This is Colgate Success.
At Colgate University, students learn how to thrive in work and life as critical thinkers. Graduates have confidence, perspective, and remarkable academic preparation. That is the value of a Colgate liberal arts education, where the outcome is reflected in one’s income and an ability to grow, lead, prosper, and change society. These are the skills demanded by the top employers, graduate schools, and professional schools. They have come to expect them from those who go to Colgate, which has a scale and curriculum unlike any in America.

This is a place where students feel the support of the entire campus and alumni famous for their passion and willingness to help. Students experience extraordinary fellowships, internships, and access to faculty who are invested in their future.

Colgate students earn the most competitive jobs and graduate school placements because of everything they can leverage — a rigorous academic experience, extensive support, opportunities to explore careers, and engagement in their own life choices. They learn what it takes to help, to compete, to win. This is Colgate success.
The success of students after college is directly tied to the decisions they make during it, and that requires much more than completing a checklist. This is about culture. Career support is personal. Colgate distinguishes itself with an entirely different level of commitment to students’ career development and outcomes. Colgate supports students as they find their way and their voice. The four-year plan engages students early, embeds support where they live and learn, and tailors it to the individual. Students can participate in exploration, self-reflection, and action planning throughout their Colgate education. The plan leverages robust resources to make gaining hands-on experience and building professional skills accessible. It grows each year — just as students do — adapting to what they need.

By partnering with students, Colgate makes the career process less stressful and more manageable, by guiding students on how and when to take certain steps — all with an eye to what employers, graduate schools, and professional schools expect. The entire University is committed to helping students know what questions to ask, where to get answers, and how to make smart choices to set them up for a full, successful life.

THE APPROACH

Career support means building a relationship, not just a résumé. This philosophy is at the heart of Colgate’s four-year career development plan.
THE PATHWAY

First-years begin by cataloging their strengths, interests, values, and identities with career advisers, and exploring broad career areas through alumni-led panels and informational interviews. Students practice basic career skills, like writing a résumé.

Sophomores grow their awareness of industries and roles, working directly with a career adviser and participating in alumni programming, such as SophoMOR Connections. Developing networking skills and learning how to apply to internships helps students land a professional experience for the summer.

Reflecting on the last two years, juniors hone their interests and focus their efforts on pursuing a summer internship or research experience, often supported by alumni. Advisers coach students on strengthening interviewing and networking skills. Students take advantage of opportunities provided through Colgate to build industry-based skills and knowledge.

Seniors focus on applying to graduate or professional schools, fellowships, and employment. Leveraging the knowledge and skills they built throughout their time at Colgate, they are poised to evaluate offers for a fit with their academic and career interests and personal needs — and ultimately, to launch their postgraduate career with confidence.

The four-year plan is centered on helping students build strength within eight essential career development areas.

1. ABILITY TO TELL ONE’S STORY
   Begin to develop a strong sense of self that includes identity, strengths, interests, values, and the ability to communicate their story.

2. EXPLORATION AND DISCERNMENT
   Conduct initial career exploration research and begin identifying areas of interest and career areas to rule out.

3. APPLICATION MATERIALS
   Learn the function and form of writing compelling documents: résumés, cover letters, personal statements.

4. NETWORKING
   Network strategically, utilizing Colgate’s community, to advance career goals.

5. ACTION PLANNING
   Activate a plan to advance clarity of career interests and competitiveness for upcoming experiences.

6. INTERVIEWING
   Develop and utilize interview skills. Prepare for interviews and gain an ability to tell one’s story.

7. OFFER ANALYSIS
   Evaluate and analyze offers for employment or graduate school admission.

8. POST-COLLEGIATE LIFE
   Prepare for post-Colgate life and consider how to stay connected and contribute to society.
Colgate creates constant opportunities for students to understand how to connect their academic interests to a fulfilling career direction — one that leads them to potential internships, jobs, graduate school, or service. The place that orchestrates and integrates Colgate’s four-year career development plan is Career Services, a hub of personalized help. Colgate’s career team is larger than those of other liberal arts universities, which means more individual attention as students explore, prepare, and translate the liberal arts into a lifetime of meaningful work.

