



CareerNOW Application Checklist

The Native American Support Program (NASP) – University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), a division of UIC Student Affairs oversees the CareerNOW initiative. CareerNOW provides coaching, financial assistance and opportunities to UIC undergraduate students to prepare them for their professional careers. Selected undergraduate students will be encouraged to participate in NASP, UIC campus, and community activities. To apply, students must first submit a Department of Education (DOE) application, which must be renewed annually. Submission of DOE application does not guarantee acceptance in all CareerNOW opportunities. Certain opportunities require an additional application or requirements, please see below. Student's interested need to contact a NASP representative at nasp@uic.edu.

Alternative Spring Break (additional application required): NASP coordinates with a tribal nation that surrounds the city of Chicago to develop a 3-day overnight field trip over spring break. Student will be exposed to tribal career professions, discuss with tribal leaders about their academic and career experiences, and learn the needs of their community. Travel, food, and lodging are covered.

Academic & Career Coaching: NASP has an Academic and Career Coach available to prepare students for their future careers. Students are able to get one-on-one advising to work on their LinkedIn accounts, resume, and cover letter and create business cards and interview readiness assistance. Preparing for a career profession (internship, graduate school, or job) can be daunting, but we have a coach available to assist you.

Conference Participation (additional application required): NASP works with CareerNow participants to identify conferences or training opportunities for students that support their educational, cultural, and professional career goals. NASP provides financial assistance to cover travel, food, and lodging.

Gathering of Native American Students: NASP invites college and high school juniors and seniors in the Chicagoland/Midwest area to participate in an annual one-day event focused on building mentorship and collaborative relationships among students interested in or pursuing their higher education degrees. Through hands-on interactive exercises, students will be able to share their perspectives on higher education and converse about what it means to be an indigenous leader.

Indigenous Professional Networking Social: NASP invites college students and indigenous professionals in the Chicagoland/Midwest area to participate in a night of social networking. Students and professionals will have the opportunity to socialize with each other over good food and fun activities.

Job Shadowing (additional application required): NASP works with CareerNow participants to identify potential host to job shadow. Job shadows provide an opportunity for a student to work alongside another individual, and gain insight into their particular work area. Both the student and host are compensated for their participation.

Professional Dinners: NASP hosts Bi-monthly dinners for UIC students on and off campus and invites a professional indigenous representative working in the Chicago area to speak about their current, past, and future academic and career trajectory. Food and refreshments provided.

US 491. Internship Experience in Urban Studies (additional application required): NASP provides placements for students registered in the US 491 course into urban indigenous serving community organizations. Fieldwork required. Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or above and approval of the UPA program and completion of 12 hours of credit towards the UPA degree.

Resource Referral: Based on the needs of the CareerNow participant, NASP provides campus and community resource referrals, including the UIC Career Center office and the California Indian Manpower Consortium Chicago Based Operations.