

Career Data Usage Matrix

TOP OF THE FUNNEL

Awareness-building and lead generation

Catch prospective students' attention

- + Advertising
- + Prospecting emails
- + Social media
- + PPC search ads
- + Postcards

GOAL

Attract prospective students who want to work in a growing field with lots of job opportunities

DATA TO USE

Number of current and/or projected openings for career areas or job titles with large demand and/or high growth

SUGGESTED FORMATS

Infographic, listicle, line or bar chart, bulleted list, article headline, hotspot or bubble map

Attract prospective students who are interested in increasing their earning potential

Current and/or projected salaries of top-earning career areas or job titles

Infographic, listicle, line or bar chart, bulleted list, email subject line, article headline

Use career paths for high profile jobs, like a private detective or photojournalist, as examples to show prospects how they work

Curated list of popular career areas or job titles identified as realistic outcomes for your institution's programs

Infographic, listicle, email subject line, article headline

MIDDLE OF THE FUNNEL

Nurture and engage leads

Guide prospective students toward specific programs

- + Program information webpages
- + Brochures and flyers
- + Blog posts and articles
- + Videos
- + Nurture emails
- + Workshops

GOAL

Illustrate that a specific program leads to real-world career paths (eliminate concerns about programs not actually preparing students for real jobs)

DATA TO USE

All career areas or job titles identified as realistic outcomes for your institution's programs and/or skills, abilities, and knowledge taught throughout a specific program

SUGGESTED FORMATS

Infographic, case study/blog post, bulleted list, in-depth career profiles, data table, interactive career discovery tool, T-chart to compare with skills sought by employers

Show return on investment for specific program (eliminate concerns about poor ROI)

Current and projected salary for careers identified as realistic outcomes for the program

Infographic, case study/blog post, line or bar chart, data table, hotspot or bubble map, ROI calculator

Demonstrate long-term viability of a specific career path (eliminate potential concerns about a career path becoming obsolete)

Historical and projected job growth of careers related to the program

Infographic, case study/blog post, line or bar chart, data table, flowchart of promotion/advancement opportunities

Create vision of post-graduation success (eliminate concerns about unemployment or underemployment)

Top industries or employers for career paths related to a specific program

Case study/blog post, bulleted list, employer or industry profiles

BOTTOM OF THE FUNNEL

Convert leads

Convince prospective students to apply/enroll

- + Personalized emails and letters
- + Conversations with admissions staff

GOAL

Create a sense of urgency (avoid delayed action)

DATA TO USE

Projected future salary (compared against prospective students' current salary)

SUGGESTED FORMATS

Lifetime ROI calculator, narrative text

Increase confidence in program and career choice (overcome doubts)

For a specific program and career goal combination:

- + Current and projected job openings
- + Specific job titles and associated salaries
- + Skills learned in program compared with skills sought by employers
- + Top local employers

Personalized report, face-to-face or phone conversations