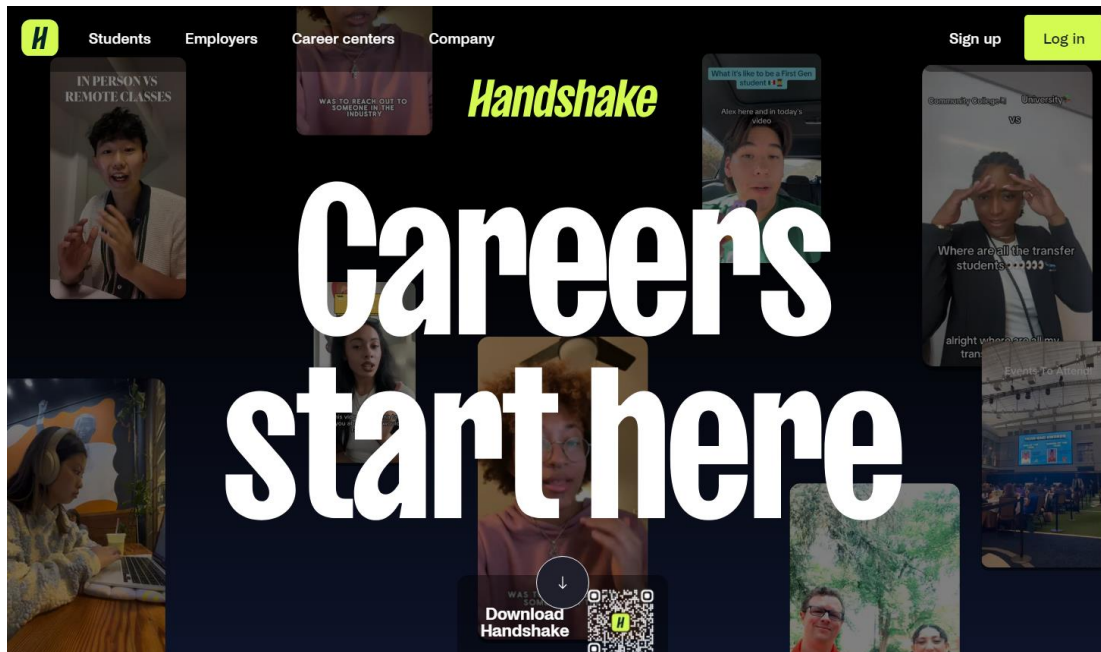# Handshake

Overview

Handshake is a career-focused app designed to help students and young professionals build their career networks, find job opportunities, and connect with potential employers. Nearly 1 million companies use Handshake to build their future workforce—from Fortune 500 to federal agencies, school districts to startups, healthcare systems to small businesses. Handshake is the best place to start or accelerate a career—no connections, experience, or luck required.

Create a profile, find your community, build your career

Real

The authentic and helpful place where 15M+ students get guidance, inspo, info, and connections straight from the source.

Relevant

Built just for you with personalized content from your school, experts, and ~1M companies.

Future-focused

The career platform you'll actually use with jobs, internships, and opportunities you won't find anywhere else.

1. Profile Setup (https://joinhandshake.com/)

- **Personal Information**: Add your full name, contact info, and professional headline.
- **Education**: List your academic background (school, degree, graduation year).
- **Work Experience**: Include relevant past roles, internships, and skills gained.
- **Skills & Interests**: Select key skills, certifications, and areas of expertise to match with job opportunities.
- **Profile Picture**: Upload a professional profile picture to make your profile stand out.
- **Bio**: Write a summary of who you are, your career goals, and what you're looking for.

2. Networking & Connections

- **Building Connections**: Connect with other users, including classmates, alumni, recruiters, and professionals.
- **Messaging**: Use the in-app messaging feature to reach out to potential employers or mentors.
- **Networking Events**: RSVP to events (webinars, career fairs, networking meetups) hosted within the app.
- **Alumni Network**: Leverage the alumni network feature to get advice from past students and professionals in your field.

3. Job Search

- **Job Listings**: Search for jobs based on location, industry, role, and keywords.
- **Job Alerts**: Set up job alerts to receive notifications of new job postings based on your preferences.
- **Job Applications**: Apply directly through the app with your saved resume or profile information.
- **Company Profiles**: Research companies you're interested in, read about their culture, values, and available job opportunities.

4. Resume & Portfolio

- **Resume Builder**: Create and upload a detailed resume using the app's resume builder. UMass Global offers career services (https://www.umassglobal.edu/current-students/career-development) and Big Interview (https://www.biginterview.com/) to help with resume writing.
- **Portfolio Upload**: Showcase your work, projects, or any other media files that demonstrate your skills.
- **Resume Sharing**: Share your resume directly with recruiters or companies through the app.
- **Feedback**: Get feedback on your resume or portfolio from mentors or professional contacts.

5. Skill Development

- **Learning Resources**: Access career development resources like courses, workshops, and articles.
- **Skill Badges**: Earn digital badges to showcase new skills or certifications you've acquired.
- **Webinars & Workshops**: Attend virtual learning sessions hosted by companies and professionals.

6. Interview Prep

- **Interview Tips**: Get advice on how to prepare for interviews, including common questions and techniques. UMass Global offers career services Big Interview (https://www.biginterview.com/) to help with interview preparation.
- **Mock Interviews**: Participate in mock interview sessions to practice your responses and get feedback.
- **Salary Insights**: Research salary ranges for different roles and industries to negotiate better offers.

7. Employer Insights & Employer Profiles

- **Company Culture**: Read about company culture, values, and the type of employees they are looking for.
- **Employer Reviews**: See feedback from current or past employees on work-life balance, compensation, and career growth.
- **Recruiter Connections**: Connect directly with recruiters and hiring managers from companies you're interested in.

8. Job Match Algorithm

- **Job Matching**: The app uses your profile data (skills, experience, location preferences) to suggest job opportunities tailored to you.
- **Match Score**: See a match score that indicates how well a job fits your profile, helping you prioritize applications.

9. Career Insights

- **Industry Trends**: Get updates on the latest trends in your field and job market statistics.
- **Career Path Guidance**: Learn about possible career paths and progression in your industry with advice from experienced professionals.

- **Networking Opportunities**: Get suggestions for people to connect with based on shared career interests.

10. Notifications & Alerts

- **Job Notifications**: Receive alerts when new jobs that match your profile are posted.
- **Event Reminders**: Get reminders for upcoming networking events, job fairs, or webinars you're interested in.
- **Profile Update Alerts**: Be notified when someone views or interacts with your profile.

11. Privacy & Settings

- **Privacy Settings**: Control who can view your profile and personal information. You can make parts of your profile visible to recruiters only.
- **Notification Preferences**: Customize which notifications you want to receive (job matches, messages, etc.).
- **Account Settings**: Update your personal information, password, and other preferences from the settings menu.

Tips

- **Complete Your Profile**: A complete profile increases your visibility and improves your job matches.
- **Be Active**: Regularly update your profile, apply for jobs, and engage in networking activities.
- **Reach Out**: Don't hesitate to message recruiters or mentors for advice and opportunities.
- **Attend Events**: Participate in virtual and in-person career events to expand your network.
- **Showcase Your Work**: Upload samples of your work to stand out from other applicants.