



The Spartan Shield

A Program for Spartan Student-Athlete Success After Graduation

As part of the holistic development of student-athletes at UNCG, Spartan Academic Support Services offers **The Spartan Shield** program that enhances the entire student-athlete experience. The mission of **The Spartan Shield** program is to prepare student-athletes for life after sport. By earning their shield, student-athletes will obtain the skills and professional development they need to arm themselves for their future careers.



Blue Shield

Every Spartan student-athlete will undergo rigorous training to earn their Blue Shield. Spartans who earn a Blue Shield through our program have successfully completed challenges that will help them conquer any feat they may face leading up to their life after sport. Each Spartan will have the opportunity to earn a Blue Shield by engaging in leadership development, community service, resume boot camps and more. Earning a blue shield is an embedded part of the student-athlete experience at UNCG.

Gold Shield

The Gold Shield will only be awarded to student-athletes that go above and beyond. This group of Spartans choose to face extra battles to expand their professional and leadership development. To successfully conquer their collegiate career and earn a Gold Shield, Spartan student-athletes must complete job fairs, business etiquette dinners, alumni panels and more. By earning their Gold Shield, these Spartans will be prepared to face life after sport with additional tools in their belt.



Program Overview

| Year | Objective | Blue Shield | Gold Shield |
|------------|--|---|--|
| Year One | <i>Goal: Each student-athlete will explore their personality, leadership skills, career and major interests.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> INDIVIDUAL CAREER COUNSELING* STRENGTHS FINDER FOR FRESHMEN* ACADEMIC COACH WEEKLY MEETINGS COMMUNITY SERVICE DISCOVERY PANEL & SPARTAN SPEAKER SERIES BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING | |
| Year Two | <i>Goal: Each student-athlete declares a major that is consistent with their interests and academic ability while gaining a better understanding of their career choice and personal growth.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAJOR DECLARATION* MY CAREER GOALS WORKSHEET COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKING RESUME LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SPARTAN SPEAKER SERIES BYSTANDER INTERVENTION DEVELOPMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JOB SHARING/CAREER EXPLORATION RESUME BOOT CAMPS* BUSINESS ETIQUETTE DINNER ALUMNI PANELS STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AWARDS & HONORS <p><i>Completion Gift</i></p> |
| Year Three | <i>Goal: Each student-athlete possesses an academic plan for graduation, pursues hands-on experience through internships and/or mentoring, and continues career preparation.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> REQUIRED CAREER/GRAUADATION PLAN* COMMUNITY SERVICE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SPARTAN SPEAKER SERIES RESUME BOOT CAMPS* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JOB SHARING* INTERNSHIP* SELF ASSESSMENT TOOL* STUDENT-ATHLETE CAREER LUNCHEON SPARTAN MENTORING* ALUMNI PANELS STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AWARDS & HONORS BYSTANDER INTERVENTION SERVICE CAMPAGAIN <p><i>Completion Gift</i></p> |
| Year Four | <i>Goal: Each student-athlete graduates with options for his or her future career endeavors. Student-athletes continue in their leadership and personal development to feel confident in their abilities, professions and become engaged members of their community.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> REQUIRED CAREER/GRAUADATION PLAN STUDENT-ATHLETE CAREER LUNCHEON (Priority Year)* COMMUNITY SERVICE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SPARTAN SPEAKER SERIES* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SENIOR YEAR NETWORKING GROUPS* INTERNSHIP RESUME BOOT CAMPS* SPARTAN MENTORING* ALUMNI PANELS MOVING ON WORKSHOPS* AWARDS & POST GRAD SCHOLARSHIPS STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYSTANDER INTERVENTION LEADERSHIP ROLE <p><i>Completion Gift</i></p> |

*To be incorporated with Game Plan

Game Plan | Cohesive Career & Personal Development Software Program

- Student-Athletes will complete career modules before meetings with SA Development staff extending reach of each advisor to engage directly more student-athletes
- Student-Athletes will be able to complete courses and assessments for each stage of their career exploration
- Student-Athletes will have access to job/internship postings from companies/organizations. Employers will be able to search student-athletes to recruit for their positions, creating a custom UNCG Athletics-wide Career Network for student-athletes
- Game Plan Pro: Hosts employers and lists jobs with companies interested in hiring student-athletes
- Virtual Job Fairs for student-athletes
- UNCG Virtual Mentorship Network