

VALENT®



A resume is quiet, but it speaks loudly about your potential. Valent U.S.A. believes in the future of agriculture and in the young professionals shaping it. This guide helps you tell your story with clarity, purpose, and pride.



Resume & Career Guidance Overview

Your future starts with a story—and your resume is one of the first chances to tell it. This guide was created to help young adults confidently share their skills, experiences, and potential as they step into the world of agriculture.

At Valent U.S.A., we believe the future of farming depends on people like you—curious, committed, and ready to make an impact. That’s why we’re investing in tools that help the next generation grow, lead, and thrive.

This resource breaks down the essentials of resume building with clarity and encouragement. From highlighting your strengths to communicating your passion for ag, it’s designed to make your journey forward a little easier—and a lot more empowering.

Whether you’re applying for an internship, scholarship, research opportunity, or your first job, this guide gives you practical steps to present yourself with confidence. Valent U.S.A. is committed to supporting you, your growth, and the future you’re helping shape.

Your career path is just beginning. Let’s build it—together.

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Getting Started

An introduction to why your resume matters and how Valent U.S.A. is committed to supporting the next generation of agricultural leaders.

Your Resume. Your Story. Your Future in Agriculture.

Getting Started

Your resume is one of the first ways employers see your potential. It tells your story—your strengths, experiences, and passion for agriculture.

At Valent U.S.A., we believe the future of agriculture depends on young leaders like you. That's why we created this resource: to help you share your skills confidently, highlight what makes you unique, and take your next step with clarity and purpose.

Whether you're applying for an internship, scholarship, or your first role, this guide will help you begin with confidence. Your journey starts here—and we're honored to support it.



Building a Strong Resume

Learn how to write a compelling summary, highlight your experiences, choose strong action verbs, and quantify your accomplishments.

A strong resume is clear, organized, and focused on what makes *you* a great candidate. Even if you're early in your journey, you have more to showcase than you think. Use these tips to highlight your skills, experiences, and passion for agriculture.



Start With a Strong Summary

- Open with 2–3 sentences that capture who you are and what you're working toward.
- Example: “Motivated ag student with hands-on field experience and a passion for sustainability. Seeking opportunities to support innovative solutions in modern agriculture.”



Highlight All Relevant Experience

- Employers know young professionals are still building careers. Include:
- Internships or part-time work
- Volunteer roles
- FFA, 4-H, AFA, or campus leadership
- Class projects or research
- Field experience or farm work
- Community involvement
- Focus on what you *learned* and how you contributed.



Use Strong Action Verbs

- Start each bullet with a verb that shows impact:
- **Ex: Led, supported, analyzed, created, communicated, implemented, monitored, designed, collaborated, presented.**



Quantify Your Impact When You Can

- Numbers help employers understand scale and responsibility.
Examples:
- “Assisted with data collection across 30+ corn trial plots.”
- “Served 200+ community members through FFA outreach events.”
- “Managed social content that reached 5,000 students.”

Show Your Skills — Technical & Personal

- Include skills relevant to agriculture and early career roles:
- **EX: GIS tools, lab equipment, Excel, GPS mapping, field scouting, safety training, digital tools, communication, teamwork, problem-solving, adaptability.**

Keep It Clean & Easy to Read

- A resume should be simple, modern, and one page for early-career applicants.
- Tips:
- Use clear headings and consistent formatting
- Choose clean, readable fonts
- Keep bullet points short and punchy
- Avoid large paragraphs
- Save as PDF for clean sharing

