

# EXPLORE YOUR CAREER JOURNEY WITH ASK



The Alumni Sharing Knowledge (ASK) network connects DePaul students with alumni for career insight, conversations, and networking. You can use ASK to learn about yourself and the various career paths others have taken. Whether you are unsure of what is possible, weighing a few different options, or fall somewhere in between, you can use ASK to support and guide you as you explore careers and design your own road map.

## *Let's Start:*

### Complete Your ASK Profile

Visit [depaulasknetwork.com](http://depaulasknetwork.com) to begin. Follow the prompts to complete your profile. Consider including aspects from your **VIPS** to help build your values, interests, personality, and skills to make an engaging profile.



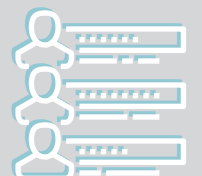
### Define Your Desired Outcome for the Outreach

Before you begin to explore the ASK network, ask yourself what your desired outcome is for interactions you have with ASK volunteers. Is it to help you choose a major, make a career pivot, apply for full-time positions or internships, or request a job shadow opportunity? Use your desired outcomes to guide your exploration and initial outreach.



### Exploring Alumni Profiles

Use VIPS keywords (i.e. travel, leadership, or design) in the "Network" search bar to find ASK volunteer profiles that align with your interests.



## Connect and Message

Review ASK volunteer profiles to learn more about their professional backgrounds. When you find someone you want to connect with, make note of the interests you have in common. The ASK platform has a built-in template for your initial connection, but you can customize your message by identifying your shared interests.

*"PS. I noticed that you are a marathon runner and I am running my first one later this year!"*

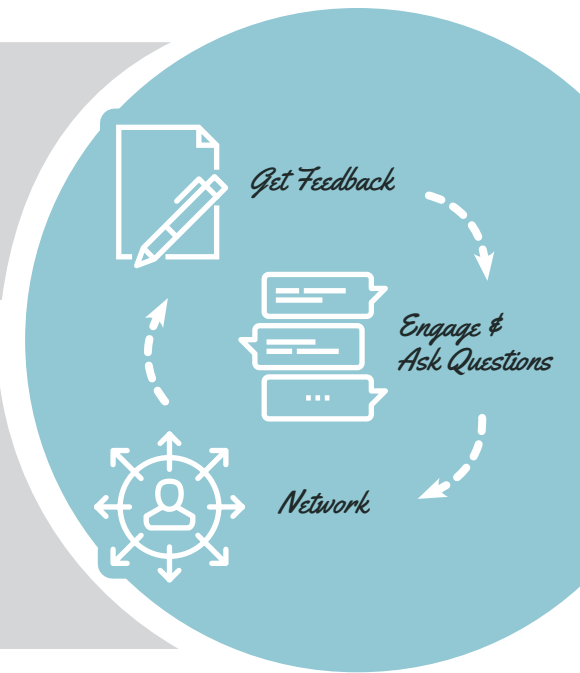
FOR EXAMPLE

## Engage & ASK Questions

When you're ready to connect, prepare a list of questions you'd like to ask the ASK volunteer. Your goal is to learn more about their career field so that you can explore your own career interests.

## Reflect & Get Feedback

Reflect on the informational interview with a career advisor or ambassador from your career community at the DePaul Career Center. You'll be able to unpack the experience and see how potential career fields align with your interests.



## Celebrate Success

Exploration is all about learning more about what interests you. As you navigate your own exploration, celebrate your successes along the way! Share your successes and interests with peers on LinkedIn or another social media platform.



As we grow and develop, our interests can change so keep in mind that exploration is a cyclical (not linear) process that occurs throughout life. The ASK network can be your starting point for career exploration, but it is also a tool you can return to at any point in your career journey.