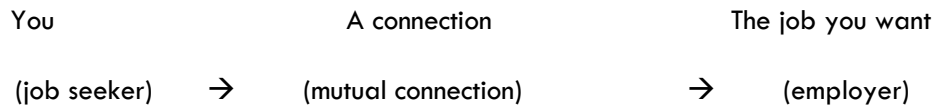


# Strategies for networking

Consider the following strategies for networking:



- Over 50% of jobs positions are found through networking.
- To begin networking, think about who you already know:
  - Network in your classes - your instructors may have connections with individuals, groups and organizations in their field.
  - Network with your classmates - These are people who may enter the same field that you are interested in.
  - Join student organizations and participate with campus events
- Find Professional associations relevant to your field
- Those can be found on the Associations page from OC Career Cafe <https://www.occareercafe.com/associations/>  
AND  
The Directory of Professional Associations: (<https://directoryofassociations.com/>) has over 35,000 local, regional, and national professional associations. You can filter to sort by type, category, size, and state.
- Network while volunteering, internship, and through part-time and full-time employment. Consider that fellow colleagues and supervisors could be individuals who write you letters of recommendation in the future (this also applies to professors)
- Networking at events, such as career fairs or networking events is also essential in continuing to build relationships with people in the field you want to enter.
- More than just about who you know, it is about who knows you. Networking is also about building your brand by conveying to professionals and potential mentors about who you are, your goals, your interests, experience, and skills. The more you are looking for opportunities to network, the greater chance you may have to find professional opportunities you may not find on job search and talk about who you are, You never know who you may meet.
- When creating a brand, ask yourself: What do I think will fulfill you? How do you define success? What do you want employers to remember about you?

Maintaining contact after you have met with a person is essential. Many people forget to continue to connect back with their newly established network. By maintaining contact, the career professional will get to know you more and your working abilities. They will also be more likely to think of you when a career opportunity opens up or if you need a referral from someone in the industry



El Camino College

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