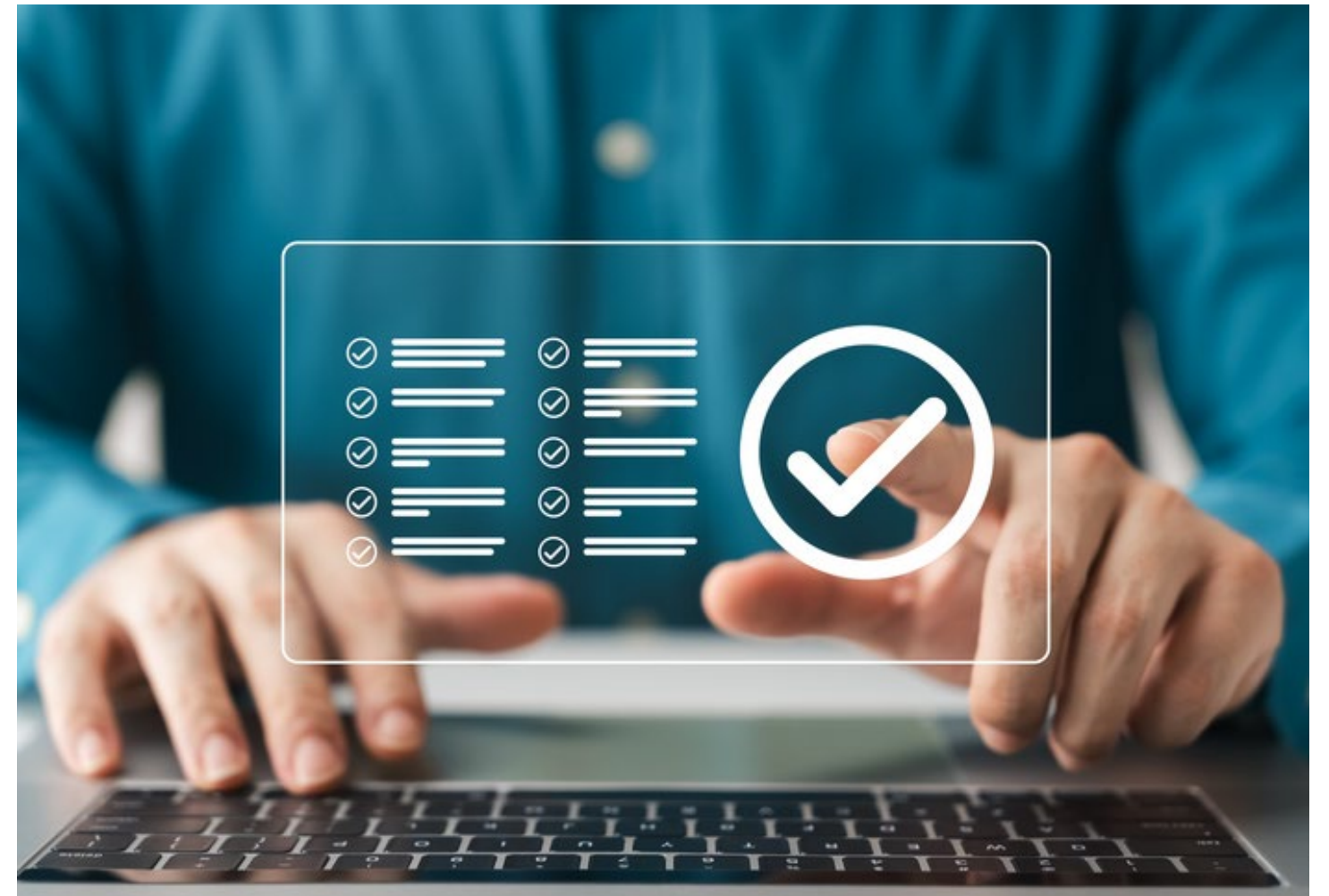


Tailor Your Resume for the Role

- Match your resume to the job description:
- Highlight skills that matter to that role
- Use wording similar to what the employer is looking for
- Move your most relevant experiences toward the top
- Show your connection to agriculture when possible

End With a Proofread

- Always check for:
- Spelling and grammar
- Consistent formatting
- Clear sections
- Accurate dates
- Professional file name (“Firstname_Lastname_Resume.pdf”)





Career Pathways in Agriculture

Explore diverse opportunities in agronomy, sustainability, research, communications, ag business, technology, regulatory roles, and more.



Career Pathways in Agriculture

Agriculture is bigger, broader, and more dynamic than most people realize. Today's industry spans science, sustainability, technology, business, communication, logistics, and so much more. Whether you're drawn to the lab, the field, the office, or the digital world, there's a place for your strengths and interests in ag.

As the industry evolves, new roles are emerging—blending innovation with real-world impact. You'll find opportunities to support growers, protect natural resources, advance scientific discovery, strengthen food systems, and help shape the future of sustainable agriculture.