The Colgate community’s commitment to students’ career preparation is exemplified by Career Services’ home: Benton Hall. This stunning $16.4 million facility was 100% alumni- and parent-funded. Wired to match the connectivity of today’s world, Benton Hall hums with in-person and virtual interactions between students, career advisers, alumni, and employers around the globe. Over 1,000 alumni and parents volunteer annually to participate in career exploration programming, internship or job recruiting, and mock interviews.

78% of students engaged with Career Services in the last academic year.
Colgate’s Career Services is housed in Benton Hall.

Advising students on whether to apply to graduate or professional school or seek professional experience first.

Identifying opportunities that align students’ goals and academic interests.

Guiding students on typical career paths pursued by different majors.

Providing counsel on volunteering, clubs, and organizations.

Teaching students how to negotiate a salary.

Showing how to develop a network of contacts.

Helping students navigate their first internship search.

Conducting mock interviews and providing feedback.

Steering students to immersive trips on site at potential employers.

Career advising: Individual sessions with professional staff to identify the traits, interests, strengths, identities, and values unique to each student — and how they connect to career options.

Industry-specific advising: Individual coaching sessions with professional advisers in which students learn to activate targeted searches toward a specific career or graduate school path.

Peer advising: Personalized résumé and cover letter critiques led by trained student staff.

Career search skills workshops: Interactive sessions that develop students’ essential career-search skills (such as interviewing and résumé writing) and guide them to leverage Colgate’s many resources.

Colgate Premier recruiting program: More than 200 employers from a diverse set of industries partner with Colgate annually to recruit students for internships and full-time employment. Employers engage through on-campus and virtual information sessions organized by Career Services.

Alumni- and employer-led sessions: Career exploration, networking, and industry-specific training sessions that introduce students to career options, networking contacts, and core skills sought across industries.

Summer internship and graduate school grant programs: Through the generosity of alumni and family donors, Career Services initiatives support students to pursue unpaid/underpaid internships and the process of applying to graduate school.
Internships provide essential firsthand experience that helps students try out areas of interest and ultimately make more informed career decisions. They also allow students to show the strength of their liberal arts education in helping employers solve challenges that are relevant to them.

Employers, graduate schools, and professional programs now expect candidates to have at least two significant career experiences before they graduate. That is why internships and undergraduate research are so vital—and why Colgate does so much to make them accessible. Colgate’s alumni and parent donors generously provide funding to help cover the costs of unpaid or underpaid summer experiences. And advisers in Career Services, along with Colgate’s faculty, help students navigate the entire process.

HOW INTERNSHIPS HELP

- Gain insight on career direction
- Test out different work settings and cultures
- Build résumé content
- Develop industry-specific skills to better qualify for jobs
- Practice the job-search process
- Shape a professional network
- Try out different team management and supervision styles
- Demonstrate interest to future schools and employers

$1M

Approximate funding designated each year for students pursuing unpaid or underpaid summer experiences

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Alumni Memorial and Beckman scholar Jacob Watts ’21 (center) received Barry M. Goldwater and Churchill scholarships as well as the Graduate School Access Fund and an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program grant—all of which supported his investigations of fern ecology.

Gwyneth Farr ’24 developed a new curriculum addressing student-athlete mental health while an intern at Rye Youth Council, a small nonprofit organization focused on promoting social, emotional learning and mental well-being of local youth.

$1M

Approximate funding designated each year for students pursuing unpaid or underpaid summer experiences
FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Fellowships and scholarships can be invaluable in shaping a career, opening doors, and providing coveted experiences that come packaged with financial support. They are also deeply competitive. Students must have strong academics and civic engagement, awareness of the deadlines and requirements, and an understanding of which opportunities are right for them.

