MQE Career Services prepares students with workplace readiness skills, helps them to determine their career path, and supports them in developing their professional networks through services, resources and events in their pursuit of meaningful careers.

ABOUT MQE

MQE graduates meet employer demand for well-rounded individuals who can bring economic insights and strategic thinking to data science.

The MQE Program is a STEM-designated degree program (CIP Code 45.0603: Econometrics and Quantitative Economics) whose students can apply for a 24-month STEM extension of F-1 Optional Practical Training (OPT).

The MQE Program has an Advisory Board, comprised of industry leaders in economics and data science, who serve as consultants to faculty on coursework and partner with students in the Capstone Course.

Organizations and professionals interested in the MQE Partner Program and employee recruitment, please contact: Shannon Mischler, Program Director, sjmischler@pitt.edu, (412) 383-5425.
PROCESS of MQE CAREER SERVICES

Career planning is generally considered a four-step process that includes:

1. **Advising & Assessment**: self-assessment of your skills, values and interests
2. **Explore & Evaluate**: exploration and evaluation of your career options
3. **Career Goals**: identification of your career goals and objectives
4. **Action Plan**: development of an action plan or strategy

*University of Pittsburgh, Center for Doctoral and Postdoctoral Career Development*

The four-step process is amenable to MQE student and alumni participation at any point in their career planning.

TIMELINE of MQE CAREER SERVICES

MQE Career Services begin during the summer before matriculation into the MQE fall coursework. While the structured mentoring program concludes with the end of the spring semester, MQE Career Development services are available indefinitely to all MQE alumni.
MQE CAREER SERVICES

The MQE Program will coordinate services throughout the career development process by providing:

1. Advising & Resources
2. Mentoring & Networking
3. Workplace Readiness Skills

ADVISING

Students meet with an advisor once a semester or at their choosing. Appointments are made here.

Summer Advising Checklist
1. Enroll in fall courses
2. Review Career Development Handbook
3. Identify professional strengths and weaknesses through a self-assessment
4. Develop a LinkedIn profile
5. Develop a graduate student resume
6. Review cover letter samples

Fall Advising Checklist
1. Prepare for MQE Career Chats & Connects programs
2. Review resume and submit to the MQE Student Resume Bank
3. Update LinkedIn profile and objective statement
4. Prepare a career plan
5. Discuss independent projects and internships
6. Enroll in spring courses

Spring Advising Checklist
1. Update resume and LinkedIn profile to reflect MQE coursework and capstone project
2. Prepare and implement job search action plan
3. Prepare for mock interviews
RESOURCES

Pitt’s LinkedIn Learning – professional development
Pitt’s Career Center- resources, professional development and job postings
Pitt Handshake - job and internship postings: employer and alumni networking events

Career development packet provided by advisor, includes:

- Resume sample – MQE
- Common resume sections
- Action verbs
- Writing better bullet points
- Cover letters
- 50 positive character traits for the workplace
- LinkedIn – Building a great student profile
- LinkedIn – How to network on LinkedIn
- Researching employers
- List of websites for researching careers
- Career conversation worksheet
- 8 steps to an effective career plan
- Self-introductions
- Sample interview questions
- Thank you notes
- Salary negotiations
- Transitioning into a new job
- Pitt Commons Mentor Handbook

MENTORING & NETWORKING

Capstone Project - Spring
Organizations submit real-world problems for students who work in groups, under the supervision of faculty mentors, to analyze and provide data-driven solutions and strategies.

Career Chats - Fall
Professionals discuss their career path and the value of specific workplace readiness skills in a student-moderated forum that enhances a student’s industry knowledge and networking skills.

Career Coaching – Fall and Spring
Professionals support students in attaining their professional goals through resume reviews and mock interview panels.

MQE Connects - Spring
Professionals meet with individual students for an informational interview opportunity through curated connections based upon industry and professional interests.