At Valent U.S.A., we care deeply about the future of agriculture—and the young leaders who will drive it forward. That's why we're committed to supporting your growth, helping you explore what's possible, and empowering you to find a path where your talents can truly make a difference.

This section highlights some of the most exciting career paths available today—and the skills that will help you thrive in each one.



Agronomy & Crop Science

Support growers with insights that help crops thrive.

What you'll do: Field scouting, trial work, crop evaluations, soil/plant sampling, advising growers.

Skills that help: Plant science knowledge, data collection, communication, observation, problem-solving.



Research & Development (R&D)

Discover and test the innovations driving tomorrow's agriculture.

What you'll do: Lab work, product testing, sample analysis, research trials, data monitoring.

Skills that help: Lab techniques, attention to detail, scientific curiosity, data analysis.



Sustainability & Environmental Stewardship

Help growers and ag companies make smart, strategic decisions.

What you'll do: Budgeting, market analysis, supply chain work, operational planning, customer support.

Skills that help: Business acumen, math, organization, analytics, relationship-building.



Sales & Field Support

Partner with growers and retailers to provide solutions that improve outcomes.

What you'll do: Product recommendations, territory support, field visits, customer relationships.

Skills that help: Communication, confidence, teamwork, listening, problem-solving.



Ag Communications & Marketing

Tell the story of agriculture—and make science understandable.

What you'll do: Social media, photography, writing, video, branding, public speaking.

Skills that help: Creativity, storytelling, clarity, digital skills, attention to detail.



Ag Technology & Precision Agriculture

Use technology to make farming faster, smarter, and more efficient.

What you'll do: Work with drones, sensors, GPS tools, mapping software, data platforms.

Skills that help: Tech skills, curiosity, adaptability, data interpretation.



Regulatory Affairs & Government Pathways

Help ensure agricultural products meet safety, compliance, and environmental standards.

What you’ll do: Policy research, compliance documentation, regulatory reviews, government relations.

Skills that help: Organization, detail orientation, research, communication.



Laboratory, Biology & Scientific Careers

Support the science behind crops, soil, pests, and plant health.

What you’ll do: Run lab tests, conduct experiments, analyze samples, support research programs.

Skills that help: Biology/chemistry knowledge, precision, lab technique, analytic thinking.



Human Resources (HR) & People Development

Support the people who power the agriculture industry and help teams grow.

What you’ll do: Recruiting, onboarding, training programs, employee engagement, benefits support, and talent development.

Skills that help: Communication, empathy, organization, confidentiality, relationship-building.



Information Technology (IT) & Digital Systems

Drive the technology that keeps modern agriculture connected, efficient, and secure.

What you’ll do: Technical support, troubleshooting, systems management, cybersecurity, software tools, and digital platform support.

Skills that help: Tech troubleshooting, curiosity, adaptability, problem-solving, patience.



Supply Chain & Operations

Keep products moving—from research to the field—safely, efficiently, and on time.

What you’ll do: Inventory management, logistics coordination, warehousing, distribution planning, and supporting production workflows.

Skills that help: Organization, problem-solving, time management, data tracking, attention to detail.



Emerging & Future-Facing Roles

Agriculture continues to evolve, creating new opportunities like:

- Data science & analytics
- Climate adaptation & resilience roles
- Robotics in agriculture
- Food safety & quality
- Urban & indoor farming
- Digital agriculture strategy

Telling Your Story

Young adults often struggle with how to talk about *why* they're interested in agriculture.

Telling Your Story

Your story is more than a list of experiences—it’s the “why” behind your interest in agriculture and the impact you hope to make. Employers want to understand what motivates you, what you care about, and how your background shapes the way you show up in the industry. No matter where you’re starting from, you have a story worth sharing.

Start With Your “Why Agriculture”

Think about what pulled you toward this field.

Ask yourself:

What moment sparked my interest in ag?

Who influenced me?

What challenges or issues in agriculture do I care about most?

What change do I want to help create?

Your “why” is powerful—and it sets you apart.

Connect Your Experiences to Your Goals

You don’t need decades of experience. Use what you *do* have:

School projects or research

FFA, 4-H, AFA, or clubs

Volunteer work

Sports, leadership, or community involvement

Farm, ranch, lab, or field exposure

Part-time jobs

Show how each experience shaped your strengths or interests.



