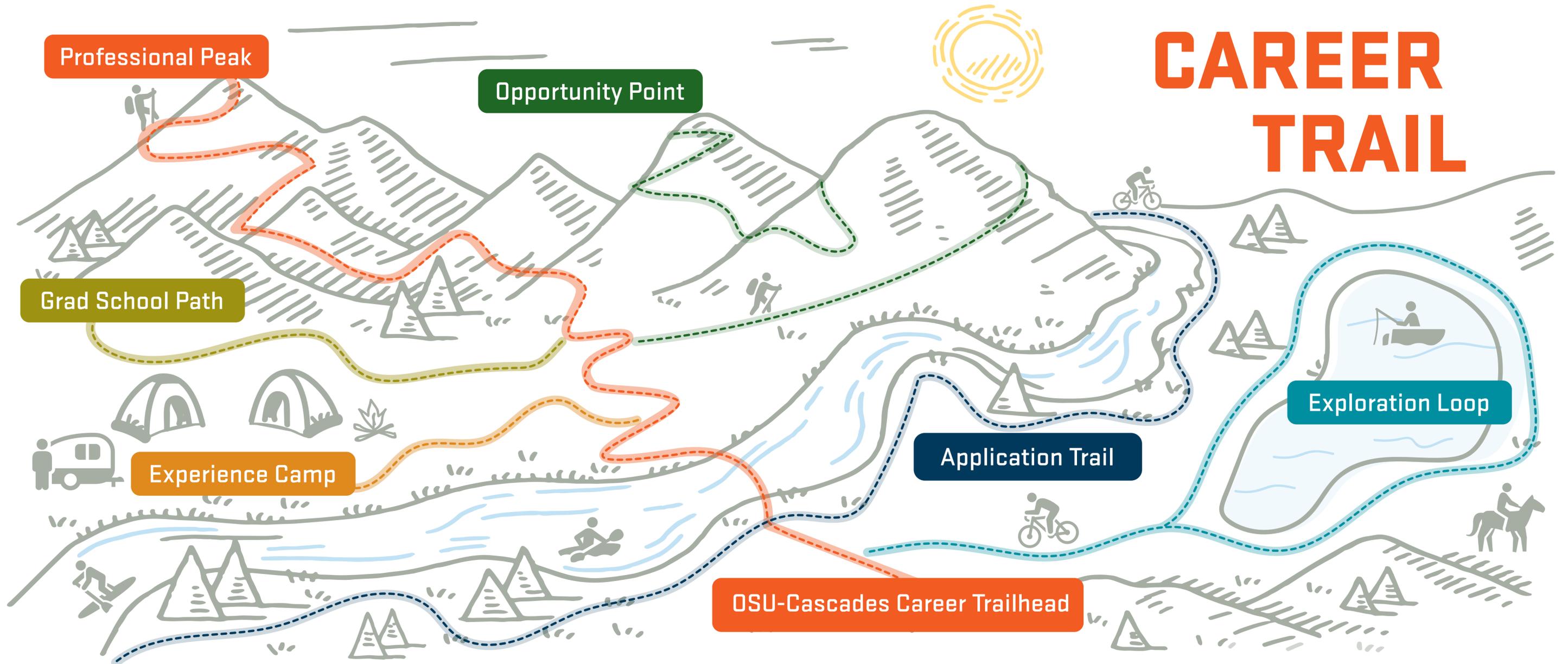


CAREER TRAIL



The CAREER TRAIL is not your typical career plan. This trail recognizes that each student enters college with varying levels of exposure and experience, as well as diverse skillsets and interests. Begin at the OSU-Cascades Career Trailhead and continue along the path to trails that will help you achieve your future career goals. Some trails you may re-visit several times, and some you may skip over completely. Whatever the case, the Career Development Center is here to be your guide should you have questions or need assistance along the way.

DIFFICULTY: Beginner to advanced
(all-season, double-track, multi-modal)

ELEVATION GAIN: The job you WANT
DISTANCE/TIME: You decide

EXPLORATION LOOP:

For students unsure about what to major in or what to do with their degree. An online, self-guided exploration tool called Focus 2 is available for students to discover their interests, skills and values and how they relate to major and career options. Students can also access What Can I Do with My Degree resources, participate in informational interviews, job shadow experiences or exploratory courses.

APPLICATION TRAIL:

Along this trail, students will be encouraged to reflect on past experiences in order to articulate their future potential to employers in quality resumes and cover letters. This information can transition easily into professional Handshake and LinkedIn profiles. Interviewing skills can also be developed through practice of common questions to prepare for the road ahead.

EXPERIENCE CAMP:

This landing spot is a favorite among students and one that your classmates will come back to time and time again. There is no limit on available opportunities which may include volunteer, internships, part-time jobs, study abroad, research and involvement in campus clubs and leadership. Participation in these activities only increases your chances of making it to Professional Peak. Note: You may need to (re)visit parts of Application Trail prior to your stay.

OPPORTUNITY POINT:

Job search strategies and networking skills will be developed along the way to this viewpoint toward your future. This trail is for students who have narrowed down what they want to do next in their career, prepared application materials, gained related experience and are ready to enter the "real-world" of work.

GRAD SCHOOL PATH:

This trail is for students who know that graduate or professional school will be a necessary step in reaching their career goals. Guidance is available for application development, CVs and essays or personal statements.

PROFESSIONAL PEAK:

By the time you reach Professional Peak, you have gained the experience and career readiness skills to be successful in your future career. Be sure to navigate through salary negotiation and evaluate job offers to ensure that this next step in your career is a positive one.