Colgate provides that clarity and support through its Office of National Fellowships and Scholarships, which helps students position themselves to apply and win. Colgate recently smashed its own records for applications. Its students and alumni have been awarded some of the most competitive fellowships and scholarships in the world.

EXAMPLES OF NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS


SCHOLARS PROGRAMS

Colgate offers two scholars programs for incoming students. All recipients benefit from valuable support toward learning, research, and global travel while at Colgate.

Alumni Memorial Scholars: Students with an exceptional academic record who will thrive by contributing to Colgate’s intellectual community.

Office of Undergraduate Studies Scholars: Students who have shown creativity, determination, and intellect in the face of significant challenges.
Colgate attracts students with drive, curiosity, and ambition. This is the entrepreneurial mindset. It applies from finance to the humanities, and it is a distinctive advantage for career success. That is why the University fosters it in every setting.

Colgate creates exciting chances for students to experiment, invent, and reach for big ideas. And it backs them up with professional development, dedicated space, a loyal alumni network, and the opportunity to secure seed money for their ventures.

Rob Carroll ‘15 (left) and Nick Freud ‘15 (right), founders of CampusReel. Created in 2017, their digital platform features crowdsourced student-generated video content to bring campuses to life for all prospective students.

Uyi Omorogbe ’19 — a first-generation Nigerian American — founded NaSo, a clothing company that marries Western and African styles. NaSo, however, was more than a fashion company — it’s a social mission to build schools in Africa. The project raised more than $1 million and led to the construction of a Nigerian school. Omorogbe was named to the 2022 Forbes 30 Under 30 list for art and style.

Madison Bailey ’18 found herself with a new business on her hands when her handmade vintage-inspired chain sunglasses took off on TikTok. Bailey and her team were part of Colgate’s Thought Into Action Summer Accelerator program. The company has been featured on the Today Show as well as in People Magazine and Marie Claire, among other media outlets.
The ultimate payoff of a Colgate education is the type of whole person one becomes. Colgate gives students a profound ability to gather facts, summon reason, solve problems, and communicate with power. It teaches people to see many perspectives, to embrace responsibility, and to engage society. The students of Colgate carry its values. And one day they carry out the value of a Colgate degree, which opens doors to career success with its reputation for excellence.

This rigor of a Colgate education is the best training for professionals who can solve the world’s most challenging issues. The Core Curriculum itself—ambitious and constantly updated—teaches not just topics but habits of mind. The Core takes students through an intellectual exploration of questions that every educated person will need to deal with at some point in their life. The courses cross all majors, reflecting a world that never fits neatly into one discipline.

This is what it feels like to have the best of a research university and a liberal arts college in one. This is why Colgate graduates emerge so ready to make a living and make a difference. Employers and graduate school admission officers know it.

Colgate offers guides, workshops, and online tools to help students prepare for internships and develop career skills. It amounts to a tool kit, including guides to:

- Craft, tailor, and target a résumé and cover letter
- Design outreach emails to employers
- Dress for professional success
- Build a network
- Understand professional conduct and ethics in career searching
- Write thank-you notes
- Succeed in different interviewing formats and styles

Students perform experiments in Olin Hall.
Students’ experiences in the classroom provide the foundation for them to excel in a professional environment. And at Colgate, the learning experience is personal. Colgate faculty are not just known for their achievements; they are actually known by the students in a real way, every day.

Every single class is taught by distinguished faculty — never teaching assistants. The faculty are approachable, inspiring, and deeply networked in the industries where Colgate students want to be. Many faculty members have colleagues, mentors, and former students at the graduate schools that Colgate students may be considering. Faculty members want students to finish college with a foundation of academic rigor and a path to tangible career outcomes. They provide career support, helping students understand where their degree can lead them.

FACULTY

Joel Sommers
Professor of Computer Science
Sommers collaborates with Career Services on several events, like Prep for Tech — a technical interview preparation program, and the annual Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing conference trip.

