

EDUCATION | INDUSTRY ROADMAP

Career Paths and Desired Skills

Today's education sector presents UChicago students and graduates with the opportunity to tackle both longstanding challenges and leverage boundless possibility. There are many different career paths that UChicago students can take within the education sector. Education careers require strong soft skills, including effective communication, leadership, collaboration, adaptability, and drive. There are a wide range of education career paths including (but not limited to) teaching, non-profit management, policy analysis, research, and education technology.

Sector & Role

Key Functions

Skill Set

TEACHING

Teachers support young people by helping create life-long learning habits, self-motivation, and strong socio-emotional dispositions. Roles include: teaching in public, private, or charter schools in the U.S. and across the world.

- Teach, mentor, and model
- Deliver lesson plans
- Manage classroom behavior
- Cultivate an affirming culture for learning

- Teaching, tutoring, youth development
- Passion to serve
- Empathy and patience
- Subject expertise

NON-PROFIT MANAGEMENT

Myriad non-profits and social enterprises exist to fill gaps in the education system, provide children with unique learning experiences, and advocate for important issues. Roles include: program managers, fundraisers, evaluation analysts, volunteer relations, event management and more.

- Manage people and projects to deliver social impact
- Collect and interpret data for program improvement
- Interact with key stakeholders and clients
- Fundraise and run events

- Program management
- Problem solving
- Strategic critical thinking
- Quantitative ability
- Interpersonal skills
- Excel and PowerPoint

POLICY AND RESEARCH

The education system is extraordinarily complex and so too are its challenges. Policy leaders study contributing factors and propose solutions for stakeholders to implement. Researchers likewise examine how children learn, best practice teaching methods, and successful learning environments. Roles include: policy analysts, advocacy representatives, and researchers.

- Study the economic effects of various laws and legislation
- Persuade stakeholders to adopt recommendations
- Research key populations and the efficacy of various interventions

- Quantitative ability
- Analytical thinking
- Problem solving
- Writing and public speaking

EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY

From start-ups to large scale learning platforms, the Ed Tech sector is transforming teaching and learning and the education landscape at large. Roles abound for: curriculum designers, subject matter experts, data analysts, marketing leads, and program managers.

- Create content for e-learning tools
- Develop new apps and programs to personalize learning
- Collaborate with schools on implementation strategies

- Curriculum development
- Design thinking
- Creativity
- Systems thinking
- Start-up experience

BUILDING EXPERIENCE FOR CAREERS IN EDUCATION

Career Advancement offers a number of events and resources to help prepare you for a career in education:

ENGAGE

- Access to personalized advising every quarter with a dedicated advisor with years of experience in teaching, non-profit management, and social enterprise

EXPLORE

- Selective program: Education Professions Program—three year education development program focused on career exploration, skill development, interview prep, and job search strategies
- Treks and site visits to top employers in Chicago, San Francisco, New Orleans, D.C., and more
- Career exploration workshop series to examine various school systems and factors affecting urban education, youth development, and social inequities
- Professional development seminars to build career navigation skills and develop agency
- Networking and recruiting events to prepare for employer interviews, graduate school, AmeriCorps programs, and teaching abroad
- Access to a network of committed alumni with personalized coaching strategies for outreach



APPLY

- Meet with alumni working in the field to learn about their career trajectories and interests
- Visit with local school systems, non-profits, and private sector employers at recruiting events

REPRESENTATIVE EMPLOYERS

These employers actively recruit UChicago students!

Teaching

UChicago Charter Schools
Chicago Public Schools
Teach For America
DC Public Schools
Success Academy Schools

Non-Profit Management

Communities in Schools
City Year
College Advising Corps
College Possible
Peace Corps
One Million Degrees

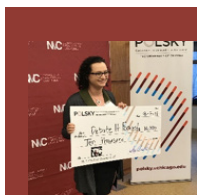
Policy and Research

Advance Illinois
Educators For Excellence
UChicago Consortium on Chicago School Research
Illinois Network of Charter Schools

Education Technology

LEAP InnovationSpark
IXL Learning
Khan Academy
Edutopia
PlayPosit

Work with Career Advancement to stay current on recruiting timelines



Leah Shapiro (AB '18)

- UChicago Careers in Education Professions
- Co-founder, Debate it Forward
- 2nd Place, College New Venture Challenge
- Neighborhoods Schools Program



Sarah Manhardt (AB '17)

- Graduate of Harvard School of Education
- Ann and Robert Lurie Children's Hospital Tutor
- Philadelphia via Breakthrough Collaborative Middle School Tutor