Share the Skills That Make You, You

Agriculture needs communicators, critical thinkers, leaders, problem-solvers, innovators, and people with heart.

Ask yourself:

What am I naturally good at?

What have others said I'm strong in?

How have I helped a team succeed?

Your soft skills are just as important as your technical ones.

Show Your Curiosity and Commitment to Learning

Young professionals stand out when they show they're eager to grow.

You can highlight:

Courses you've taken

Certifications or workshops

Books, podcasts, or events you follow

Questions you're excited to explore in agriculture

Curiosity signals potential—and employers love that.



Tie It All Back to Impact

Make it clear what kind of future you want to help build.

Examples:

“I want to support growers in making sustainable decisions.”

“I’m passionate about research that improves crop health.”

“I want to help solve food system challenges.”

“I’m excited to bring new technology and innovation to the field.”

Your vision helps employers understand where you’re headed.

Valent U.S.A. Believes Your Story Matters

At Valent U.S.A., we care deeply about the young people who will shape the next era of agriculture. Your story—your passion, your purpose, your potential—is part of what will move this industry forward. This section is here to help you tell it with clarity and confidence.



Internship & Early Career Tips

Many young people don't know how to find or approach opportunities.

Internship & Early Career Tips

Internships and early career experiences help you build confidence, grow your skills, and discover what part of agriculture feels right for you. Whether you're just starting out or looking for your next opportunity, these tips will help you make the most of every step.

Start Early (Even If You Think You're Not Ready)

You don't need years of experience to apply for internships. Many programs are designed specifically for students and young adults who are exploring the industry. Start looking early, take chances, and apply—even if you're unsure you're “qualified enough.”

Ask Questions and Show Curiosity

Curiosity is one of the strongest traits employers look for.

During an internship or early job, ask about:

- How decisions are made
- Why certain practices or tools are used
- Career paths others have taken
- Challenges facing the industry
- How you can contribute
- Curiosity shows initiative—and helps you learn faster.

Say Yes to Hands-On Experiences

Field days, lab shadowing, community events, plot work, grower meetings—these moments teach you things a classroom can't. Step outside your comfort zone and take advantage of opportunities to get involved.



Be Reliable and Communicate Clearly

Small habits go a long way in early career roles.

Stand out by:

Showing up on time

Asking for clarification when needed

Following through on tasks

Taking notes

Communicating updates early

Professionalism is a skill—and you can practice it anywhere.

Build Relationships, Not Just a Résumé

People remember enthusiasm, kindness, and effort.

During internships, connect with:

- Mentors
- Teammates
- Other interns
- Field reps
- Researchers or specialists
- These relationships often lead to future opportunities.



Capture Your Wins and Learnings

Keep a simple running list of:

- Projects you completed
- Honors you received
- New skills learned
- Tools or equipment used
- Challenges solved
- Positive feedback received
- This makes updating your resume *so much easier* later.

