It’s important to prepare and focus on your goals and objectives once you graduate from college. I have prepared a few examples of jobs that are obtainable out of college and what I can do to realistically prepare for these jobs. I also have prepared a few examples of jobs that are obtainable 5-8 years out of college and what I can do to begin to prepare for those jobs.

The first job is [Zebra Software Developer](https://jobs-zebra.icims.com/jobs/37745/firmware-software-engineer-%28new-recent-graduates%29/job?mode=job&iis=Indeed&iisn=Indeed.com&mobile=false&width=1250&height=500&bga=true&needsRedirect=false&jan1offset=-360&jun1offset=-300). This job is for recent graduates so it’s unsurprising that I already meet a lot of the requirements. I have a very good background in Java which it requires and a decent understand of C++. Some of the other requirements are “working understanding of windows drivers and api calls”. I can focus my studies on this a bit. On a personal level I have an understanding of how drivers work and how to update etc, but could certainly research this topic more. The other requirement is “effective verbal and written communication skills”. I have taken many writing classes in college and a speech class. I also have worked at State farm corporate south as an insurance sales person and operational support lead for 4 years so I have developed a lot of business etiquette and lead and presented many 20+ person meetings.

The second job is [IOS Developer Creative Services](https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Creative-Sites-Media,-Inc./jobs/Full-Stack-a471a431fd47ff6f?sjdu=QwrRXKrqZ3CNX5W-O9jEvRQls7y2xdBHzhqWkvhd5FEnZIZafCpT7ohaBihnz5VajXIyCMUZErScDYeZaxYopoSEp0ByBNsSz7vZzye-Sd36WEcED3CeZ8clHRyjHo-3). This is a job for mobile developing for IOS. I have taken an android developing class but not IOS. I would need to learn PHP and IOS. This job requires “back-end to front-end development with careful attention to detail security and UX”. This tells me the developer is responsible for just about everything and this is likely a small operation. Unless the pay is good I would not take this job.

The third job [State farm Object Oriented Developer](https://statefarm.csod.com/ats/careersite/JobDetails.aspx?site=1&id=1328&jtsrc=www.indeed.com&jtsrcid=1789&jtrfr=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.indeed.com%2F&_jtochash=Ew4y4qT2l1KDubBc6A1k&_jtocprof=8WNfxkziSWESxc6yF90RLA_9aRAYt-fa). It requires 5 years of Java mobile application development. I already have 3+ but it wouldn’t hurt to start with another job and get 1-2 years experience with Java development before applying. “Works closely with business partners to understand business requirements to design quality technical solutions” Working at state farm for 4 years I have a business understanding of how a lot of these applications will be used and by what types of workers so I am in a good position to apply.

These [Engine Electronics Software Engineer](https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Cyient/jobs/Engine-Electronic-Software-Engineer-60eb5422c5f5c45d?sjdu=QwrRXKrqZ3CNX5W-O9jEvdvXBNu9-93ULRjJ3KJdMAPZd_LapDQ5m2P_FHsfhi27onWNxUVPC22qETpESg8OKVlvCMNognfZgv2G7xcB4iw), [Rockwell-Collins Senior Developer](https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Rockwell-Collins/jobs/Senior-Software-Engineer-Relo-Cedar-Rapid-6c07715b47b37449?sjdu=SfMUt5iEa-FAvTVpGSF5YPJW-cbt6TQf5Xjy0yGf4Md78CznTu4nX14OLbwXGDSnvanWwk3xXg0exTPcUAcTlKoWBYRv_bWApV-hLb4KSC9RylOyk4rvPpAKWQnbtuSUzLClz4W0Atrk4-vQanmTYfdHtLLsfI8blwFEe8S0d8qu2S8dHyG69qnxi3VONSeY), [Claro group analytical developer](https://www.indeed.com/cmp/The-Claro-Gruop/jobs/Analytic-Developer-7887933db32559e6?sjdu=QwrRXKrqZ3CNX5W-O9jEvdLiopbSdo5GeMRi44Du7Za3wX0mQwPDKwZcWnRrL0lRyUvirRDgPR00cfxKG2Ry3g), jobs all require 5 years experience minimum to qualify. The first two are java/linux which I am familiar with. I would just need to focus on what I have already been doing and hone my java skills by working for the first 3-5 years with java and application development. The third job revolves around SQL database which I have some experience with because my father is a database manager and has shown me how a lot of that works. I would need to be formally trained and work in a job that uses SQL before applying for this job.

Overall all of these jobs require some things that I already have completed, some things I have knowledge of but need to develop more experience, and a few of them require me to branch out and learn a new language. My best bet in achieving the job I want is to focus on my Java skills and learn PHP and SQL. Based on our IT 191 class Python seems a good language to learn as well. I need to work on my business etiquette and communication skills and I need to graduate with a high GPA so I am competitive in the field.