# Career Assignment

**Get started!**

1. Join #career\_help in Slack
2. If you do not already have a professional email address to use for job applications and when corresponding with your professional network, create one:
   1. Gmail is a good default- time to retire your hotmail and aol accounts from middle school!
   2. Your email should be a variation of your first name and last name: [*firstnamelastname@gmail.com*](mailto:firstnamelastname@gmail.com)
   3. Underscores, periods, initials, numbers, and any other variation of a professional name or nickname is fine
3. Complete the careers priority worksheet (below)

**Career priorities**

From the list below, rank your top 10 priorities in a company. Focus on the things that are truly important to you, rather than things that would be nice to have. *Note: this is just to get you thinking about things! If you aren’t sure yet whether something is a priority, that’s ok. We’ll talk about these benefits more throughout your career lessons.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Compensation * Large company/team size * Medium company/ team size * Small company/team size * Name/brand recognition * No travel required * Some travel required * On/near public transit * Remote option * Specific field/focus * 401(k) or other retirement matching | * Annual bonus option * Education stipend * Equity (stock options, RSUs, etc.) * Flexible working hours * Health insurance * Other insurance (life, dental, vision, etc.) * Transportation benefits * Clear path for growth * Internal training/ shadow programs * Mentorship opportunities * Paid parental leave | * Family planning benefits (IVF, egg freezing, adoption assistance, etc.) * Daycare on site/ nearby * Strong diversity and inclusion values * Affinity, interest- based, or social groups for staff * Short commute * Relocation benefits/stipend * Snacks/meals * Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Top 10 priorities (in order of importance):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Clear path for growth** 2. **Health Insurance** 3. **Compensation** 4. **Remote option** 5. **Large-to-medium company/team size** | 1. **Strong diversity and inclusion values** 2. **Short commute** 3. **Specific field/focus** 4. **Some travel possible (but not required)** 5. **Name/brand recognition** |

**Start to explore options**

Next, start to think about your dream company(ies) or field(s). It’s ok if you don’t have a good idea of this yet- what are the top 1-3 companies or fields that come to mind? It’s ok to think big, and it’s ok to list companies or fields you don’t know a lot about yet- this is the starting point for you to begin to dive deeper.

**Dream company: Google, Tesla, Amazon**

**Dream field: future technology-related**

Then, open up a search engine, and enter “companies like (company 1)” or “(field 1) companies.” For example, if you were interested in Lambda School and/or edtech, you would search for “companies like Lambda School,” or “edtech companies.”

Companies similar to your dream company, or in your dream field:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Unilever (like Google)** 2. **Appfolio (like Google)** 3. **NIO (like Tesla)** | 1. **BYD Company (like Tesla)** 2. **eBay (like Amazon)** 3. **Newegg (like Amazon)** |

**Next steps**

Now you have a starting point for your career research!

From here, you can go to each company’s website, search employee reviews on Glassdoor.com (one of your best friends as a searcher!), and find articles online to see whether any of these companies align with your priorities that you ranked above. This is how you begin your search!

We recommend tracking your research in Huntr so it’s always easily accessible. You can sign up for a free Huntr account through Lambda School [here](https://app.huntr.co/lambda-school/signup).

While we do not recommend applying to jobs until you are close to completing the Lambda coursework, we ***do*** highly recommend researching career pathways and talking to people who work in your field early on. By doing this, you’ll have a strong understanding of what skills (both technical and professional) you need to get a job in your field, and this will give you a major leg up in your job search once you’re ready to start applying!

You can expect to cover all aspects of job searching, from networking to applying to interviewing, throughout the careers curriculum. For those of you eager to learn more about career development and job searching in the tech field now, you can find a huge range of resources, tools, and checklists in the [Job Search Handbook](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1qVtnwbTY2XqzA83OLSbKVHIGRg13nMekEmbyhFJF_Ak/edit?usp=sharing).

# Technology Checklist

1. System Requirements.

What operating system are you using? **macOS Mojave**

[Determine the type and speed of your processor](https://www.computerhope.com/issues/ch000046.htm)

What is the type and speed of your processor? **1.4 GHz Intel Core i5**

[Determine the size of your hard drive](https://www.computerhope.com/issues/ch000497.htm)

What is the size of your hard drive? **250GB**

How much available space do you have? **150GB**

Look back through the minimum requirements for a system in the curriculum to be sure your system is going to work.

\_\_**x**\_\_ Yes, my system meets the minimum requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, my system doesn’t meet the minimum requirements. You need to upgrade your system.

2. Test your microphone, speakers and camera using Zoom

[Zoom](http://zoom.us)

Choose "Start a Meeting" and select “with Video On" to open up a Zoom session.

Choose "Test Speaker and Microphone"

Did both your speakers and microphone work? **yes**

Turn on video

Does your video display properly? **yes**

Is the lighting appropriate in your room so that others can see your face? **yes**

Do you need to organize or remove anything from your background? **no**

3. Typing WPM

[Take a Typing Test](https://www.keyhero.com/free-typing-test/)

How many words per minute can you type on average? **99**

If this is not 45 wpm or above, what is your plan for practicing typing? **N/A**

4. Search Engine Skills

Google offers a fun game to test your search engine skills. Try [A Google a Day](http://www.agoogleaday.com/)

Try all four questions. How did you do? **There were only three questions. I received a score of 2048 points.**

If you struggled to answer the questions, what is your plan for increasing your search skills? **N/A**

5. Evaluate Web Resources

Choose a website resource that you think is a good source of information for your track.

What website did you choose? **stackexchange.com**

Look through the questions presented on [Evaluating Internet Resources](https://www.library.georgetown.edu/tutorials/research-guides/evaluating-internet-content)

Is the site you chose credible? **I think based on the criteria set out on the website, it would not be considered super credible.**

Why or why not? **The answers provided come from the general public, which may include some experts but also include novice-to-intermediate coders, so not all answers will be equally reliable or its source credible. Accuracy may be determined based on whether the answers provided actually produce the desired outcome of the question-poser; however, it may not be the most efficient or the best one. Mechanisms such as up- and down-voting are in place to boost the best answers. Some questions are answered by many people; others are ignored. Most questions and answers are at least on-topic, and people are generally helpful.**

6. Understanding copyrights, licenses, and plagiarism in a digital environment.

Just a few questions to test your knowledge. Answer for the country you plan to be working in. Use your internet research skills to find these answers.

1) Can a website be copyrighted? **Yes, website material can be copyrighted in the US.**

2) What is a good source of copyright free images? [**https://stocksnap.io/**](https://stocksnap.io/)

3) Do you have to register your work or is copyright automatic? **Copyright law grants copyright protection automatically when it is created.**

7. Installing and Updating Software

Are all of the programs installed on your computer up to date? **Yes**

For security and reliability reasons be sure all recent updates have been installed.

8. Virus and Malware Protection

What virus and malware protection software are you using on your computer? **The security is built directly in OS X. If necessary, I will purchase malwarebytes.**

Is this software updating regularly? **yes**

9. Managing Digital Files

What method are you using for file backup? **iCloud/Google**

Do you utilize a file naming convention and folder structure on your computer? **no**

If yes, describe it.

If no, how do you plan to organize your files for Lambda School. **Create new folders where needed (desktop, Google Drive) and create a naming convention based on type and number of files.**

10. Command Line

Do you know how to access the command line on your system? **yes**

If no, what is your plan for learning how to do this? **N/A**

11. Capture, Annotate and Share Screenshots

Using the screen capture tool of your choice to take a picture of a program on your computer, add annotations and save the file. Copy and paste the picture in this file.

