

Career readiness of college graduates is of critical importance in higher education, in the labor market, and in the public arena. Yet, up until now, "career readiness" has been undefined, making it difficult for leaders in higher education, work force development, and public policy to work together effectively to ensure the career readiness of today's graduates.

In accordance with its mission to lead the community focused on the employment of the new college graduate, the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), through a task force comprised of representatives from both the higher education and corporate sides, has developed a definition and identified competencies associated with career readiness for the new college graduate.

COMPETENCIES:

Critical Thinking/Problem Solving: Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome

USING THE DEFINITION AND COMPETENCIES

How do the definition and competencies help those focused on ensuring new college graduates have the skills necessary to enter and become part of a strong, productive work force?

The definition and competencies provide for development of strategies and tactics that will close the gap between higher education and the world of work. They lay the foundation for the work necessary to prepare college students for successful entry into the work force by:

- Providing a common vocabulary and framework to use when discussing career readiness metrics on campus, within employing organizations, and as part of national public policy.
- Establishing defined competencies as guidelines when educating and advising students.
- Establishing defined competencies to identify and assess when hiring the college educated.

NOW AVAILABLE: CAREER READINESS RESOURCES

NACE members have generously shared a variety of resources designed to support your efforts in integrating career readiness into your programs and services. You can access those materials and measurements at www.naceweb.org/career-readiness/competencies/career-readiness-resources.



The National Association of Colleges and Employers

Advancing college talent together

Established in 1956, the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) is the leading source of information on the employment of the college educated.

In carrying out its mission to lead the community of professional focused on the employment of the college educated by providing access to relevant knowledge, resources, insight, and relationship. NACE connects more than 7,600 college career services professionals, a nearly 2,000 college and university national leaders, and more than 3,000 HR/affiliated professional focused on university relationship and recruiting, and business affiliate organizations.

Among college and university, NACE represents more than 50 percent of all four-year college and university in the United States, and 98 percent of all research university. Approximately 30 percent of four-year public institutions contain at least a NACE member.

On the employer side, NACE member include mid-size and large national and global organizations, ranging from Fortune 500 organizations to start-up companies to government agencies. NACE employer member represent a wide range of industries, including finance, energy, retail, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, insurance, consulting services (accounting, engineering, computer), government and nonprofit, and more.

Headquartered in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, NACE forecasts trends in the job market; research, analysis, and reporting on college graduate discipline, degree level, and type of school through the First-Destination Survey; monitor legal issues in employment, the job search, and hiring practice; and provide college and employer professional with professional standards and ethical framework which both groups can work together to benefit the college-educated candidate. NACE provides its member with benchmark and metrics; research; resources, including a variety of articles for college graduate, a quarterly journal, and a bi-weekly newsletter; and professional development opportunities.

www.naceweb.org

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