April Baptiste
Associate Dean of the Faculty for Global and Local Initiatives; Professor of Environmental Studies and Africana and Latin American Studies
As a former co-director of the Residential Commons, Baptiste offered first-year and sophomore students a 10-hour career exploration series. Sessions included discovering career areas of interest, networking and relationship development, and creating a career development action plan.

Mary Simonson
Daniel C. Benton ’80 Endowed Chair in Arts, Creativity, and Innovation; Professor of Film & Media Studies and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Simonson helped coordinate internship opportunities during the production of the feature film Odd Man Rush, co-produced by Grant Slater ’91. Students were exposed to physical filming, production and management, film festival development, and marketing.
One of the hallmarks of a Colgate education is that undergraduates get to do graduate-level research with top faculty. An overwhelming majority of students take up the opportunity across the entire spectrum of the liberal arts, from the sciences to the arts and humanities. This research experience enhances the intellectual growth of students. It also has career preparation implications, giving them an advantage over the competition for national fellowships, graduate and professional schools, and top job placements. Some students even get research published before they graduate.

These research opportunities reflect Colgate’s distinctive scale as a university of world-class faculty in the setting of an intimate liberal arts college. It creates moments only Colgate can offer.

**RESEARCH**

Over $1 million is designated annually for students to pursue summer research.
Colgate offers practical, hands-on learning in a variety of industries.

Colgate helps undergraduates prepare for professions with hands-on learning so that they can explore interests and immerse themselves in practical experience. This allows students to shape their academic experience toward career goals, network with successful and influential alumni, and get an early feel for real-world work. These pre-professional opportunities connect the lifelong value of a liberal arts education with training for careers that provide tangible and enduring benefits.

PREPARING FOR PROFESSIONS

Colgate’s Pre-Professional Programs Include:

→ Academic support and partnerships with professional and graduate schools.
→ Off-campus study and endowed fellowship opportunities catered toward specific, professional skill sets.
→ Assistance with internship placements.
→ Extracurricular learning, under faculty direction, through student organizations that have access to professional-grade facilities.
→ Faculty and staff expertise to guide students on their options.

Graduate School Access Fund

The Graduate School Access Fund provides financial support for students of color with demonstrated need; the fund helps them apply to graduate and professional schools.

John A. Golden ’66 Fellowship

This prestigious fellowship provides summer internship funding, in addition to advising, programmatic, and financial support for students interested in pursuing law school or medical school.

93%

Law school acceptance rate; compare to the national average of 70%

75%

Medical school acceptance rate; compare to the national average of 44%

Career Fields

Business

Two of the top career fields for Colgate students are business/management and financial services. Colgate prepares students for such opportunities with a semester-long economics study group in London and a thriving club devoted to Colgate Women in Business.

Health Sciences

Colgate graduates have been accepted to medical schools at a rate about twice the national average. Colgate students can learn in the local ambulance corps as an EMT, shadow area physicians, and have the chance to be selected for a full-semester study group at the National Institutes of Health.

Engineering

Colgate offers a 3-2 program with Columbia University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Washington University in St. Louis. Students attend Colgate for three years, then transfer to an engineering school for two more — and earn a bachelor’s degree from both. An additional year of study can lead to a master of science degree.

Law

Colgate students can begin to pursue a legal career by joining the Colgate Speaking Union and studying an array of subjects, from political science to philosophy, economics to classics. Pre-law students have a dedicated adviser in Career Services to assist them as they plan for law school.

Architecture

Students can take advantage of an architectural studies emphasis in the Department of Art and Art History. A pre-architecture adviser prepares students for graduate school and internships in the field.

Colgate students have the rare opportunity to conduct research at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., one of the world’s foremost institutions of health science and discovery. The experience involves 30+ hours of research each week in an NIH laboratory.

Colgate offers practical, hands-on learning in a variety of industries.
ALUMNI

Colgate alumni are known for their loyalty, accomplishments, and eagerness to connect today’s students to the people and opportunities that can shape a career. At more than 35,000 strong, Colgate alumni are leaders of business, literature, finance, entertainment, and more. Colgate grads provide mentoring, internships, and constant engagement with undergraduates, tailored right down to the students’ areas of interest. In so many ways, alumni invest in the outcomes of students, just as their predecessors did for them.

