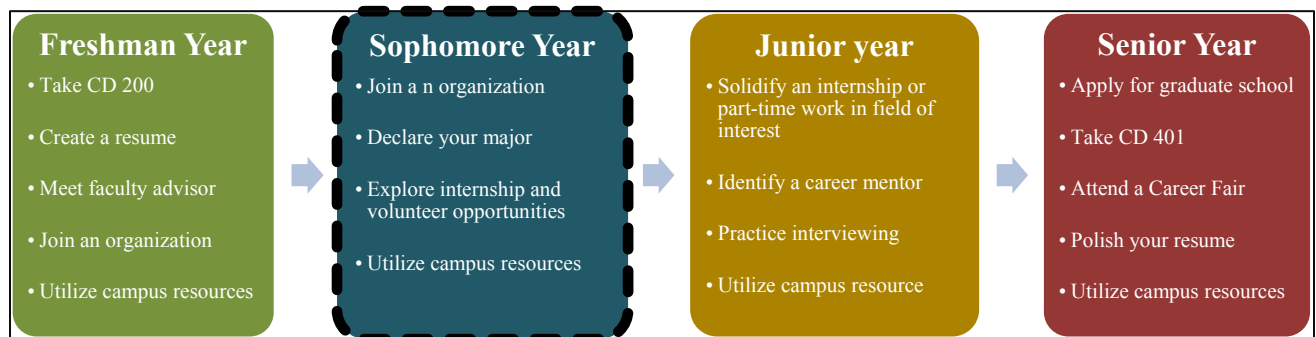

Dear Parent,

One year down, can you believe it? I bet it feels great to know your son or daughter has finished an entire academic year. We hope that we have served you and your student well over the past year at Career and Counseling Services.

If your Saint still hasn't selected a major, don't panic. Encourage them to talk to their advisors, professors or our career advisors about careers. If they haven't take CD 200 yet, encourage them to take it. This class will help them with their own self-awareness, career decision making, and professionalism. Suggest they do some "informational interviewing" with people who are working in careers they may be interested in. Your son or daughter can contact Career and Counseling Services for names of alumni and others to talk to who may be a guide or mentor for your student in his or her chosen career path. Also, be accepting if your Saint chooses a major that does not seem to have a direct tie to a career. Majors in English, history or other degrees can prepare students for the work world with their transferrable skills. Strong oral and written communication skills are a high priority for employers as well as the research, analysis and problem solving skills developed in these majors. We want them to succeed just as much as you do, and we will be intentional in helping your student identify their strengths, skills, and goals to use upon graduation.

We are now at the second check-point in the career spectrum:



We hope that your son or daughter has have found a niche at Aquinas through some type of extra-curricular activities that can relate to his or her major. Challenge your student to start thinking about how the skills he or she is acquiring in these positions can be transferred to a resume. Ask about what new skills he or she has obtained. Also, now is also a great time to explore intentional volunteer and internship opportunities. Encourage your son or daughter to utilize the campus resources to find these opportunities- especially Career and Counseling Services!

We are very excited to see what the next year has to offer for your Saint.

Sincerely,

Career & Counseling Services

