseverance.

This requires you to seek opportunities, proactively connect with people, and most importantly, find the power and confidence to tackle the unknown. With an action-oriented mindset, you improve your chances at success.
Phase 2: LOOK WHO’S HIRING NOW

A number of companies are still hiring. These resources will help you stay connected to them:

- **Job Mine**: find current jobs posted for UTEP students/graduates
- **Candor**: who’s hiring and who’s not
- **The Muse**: who’s hiring and who’s not
- **Work in Texas**: search for jobs in Texas

**Career Tips:**
- Follow federal and state governments’ hiring status.
- Follow #GetHired and #NowHiring on LinkedIn.
- Follow the UTEP Career Center on LinkedIn.

**Virtual Career Fairs**

Most virtual job fairs take place at the university level as academic institutions and employers collaborate to facilitate virtual recruiting sessions for their own students. Continue checking the UTEP Career Center website and social media outlets for upcoming virtual career fairs. When in-person career fairs resume, you are welcome to participate in these events as UTEP alumni.

**Additional resources:**
- **JobFairsIn**: open virtual job fairs
- **LiveCareer**: tips on how to succeed in virtual job fairs
- **The Balance Careers**: answers to common questions about virtual job fairs
Remote & Freelance Work Opportunities

Many companies will likely embrace remote work in the near future. The following websites may help you find remote work.

- Weworkremotely.com
- Remote.com/remote-jobs
- Justremote.co
- Parkerdewey.com
- Virtualvocations.com
- Remoteok.io
- Pangian.com
- Remotive.io
- Jobspresso.co
- Powertofly.com
- Skipthedrive.com
- Upwork.com
- Fiverr.com

Additional resources:

- Coronavirus Career Advice: 27 Best Work from Home and Remote Jobs
- Best and Worst Sites for Finding a Remote Job
- 78 Sites for Finding a Remote Freelance Job
- Don't be scammed, avoid fraudulent jobs

Virtual Networking & Informational Interviews

After graduation, it is essential to expand your network, connect with people, and get yourself out there. You can do this from home! Here's how.

- 7 Non-Irritating Ways to Networking Online - Inc.
- Coronavirus & Your Career: How to Effectively Network During Quarantine - Forbes
- Establishing your LinkedIn Profile - UTEP Career Center
- Informational Interviewing - Berkeley Career Center
Virtual Interviewing Best Practices

Many companies are shifting to virtual interviews. Below are some virtual interviewing tips.

- **Best Practices** - Fast Company
- **Virtual Interview Strategies** - Virtual Vocations
- **Virtual Interviewing Best Practices** - Virtual Vocations
Phase 3: RESOURCES FOR LONG-TERM SUCCESS

Round Out Your Skill Set

Many educational companies and universities are currently offering their content for free. Take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your skills and knowledge to make yourself more competitive.

- **Coursera.org**: Offering free courses until May 31st
- **Harvard University**: Free online courses
- **EdX**: Free online courses
- **Open Culture**: More than 1,500 free courses
- **Yale: The Science of Well Being**: Yale’s most popular course ever
- **Alison**: Free online courses
- **General Assembly**: Technical training
- **MOOC.org**: Free online courses
- **Udacity**: Online courses

This may also be the right time to consider **graduate studies at UTEP**. With more than 100 master’s programs and 22 doctoral programs, an advanced degree will make you even more competitive as you enter the workforce.

Visit the UTEP Graduate School virtually at utep.edu/graduate
Graduating into a recession may force you to be resourceful and creative with the ways you generate income. Look to leverage your strengths and knowledge to generate supplementary income through paid project-based work and temporary or part-time work. Be open to unexpected jobs in order to supplement your income, keeping an eye out for positions that could develop skills needed for your career.
As graduates of the UTEP College of Science, you will now be looking to apply those skills you worked so hard to refine. These skills are very much needed in the world, but getting started can be a challenge. You will need to leverage networking in ways that you may not have up to now, and continue to build on professional skills you learned and practiced as a student. Remember to showcase your leadership abilities, problem-solving skills, and teamwork experiences as you navigate your job search and expand your professional networks.

### SCIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

**Job Search**

**Federal & State Resources**

- Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 Temporary Positions
- Texas State Jobs
- Texas Workforce Commission COVID-19 Resources for Job Seekers
- Federal Pathways Program (Recent Graduates Program)
- Federal National Laboratories
- USAJobs.gov

**Private Sector Resources**

- Job Stars Science Job Sites
- New Scientist Jobs
- Adzuna Science Jobs
- Indeed.com
  - Search for Your Major
  - Filter for Experience Level: Entry Level
  - Apply additional filters as desired
- Mining Majors also has major-specific sites you can search
- LinkedIn (You'll need to create an account, do a good job before you start searching!)
Networking

Professional Organizations - See the Career Center's Mining Majors at the following links:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Forensic Science
- Geological Science
- Mathematics
- Physics

Social Media & Group Pages

- UTEP Alumni Association: linkedin.com/groups/131911/
- UTEP College of Science: linkedin.com/in/utepscience/
- UTEP Department of Geological Sciences: linkedin.com/groups/8803083/
- UTEP Computer Science Alumni: linkedin.com/groups/6646286/

Graduate School

Many science careers require a certificate, master’s or doctoral degree. If you are considering moving on to graduate school, here are some things to think over, before choosing. You can watch our workshop on Preparing for Graduate School, then look at graduate degrees offered at UTEP here. The University Career Center also hosts a Graduate & Professional Schools Fair in October, to explore additional programs.
The **University Career Center** is available to support you. We invite you to learn about the many **services** available to you as a UTEP Graduate, reach out to your college liaison for individual guidance and assistance.

**Pamela Prieto**  
*College of Business Administration*  
pprieto@utep.edu

**Craig Thompson**  
*College of Education*  
cthompson@utep.edu

**Heriberto Garcia**  
*College of Engineering*  
hjgarcia3@utep.edu

**Moisés Buenfil**  
*College of Liberal Arts*  
mbuenfil@utep.edu

**Claudia Dominguez**  
*College of Health Science & Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy*  
cpdominguez@utep.edu

**Nick Zweig**  
*College of Science*  
nzweig@utep.edu

For all other purposes, feel free to email: careers@utep.edu

*Adapted from The Washington Center: resources.twc.edu/*