

SPORTS INDUSTRY OPPORTUNITIES

For many student-athletes, participation in sports has been a huge part of their lives and identity and something that they would like to remain close to even after their competitive careers are over. Most college athletes are unaware of the corporate side of athletics, at the collegiate and professional levels, that employs accountants, lawyers, project managers, human resources professionals, etc. There are a variety of opportunities working in sports for any and all majors. Like any industry, internships are key for obtaining experience and earning a full-time position in sports. Below is a list of conferences, programs and resources for finding jobs and internships within the sports industry.

CONFERENCES

- [National Sports Forum](#) - The National Sports Forum is one of the largest annual sports business conferences in North America, gathering league, team, and property executives from the NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, MLS, NASCAR, UEFA, the Minor Leagues, NCAA, Auto & Horse Racing, and many more.
- [Sports Industry Networking and Career Conference](#) - SINC is the premier sports industry conference where hundreds of college students come together to learn about the sports industry and network with well-known leaders from across the industry. At SINC students will connect with friends and colleagues, and meet sports industry professionals in a buzzing, high-energy setting designed specifically for peer-to-peer networking.
- [University of Michigan Sports Business Conference](#) - The MSBC was developed by a group of undergraduate students affiliated with both the Stephen M. Ross School of Business and School of Kinesiology's Sport Management program. The MSBC is the premier undergraduate-run sport business conference in the United States, and its objective is to inspire creativity and innovation in the sports industry.
- [MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference](#) - The conference goal is to provide a forum for industry professionals (executives and leading researchers) and students to discuss the increasing role of analytics in the global sports industry. MIT Sloan is dedicated to fostering growth and innovation in this arena, and the conference enriches opportunities for learning about the sports business world. The conference is open to anyone interested in sports.

RESOURCES

- [NCSA Next College Student Athlete](#) - A company by athletes, for athletes. NCSA's team of more than 600 former collegiate and professional athletes leverages 16 years of exclusive data, proprietary matching algorithms, and personal relationships to connect tens of thousands of college-bound student-athletes to more than 41,000 college coaches nationwide across 31 sports every year.
- [Northwestern Mutual](#) - Life after athletics. Your athletic success didn't just happen when you stepped onto the field, court or track. True success occurs only through a combination of hard work, dedication and focus, combined with your natural talent. And that's exactly what we're looking for at Northwestern Mutual.
- [Teamwork Online](#) - We connect people to careers in sports and live events. Search for careers by sport, industry, position, etc., to find a career in athletics.

PROGRAMS

- [Manhattan Sports Business Academy](#) - A summer immersion program designed for college students seeking career acceleration in the sports industry. Following a competitive selection process, MSBA delivers a comprehensive learning experience to an intimate group through internship placement, mentorship pairing, a speaker series, other professional development curriculum.
- [MiLB Field Program](#) - Minor League Baseball's 'Fostering Inclusion through Education and Leadership Development' (FIELD) Program combines educational and leadership development with skill specific training, access to a vast network of sports professionals, and industry knowledge and exposure to create a unique experience for selected participants. This week-long program, hosted in the sunshine state, introduces selected participants to the game and business of professional baseball in preparation for a career within the industry.
- [MLB Diversity Fellowship Program](#) - This latest venture in Baseball's efforts to competitively recruit the most talented individuals and brightest young minds entering the workforce will provide the opportunity for young, diverse professionals to experience front office positions that have been traditionally influential in baseball operations decisions. This distinct opportunity will place candidates in entry-level roles within one of the MLB Clubs and MLB's Central Office.
- [NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program](#) - The NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program annually provides on-the-job learning experiences at the national office in Indianapolis to college graduates who are passionate in their pursuit of a career in college sports administration.

MARKETING YOURSELF AS A STUDENT ATHLETE

Competing as a student-athlete develops more than just the technical skills required to compete effectively and successfully in each specific sport. There are a range of transferable skills that can be incorporated into resumes, cover letters, interviews, elevator pitches, etc., when discussing an experience that occupies so much time and energy.

- Goal Setting/Goal Oriented
- Focus/Determination
- Team Work/Being a team player
- Resilience
- Time Management
- Commitment
- Communication
- Self-Motivated/Driven
- Detail-Oriented
- Leadership

When framing athletic experiences, do not just focus on your statistics, records, or participation in sport - what have you learned? How has being a student-athlete impacted your growth and transition into the professional world? What do you take away from your time as a student-athlete?

Additional Resources

- <https://equipmentguys.com/athletic-transferable-skills-for-success-in-life/>
- <http://www.supportforsport.org/index-career.html>
- [How College Athletes Make the Transition to the Workforce](#)

CMU OPPORTUNITIES

Campus Organizations

Sports Analytics Club - <https://www.cmusportsanalytics.com/>

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Finally, consider the mental and emotional toll that leaving behind an athletic career may take after 18+ years of participation. Previously mentioned are services, resources, and strategies to help with the job and internship search process as a student-athlete. These additional resources address some of frequently encountered challenges that student-athletes have when entering the work force. For additional help or questions, make an appointment with your [Career Consultant](#) or at the [University Counseling Center](#).