## Job Search Overview

**Job Search Strategies:**

* Positioning for Entry-Level Roles: Focus on building a solid resume, gaining experience, adding relevant projects, and researching industry and company preferences.
* Creating a Job Search Plan: Set clear goals & timeline, and continuously assess your strategy.
* Internships: Understand the importance of internships for practical experience, networking, and enhancing your resume.
* Future Job Trends: Stay updated on emerging technologies and in-demand skills to align your career goals. Read professional tech news and target company press.

**Networking:**

* Active Networking: Attend industry events, join professional groups, and connect with professionals to expand your network.
* Maintaining Your Network: Regularly update connections on your progress, offer value, and support others in your network. Your cohort mates now are your future colleagues and network.
* Leveraging Networking: Use connections to seek informational interviews, find job openings, and gain referrals for job applications.

**Application and Hiring Process:**

* Standing Out in Applications: Tailor your resume and cover letter for each job, and highlight relevant experiences. Optimize your resume with keywords from job descriptions to pass automated screening tools and HR screening.
* Content Creation and Personal Branding: Showcase skills and strengths through content creation on platforms like LinkedIn while maintaining a professional online presence.
* Portfolio Creation: Showcase projects & skills on GitHub and personal websites. Have strong storytelling and focus on case studies, walkthroughs, and multimedia.
* Preparing for Interviews: Practice common behavioral and technical interview questions, use SMART interview prep, highlight transferable skills, research thoroughly to understand tools, tech, trends, & challenges, and maintain a positive attitude during interviews.
* Salary Expectations: Research market rates and prepare for discussions about expected salary.
* Referral Requests: Build genuine relationships with employees at target companies for referrals.

**Additional Tips:**

* International Students: Research visa requirements, highlight unique perspectives, languages, and cultural knowledge as assets, and network with professionals with similar backgrounds.
* Internships Availability: Look for internship programs with flexible start dates or remote options, and apply broadly to multiple opportunities. Consider “create your own” options by approaching smaller organizations that may not have formal internship programs.