

# Steps on Your Journey to a Public Service Career



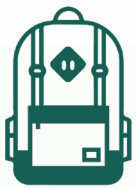
**Orient Your Compass.** What makes work meaningful for you? How do your values apply to your career? Clarity on what guides you will be important throughout your journey. Take time to assess yourself with the following resources:

- [Meaningful Work Kit](#) – Schedule an appointment with a [Cardinal Careers advisor](#) or [BEAM career coach](#) to clarify your skills, core values, and work culture preferences. You can also request Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), Strong Interest Inventory (SII), and CliftonStrengths assessments.
- [Pathways of Public Service and Civic Engagement](#) – Explore ways to engage with social issues you care about.



**Map the Landscape.** Before you begin, get a sense of what routes are available to you. Learn about the field by connecting with alumni whose work and roles interest you:

- [Stanford Alumni Mentoring](#) – Get career advice from an alumni mentor.
- [Conducting Informational Interviews](#) – Read up on how to conduct an informational interview to get a clear picture of your field of interest.
- [Cardinal Quarter Fellows](#) – Find peers who have interned at public service organizations of interest to learn about their experiences working there.
- [Stanford Alumni on LinkedIn](#) – Connect with alumni in specific organizations and chat with them about their career.



**Plan and Prep.** To facilitate travel to your next destination, ensure you have the means to get there. Prepare your application materials and practice communicating your skills to employers with these resources:

- [Resume Templates](#) – Craft a professional resume outlining work, academic, and extracurricular experiences, with BEAM templates available as a guide.
- [Crafting Compelling Cover Letters](#) – Shape your application by drafting effective cover letters.
- [Interview Practice Questions](#) – Prepare for common interview questions using this list developed by BEAM.
- [Standout](#) – Hone your interviewing skills with a buddy or by using this practice platform.



**Start Your Trek.** Once you're prepared, it's time to set off! Start exploring options along your career journey using these supports:

- [Public Service Job Application Timeline](#) – Become familiar with the public service employment search timeline.
- [Guide to Getting Started in Public Service](#) – Peruse lists of public service organizations and post-graduate fellowships organized by area of interest.
- [Cardinal Careers Newsletter](#) – Sign up for a weekly e-newsletter featuring public service jobs, fellows, and internships.
- [Cardinal Quarter](#) – Participate in a quarter-long public service internship with an organization in your field of interest.
- [Cardinal Careers Fellowships](#) – Secure a full-time postgraduate job and mentorship with a public service organization.
- [Idealist.org](#) – Search for jobs and internships on this free social impact-focused job board.
- [ProFellow](#) – Find summer and postgraduate fellowships on this free-to-use platform.

Need help on your way to your next destination? [Schedule an advising appointment](#) with a [Cardinal Careers advisor](#).

