

# NAVIGATING NETWORKING

#### START WITH WHO YOU KNOW

Professors, classmates, fellow Sigma Chi's, TAs, internship colleagues, club leaders — all are part of your network. Ask for warm intros before reaching out cold.

### JOIN COMMUNITIES

Career centers, student orgs, alumni groups, professional associations, and volunteer groups are great places to start. Join your local Sigma Chi alumni chapter or whatever City/Area you will be moving to. Attend events, both virtual and in-person.

## HAVE A PERSONAL PITCH

Know how to introduce yourself in 30 seconds: who you are, what you're studying, what you're interested in.

### **BE CURIOUS, NOT OPPORTUNISTIC**

Ask thoughtful questions. Don't immediately ask for jobs or favors. Focus on learning, not just "getting something."

## FOLLOW UP

Send a quick thank-you message or share a relevant update later. Stay in touch 2–3 times a year with a simple note or article share.

### HOW TO SEND A MESSAGE WHEN CONNECTING

- Always add a note (especially when you don't know the person directly).
- Keep it short, friendly, and authentic.
- Don't be afraid to follow up once (after 7–10 days).
- Comment on their posts to stay on their radar.
- Share your own updates or insights occasionally it shows initiative.
- Don't underestimate student-to-student networking. Your peers will be future professionals too.
- Don't let rejection diminish your positive mindset keep trying various contact methods like LinkedIn, email, phone calls, in-person events, etc.

## SAMPLE CONNECTION REQUEST

Hi [Name],

I'm a [Your Major] student at [Your University] interested in [Shared Interest/Field]. I saw you work at [Company] and would love to connect to learn more about your career path. Optional: Are you available for a 15 minute call next week ?

### WHO SHOULD I ADD ON LINKEDIN?

- Alumni from your school
- Sigma Chi brothers undergraduates and alumni
- People in roles or companies you're interested in.
- Speakers or panelists from events.
- Classmates and professors.

[Your Name]

Best.