Career Exploration Week
Career Exploration Week is a large-scale program featuring alumni in broad career panels aimed at first- and second-year students.

Alumni Career Conversations
Career Services matches hundreds of students each year with alumni for virtual informational interviews during winter break. Following orientation sessions in which students are trained on the basics of networking, students learn firsthand about potential career interests and hear how alumni connected their liberal arts education with their career opportunities.

Prep for Tech
Prep for Tech is a two-day interviewing boot camp for students interested in computer science, software engineering, and programming-related careers. Students learn what top technology employers expect from job candidates and how to be successful in technical and behavioral interviews.

SophoMORE Connections
Nationally recognized, SophoMORE Connections is a two-day career and academic discovery conference unique to Colgate. It is an immersive opportunity for students to engage alumni. And it is geared specifically toward the career topics and questions students should be considering in their second year. More than half of the sophomore class typically participates each year.

Michael J. Wolk ‘60 MD Conference on Medical Education
The conference centers around discussions of national and global health care experiences with topics that include neuroplasticity, critical care medicine, pediatric cardiology, and the U.S. health care system. Students informally connect with panelists to ask questions about majors, medical school, and day-to-day work culture.

Professional Networks
Colgate’s professional networks, organized around interdisciplinary industries, make it easy for students and alumni to get and stay connected. Launched in 2013, the Colgate Professional Networks have become a nationally renowned example of alumni engagement and career programming. The networks help students leverage the power of the Colgate alumni and ensure lifelong connections in these areas:

- Arts, Creativity, and Innovation
- Common Good
- Consulting
- Digital Business and Technology
- Entrepreneur
- Finance and Banking
- Health and Wellness
- Lawyers
- Marketing, Media, and Communications
- Real Estate
- STEM

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In 1994, international law hadn’t caught up with global corporations. So Katie Redford ’90 co-founded EarthRights International and started taking organizations like the International Finance Corporation and Unocal Oil Company to court, holding them accountable for environmental damage and human rights abuses committed on their watch — she won.

German DuBois III ’91
HOPE Murals, founder
Through his nonprofit, HOPE Murals, German DuBois III ’91 provides hope and a creative outlet for young people living in high-risk situations. DuBois uses the mural design process to encourage at-risk youth to talk about their situations and then depict them in vibrant colors and grand scale on the walls of Florida’s juvenile detention centers.

Nicol Turner Lee ’90
Brookings Institution, senior fellow, governance studies, and director of the Center for Technology Innovation
Turner Lee’s day-to-day duties at Brookings have her addressing U.S. and international audiences about digital inclusion; leading Brookings’ efforts to address inherent racial biases in machine-learning algorithms; talking with educators, industry leaders, and community activists about how to get online access to all distance learners; and writing policies she’ll funnel to President Joe Biden’s administration.
Liz Rampe ’05  
NASA, planetary scientist

Liz Rampe ’05 is the deputy principal investigator for the chemistry and mineralogy instrument on NASA’s Curiosity rover, which has been exploring Mars since 2012. She and her colleagues tell the instrument what to do and analyze its data. Rampe’s fieldwork in Iceland complements the work she does with Mars samples. Curiosity is studying lake samples, so the specimens from Iceland might help Rampe’s team better understand how subtle changes in water conditions affect mineral compositions.

Darien McFadden ’88  
Amherst College, director of the Center for Counseling and Mental Health

While a student at Colgate, Darien McFadden ’88 was a residential adviser and a peer counselor with a call-in support program — roles that he credits as his best career preparation. Now, as director of the Center for Counseling and Mental Health at Amherst, McFadden practices clinical work and leads a postgraduate training program that has a multicultural focus.