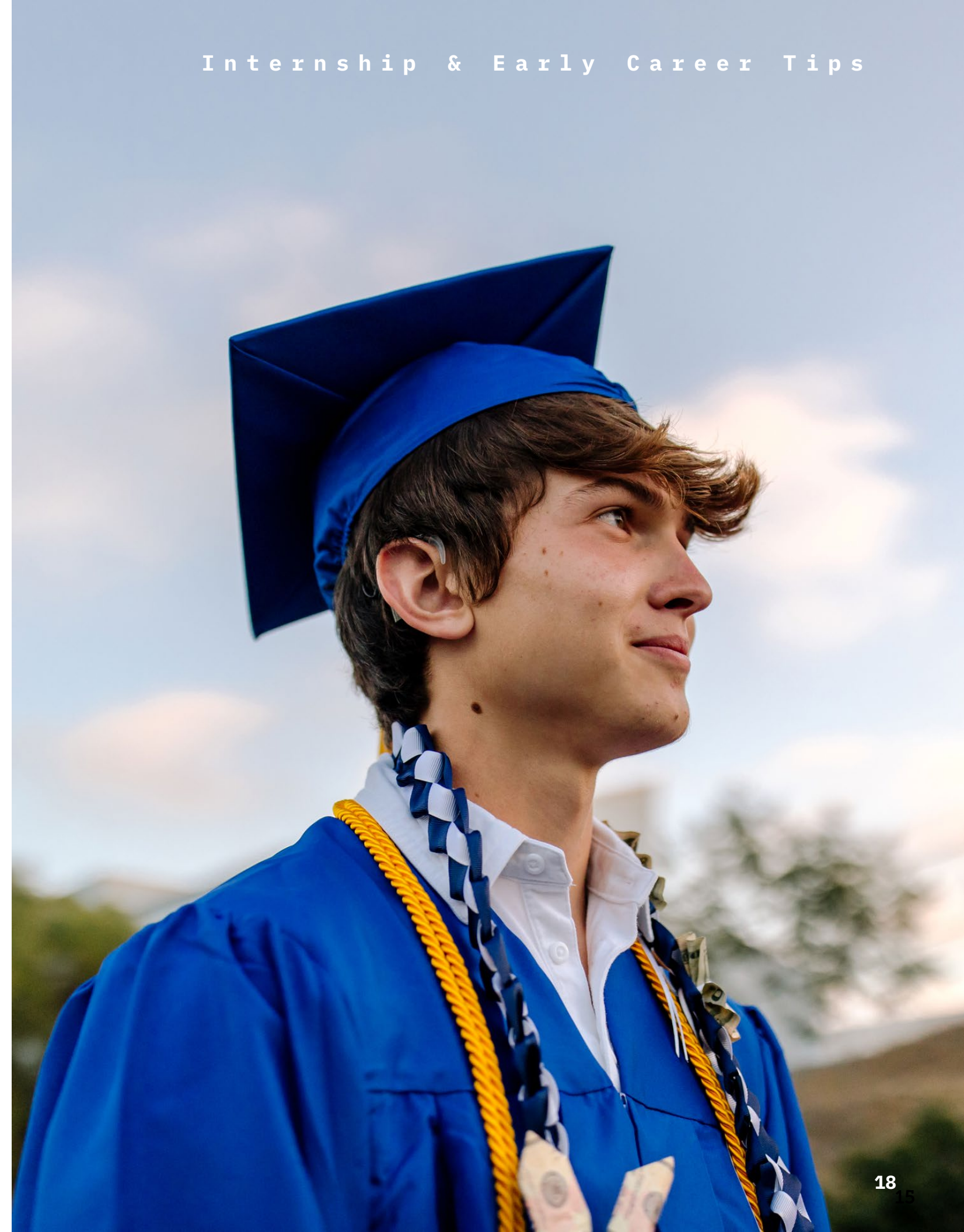
Look for Programs and Organizations That Help You Grow

Consider connecting with groups like:

- FFA
- 4-H
- Agriculture Future of America (AFA)
- Campus ag clubs & leadership programs
- Local extension offices
- Sustainability, science, or STEM organizations
- These programs open doors—and help you build confidence.

Valent U.S.A. Is Invested in Your Future

Valent U.S.A. believes in supporting the next generation of ag professionals. Your growth, curiosity, and early experiences matter, and the skills you build now will help shape the future of agriculture. We're proud to help you take your first steps with purpose and confidence.



LinkedIn & Digital Tips

Digital footprints matter, and most young adults don't know how to optimize them.

Building Your Digital Presence on LinkedIn

LinkedIn is one of the most powerful tools you can use early in your career. It helps you connect with professionals, explore opportunities, and share what makes you unique. Your digital presence doesn't have to be perfect—it just needs to be authentic, professional, and aligned with the future you're building.

Start With a Strong Profile Photo

You don't need a professional photographer.

Choose a photo where:

- Your face is clear and centered
- You're dressed appropriately
- The background is simple
- You look approachable and confident
- A clean, friendly photo builds trust instantly.

Write a Headline That Shows Who You Are

Your headline doesn't have to be a job title.

Try highlighting your goals, interests, or path:

“Agriculture student passionate about sustainability & crop science”

“Aspiring agronomist | FFA & research experience”

“Future ag communicator | Storytelling & digital media”

Your headline helps people understand what you care about.



