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## CDO: WIP - What Should I Be Doing Now

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Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 7:45 PM

The bidding window is set to open on November 18 -- a little less than a month from now -- and will close on November 30 -- the Monday after the Thanksgiving holiday. So, you may want to use the next few weeks narrowing down the field of 170 or so participating employers to those you would like to bid on. If you want to give yourself the best chance of getting the maximum number of interviews through the lottery (20), you should bid on about 35-40 firms. For most students, their initial cut is based primarily on their geographic and practice area interests. The resources in the numbered paragraphs below can help you with that winnowing process.

Grades are also a factor, but they are harder to give general advice about. We urge you, therefore, to [make a phone or video appointment with one of the private sector counselors](#) (password is cdoaccess) -- Shannon, Valerie, Liz K., or me -- for individualized targeting advice.

Here are some suggested next steps:

1. Download (and read) our **2021 WIP Guide** from [b-Line's](#) Document Library (under Resources). This indexed, in-depth document covers the WIP process from beginning to end. It will provide you with an excellent overview, but will also serve as a regular go-to resource over the next couple of months to address your more specific questions about WIP procedures and policies. You may also want to watch the recording of last week's WIP Mechanics presentation. A link to it will be posted to the [Fall 2020 Resources page](#) in the next few days.
2. Continue with your employer research. For tips and resources, see our [August 4 email](#) (which you can find in our [Email Archive](#)) -- or the relevant section of our WIP Guide.
3. Download the **2021 WIP-Schedules Sorted By Location** spreadsheet from the b-Line Document Library. It is a snapshot of the employer schedules contained in [b-Line](#) (as of earlier this month), organized alphabetically by city. It includes employer name, interview date, and hiring contact information. You can copy the sections that match your geographic interests and use it as a basis for **creating a bid list** and saving your own employer research notes. If you are interested in Orange County or Silicon Valley, be sure to search for each city in those areas.

**NOTE: [b-Line](#) -- which is updated in real time -- and not this static spreadsheet, is the definitive resource for determining which employers are participating in WIP.**

4. For those employers you uncovered in your research that are not participating in WIP, develop an outreach plan. See our October 14 email -- or the relevant section of the WIP Guide -- for advice on how to do this.
5. Sign up to participate in our Meet the Employers events. See Elizabeth (Liz) Granlund's email from yesterday for details.
6. Stay tuned for the publication (to the Documents Library) of our 2019 EIW Bidding, Callback & Offer Data Report, which will be useful for the next stage of your EIW prep -- ranking your bids on the WIP employers on your list). It should be available by the end of this week and we will let you know when it is.

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