Gary Eppich ’06  
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), nuclear security officer

Over the years, Gary Eppich ’06 has hunted for clandestine weapons-grade uranium and plutonium from nuclear power facilities and tracked down the origins of radioactive contraband seized by police. He now uses his expertise to help U.S. allies be the best possible stewards of their own nuclear material. He works with several nations, including Kazakhstan, a former Soviet republic that inherited a nuclear test site and other facilities when the USSR collapsed.

Photo by Philip Keith

Photo by André Chung
Colgate has long served as an attractive place for top employers across a variety of industries to find talent. Colgate’s relationships with employers create opportunities for students to receive greater consideration for internships and jobs.

Throughout the year, Colgate Career Services hosts information sessions and interviews on campus and virtually, driven by leaders of some of the most respected companies and service organizations. Colgate’s online job and internship board hosts tens of thousands of opportunities for students, which they can explore based on their interests. Colgate’s reputation for producing top talent allows the University to maintain a strong core of recruiting partners while pulling in new, exciting internship and entry-level opportunities every year.

**EMPLOYER CONNECTIONS**

155 formal recruiting partners, including Deloitte, Ernst & Young, Goldman Sachs, Google, Mass General Hospital, NBCUniversal, Pinterest, and Teach For America.

Examples of employer partners and companies
Urgency and cutting-edge excellence define Colgate’s approach to career services. The University must prepare students to succeed in careers that may not even exist yet. Adaptation to a changing employment market is constant. Colgate inspires students and shows them how to contribute to the world. It trains them to be their own managers of the career choices they will make, and stands with them forever to provide counsel and support from other alumni. This is how Colgate has succeeded with distinction for more than 200 years: proud of its tradition, emboldened by its ambition. In Colgate’s third century, its vision for Career Services is the same as that of the University itself: to be the finest in America and one of the best in the world.
**Cost of Attendance 2023–24**

- Full-year tuition: $66,622
- Activities fee: $402
- Room: $8,108
- Meals: $8,682
- Total: $83,814

- Est. Personal Expenses/Books: $3,256

**TOTAL COST: $87,070**

**STUDENT BODY**

- 3,206 Undergraduate students and 11 graduate students
- 25% Domestic students of color
- 13% First-generation college students
- 575 Countries represented on campus by international and dual citizens
- 56 Number of majors

**FACULTY**

- 345 Faculty
- 95% Faculty with PhD or highest degree in their field
- 24% Faculty of color

**THE COLGATE COMMITMENT**

A financial aid initiative for access and affordability that supports students based on their family’s annual income:

- **$80K or less:** Tuition-free; No-loan eligible
- **$80K–$125K:** 5% of income toward tuition, on average; No-loan eligible
- **$125K–$175K:** 10% of income toward tuition, on average; No-loan eligible
- **$175K or more:** The University continues to meet 100% of the demonstrated need of all admitted students

Visit colgate.edu/colgatemission for more information.

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**Average four-year debt incurred by a Colgate student is $10,577**

**Average financial aid package for the Class of 2027 is $61,810**

**Alumni**

- 91% Graduation rate, among the highest in the nation
- 98% Percentage of last year’s class who secured jobs, admission to graduate schools, fellowships and scholarships, military or volunteer service within nine months

**Top Industries**

- Advocacy/Activism
- Business Services
- Communications
- Consulting
- Consumer Goods and Products
- Education
- Financial Services
- Government/Policy
- Law/Legal Services
- Medicine/Nursing
- Real Estate
- Sciences/Energy
- Sports/Athletics
- Technology/Computing

**Top Employers**

- Amazon
- Apple
- Bank of America
- Ernst & Young
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- Morgan Stanley
- National Institutes of Health
- NBCUniversal
- Peace Corps

**Top Areas of Graduate Study**

- Art & Architecture
- Biological & Life Sciences
- Business & MBA
- Computers & Technology
- Education & Teaching
- Engineering
- Health Care & Public Health
- Humanities & Cultures
- Law
- Medicine & Nursing
- Physical, Chemical & Earth Sciences
- Public Affairs & Policy
- Social & Behavioral Sciences

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