Projects – Fall and Spring
Organizations gain valuable support and scout for potential employees by providing short-term assignments for students who want to gain real-world experience in a professional environment.
WORKPLACE READINESS SKILLS

Presented by Pitt's Career Center:

Fall Workshops
1. Self-Assessment
2. Interpreting Your Myers Briggs
3. Research Careers & Industries
4. Preparing a Career Plan
5. LinkedIn Networking

Spring Workshops
1. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the Workplace
2. Big Interview Process
3. Negotiating Salary & Benefits
4. Career Transitions
FALL 2020 SCHEDULE

MQE Career Chats

Thursday, September 10, 1 PM
Pamela Bonifay Peele, Ph.D., Chief Analytics Officer, UPMC Insurance Services & UPMC Enterprises

Thursday, September 17, 1 PM
Scott Kinross, Senior Vice President, Head of Advanced Analytics, Optimization and Automation, PNC

Thursday, September 24, 1 PM
Bhavini Patel, CEO & Founder, Beam Data

Thursday, October 1, 2 PM
Andy Hannah, Co-Founder, Exec BOD Member & Chief Partnership Officer-Othot; Adjunct Professor of Analytics (Pitt)

Thursday, October 8, 1 PM
Kathryn Collins, Ph.D., Chief Analytics Officer, Allegheny County Department of Human Services

Thursday, October 15, 1 PM
Ben Wilson, Founder & CEO, Rivers Agile

Thursday, October 22, 1 PM
Jerry Paytas, Ph.D., Vice President of Analytics, Fourth Economy

Thursday, October 29, 1 PM
Andrea DeVries, Ph.D., Staff Vice President, Translational Research for Affordability and Quality, HealthCore, Inc.

Thursday, November 5, 1 PM
Sam Ventura, Ph.D., Director of Hockey Research at Pittsburgh Penguins

Thursday, November 12, 1 PM
Christina Plerhoples Stacy, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Urban Institute

Thursday, November 19, 1 PM
Anthony DeLuca, Director, Consulting Services at CGI

Pitt Career Center Workplace Readiness Workshops

Tuesday, September 15, 1 PM
Self-Assessment Workshop

Tuesday, September 22, 1 PM
Interpreting Your Myers Briggs

Tuesday, September 29, 1 PM
Researching Careers & Industries

Tuesday, October 6, 1 PM
Preparing a Career Plan

Tuesday, October 13, 1 PM
LinkedIn Networking

MQE Resume Bank Feedback

Advisory Board Members preview resumes and provide feedback by mid-October.
SPRING 2020 SCHEDULE

MQE Connects

January – Students select up to 3 professionals that they would like to be matched for individual 30-minute informational interviews between February and April.

February – MQE Program Director curates the matches based upon industry/career preferences and makes a formal introduction by email. Students will schedule and prepare for the professional meeting.

April – MQE Connects concludes. Students and Professionals are asked to complete a simple survey to ensure program quality.

Broke, the game, Activity and Discussion

Tuesday, January 26, 1 PM - To provide MQE students with broader perspectives on issues related to diversity and inclusion and to help them better understand the qualitative experiences of impoverished individuals who are represented in the data that they will analyze – whether in the public or private sector. Activity and discussion around Broke, the game, with the creator Dana Gold, the COO of Jewish Family and Community Services.

Pitt Career Center Workplace Readiness Workshops

Tuesday, February 16, 1 PM  Negotiating Salary & Benefits
Tuesday, February 23, 1 PM  Career Transitions
Monday, March 1, 1 PM      Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the Workplace

February                      Mock interview practice through Big Interview

Mock Interviews with Industry Expert

February/March - Students participate in a 30-minute mock interview with industry experts.

- In advance of the interview students will submit a sample job posting, resume and cover letter.
- Two to three professionals will interview the student for 20 minutes with content-specific interview questions/challenges.
- Feedback will be provided to you in the last 10 minutes.