

# BUILDING YOUR COMPETITIVE EDGE



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

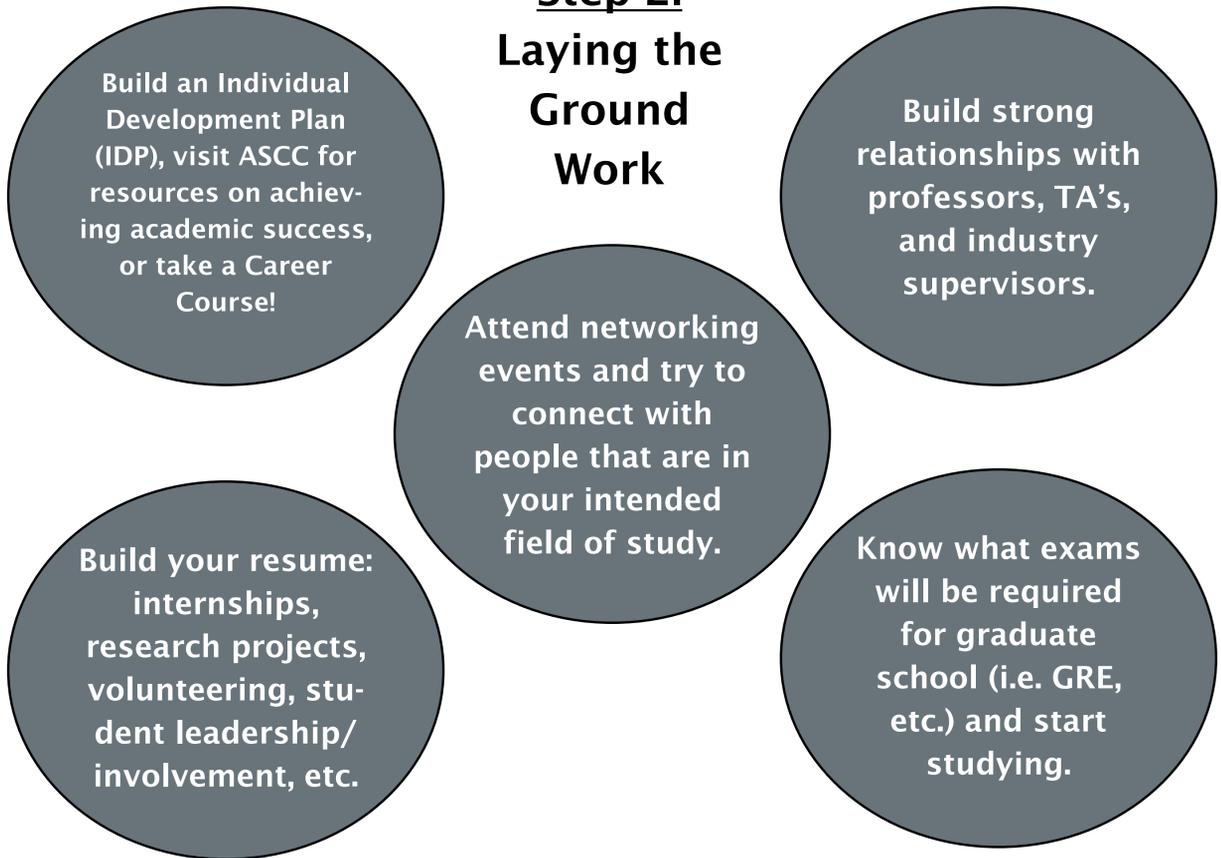
What sets you **apart** from the rest of your peers?  
What makes you an **asset** to the program you are applying to?  
What is your **competitive edge**?

## Step 1:

Are you considering graduate school? If yes, the time to start preparing is NOW! Talk to an advisor regardless of your academic standing or GPA on how you can start preparing for the next step in your education.

- First-Year**—Start thinking about what career you want and what level of education you will need. Work with an advisor to build a schedule that enhances your goal.
- Sophomore**—Start to hone your career goals and make sure you are taking advantage of resources at the university to boost academic success and career planning. You can start Step 2 if you are ready.
- Junior**—Decide what schools you will be applying to, being mindful of admissions deadlines and requirements, and follow Step 2 by your first semester at the latest. Meet with your academic advisor to make sure you are on track to graduate.
- Senior**—Prepare to submit application materials to graduate programs. Follow Step 3 no later than the beginning of your first semester and take advantage of early application deadlines.

## Step 2: Laying the Ground Work



## Step 3: Apply for Graduate School

