

Quick Start Guide - Career Advisor on Windows

What You'll Build

Three AI-powered career applications:

1. **Resume Polisher** - Improve your resume sections
2. **Cover Letter Generator** - Create customized cover letters
3. **Career Advisor** - Get personalized career advice

All with **both OpenAI and Claude AI** support!

Quick Setup (5 Steps)

Step 1: Create Project Folder

1. Create folder: C:\career_advisor
2. Open PowerShell in that folder

Step 2: Set Up Virtual Environment

```
powershell

# Create virtual environment
python -m venv .venv

# Activate it (you'll see (.venv) in your terminal)
.venv\Scripts\Activate.ps1
```

If you get an error, run this first:

```
powershell

Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope CurrentUser
```

Step 3: Install Packages

```
powershell

pip install gradio==5.12.0 anthropic openai python-dotenv
```

Step 4: Create .env File

1. In your project folder, create a file named: `.env`
2. Open it with Notepad
3. Add your keys (get them from links below):

```
OPENAI_API_KEY=sk-proj-your-key-here  
ANTHROPIC_API_KEY=sk-ant-your-key-here
```

Get API Keys:

- OpenAI: <https://platform.openai.com/api-keys>
- Claude: <https://console.anthropic.com/>

Step 5: Create Python Files

Create these 5 files in your project folder:

- `career_advisor.py` - Main career advice app
- `cover_letter.py` - Cover letter generator
- `resume_polisher.py` - Resume improvement tool
- `run_all_apps.py` - Launch all apps at once
- `test_setup.py` - Test your setup

Copy the code from the artifacts I provided into each file!

✅ Test Your Setup

```
powershell  
  
# Make sure .venv is activated first!  
python test_setup.py
```

This will check:

- ✓ Python version
- ✓ Installed packages
- ✓ .env file exists
- ✓ API keys are loaded
- ✓ API connections work

Running the Applications

Option 1: Run Individual Apps

```
powershell

# Resume Polisher (port 7862)
python resume_polisher.py

# Cover Letter Generator (port 7861)
python cover_letter.py

# Career Advisor (port 7860)
python career_advisor.py
```

Then open in browser:

- <http://127.0.0.1:7862> (Resume Polisher)
- <http://127.0.0.1:7861> (Cover Letter)
- <http://127.0.0.1:7860> (Career Advisor)

Option 2: Run All Apps at Once

```
powershell

python run_all_apps.py
```

This starts all three apps on different ports!

To stop: Press **Ctrl+C** in PowerShell

Your Project Structure

```
C:\career_advisor\
├── .venv\           # Virtual environment (auto-created)
├── .env             # Your API keys (create this!)
├── career_advisor.py # Career advice app
├── cover_letter.py   # Cover letter generator
├── resume_polisher.py # Resume polisher
├── run_all_apps.py   # Run all apps
└── test_setup.py     # Test script
```

Usage Tips

Resume Polisher

- Polish your resume **section by section** for best results
- Use the optional "Polish Instructions" to be specific
- Example: "Make it more quantitative, add metrics"

Cover Letter Generator

- Provide complete job descriptions for better results
- Your resume should match what you actually did
- The AI won't add fake experiences

Career Advisor

- Be honest about your current skills
- Paste the full job description
- Get specific, actionable advice

Troubleshooting

"Module not found" error

```
powershell

# Make sure .venv is activated! You should see (.venv) in terminal
.venv\Scripts\Activate.ps1

# Then install again
pip install gradio anthropic openai python-dotenv
```

API Key not working

- Make sure `.env` file is in the same folder as your `.py` files
- No spaces around the `=` sign in `.env`
- Check you copied the entire key (they're long!)

"Rate limit exceeded"

- **OpenAI:** Add credits at <https://platform.openai.com/billing>
- **Claude:** Check usage at <https://console.anthropic.com/>

Port already in use

- Close other applications using that port
 - Or change the port number in the `.launch()` line
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API Costs (Approximate)

OpenAI (using gpt-4o-mini)

- Input: \$0.15 per 1M tokens
- Output: \$0.60 per 1M tokens
- **~500-1000 requests for \$1**

Claude (using Sonnet 4)

- Input: \$3 per 1M tokens
- Output: \$15 per 1M tokens
- **~100-200 requests for \$1**

Both require prepaid credits. Start with \$5-10 for testing.

Next Steps

1. **Test with real data** - Use your actual resume and job descriptions
 2. **Customize prompts** - Edit the prompt text in the Python files
 3. **Adjust settings** - Change `temperature` (creativity) and `max_tokens` (length)
 4. **Share** - Add `share=True` in `.launch()` to get a public link
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Additional Resources

- Gradio Documentation: <https://gradio.app/docs>
- OpenAI API Docs: <https://platform.openai.com/docs>

- Claude API Docs: <https://docs.anthropic.com/>
 - Python dotenv: <https://pypi.org/project/python-dotenv/>
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🌟 Pro Tips

1. **Save API costs:** Start with OpenAI's gpt-4o-mini
 2. **Better quality:** Switch to Claude for important applications
 3. **Test prompts:** Use the apps with different prompt styles
 4. **Iterate:** Polish resume sections multiple times
 5. **Version control:** Save different versions of outputs
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🆘 Need Help?

If something doesn't work:

1. Run `python test_setup.py` first
2. Check that `.venv` is activated
3. Verify `.env` file has correct API keys
4. Make sure you have internet connection
5. Check API credits/billing

Happy job hunting! 🎉