Use the “About” Section to Tell Your Story

Keep it short and clear. Share:

- Your “why agriculture”
- Your areas of interest
- What motivates you
- What kind of opportunities you’re exploring
- A sentence about your goals
- This helps employers and mentors connect with you quickly.

Add Experience — Even If It’s Not a Job

Your LinkedIn can include:

- FFA, 4-H, or AFA involvement
- Campus leadership roles
- Volunteer work
- Farm or field experience
- Research or class projects
- Sports or community leadership
- Everything that shaped you counts.



Highlight Skills That Matter in Agriculture

A few great skills to list:

- **Communication, teamwork, problem-solving, data analysis, leadership, adaptability, plant science, lab work, scouting, sustainability, digital tools.**
- Choose skills that fit your path — not just what sounds impressive.

Show What You're Learning

LinkedIn isn't just for achievements—it's for growth.

Post about:

- Classes you enjoyed
- Events, conferences, or field days
- Skills you're practicing
- Projects you worked on
- Industry topics you're curious about
- Sharing your learning journey shows initiative.

Connect Thoughtfully

- When sending a connection request, add a short note:
“Hi, I’m exploring sustainability in agriculture and would love to connect.”
“Hello, I’m a student interested in agronomy and appreciated your insights on field research.”
- A simple message makes your network meaningful.



Engage With the Ag Community

LinkedIn is full of voices shaping our industry.

You can:

- Follow ag companies (including Valent U.S.A.)
- Comment on posts
- Share your experiences
- Celebrate your progress
- Engagement helps you get noticed — in a positive way.

Keep It Professional

LinkedIn is different from social media like Instagram or TikTok.

Keep your tone:

- Respectful
- Positive
- Clear
- Mature
- Your future employer *could* read everything you post — in a good way.

Valent U.S.A. Supports Your Digital Growth

Valent U.S.A. believes your voice matters — both offline and online. LinkedIn gives you a powerful way to share your passion for agriculture, make connections, and step confidently into your future. Use it to tell your story, build your network, and grow your career with purpose.



Bonus Career Resources

Additional tools to help you grow—interview tips, networking guidance, and information on youth-centered organizations like FFA, AFA, and 4-H.

Your career journey doesn't stop with a resume. These extra tools and resources can help you grow your skills, build connections, and gain confidence as you explore the world of agriculture.

Professional Organizations to Join

Getting involved helps you build leadership skills, meet mentors, and discover opportunities.

Consider joining:

- **FFA** – Leadership, competitions, and ag career development
- **4-H** – Hands-on learning, STEM, agriculture, and community projects
- **AFA (Agriculture Future of America)** – Scholarships, leadership training, and industry networking
- **MANRRS** – Leadership and professional development for students in agriculture and related sciences
- **Local campus ag clubs** – Agronomy, sustainability, livestock, horticulture, business, and more



Interview Tips for Young Professionals

Research the company and the role

Prepare examples of times you showed leadership or problem-solving

Practice speaking confidently about your “why agriculture” story

Ask thoughtful questions about the team, work culture, and opportunities

Follow up with a simple thank-you email

Interviews are conversations—not tests.

Networking Made Simple

Networking isn’t about having a huge circle; it’s about meaningful connections.

You can:

- Introduce yourself at events or field days
- Connect with speakers or professionals on LinkedIn
- Attend ag conferences or student sessions
- Join webinars or virtual workshops
- Stay in touch with mentors, teachers, and coaches
- Small interactions can open big doors.





Grow Your Skills Anywhere

You don't need formal experience to keep learning. Build your skills by:

Taking short courses (free on Coursera, LinkedIn Learning, YouTube)

Volunteering for community garden or extension projects

Reading ag publications or science articles

Practicing with Excel, GIS tools, or digital platforms

Shadowing someone in a role you're interested in

Skills grow fastest when you practice consistently.

Simple Templates to Help You Succeed

Keep these in your toolkit:

- A basic resume template
- A short professional bio or LinkedIn "About" section
- A polite email template to reach out for internships
- A thank-you message for after interviews
- A list of references you can update as needed
- Templates save time and make you look polished.

Valent U.S.A.'s Commitment to Your Growth

At Valent U.S.A., we believe the future of agriculture depends on the passion and potential of young professionals like you. These resources are here to help you explore your interests, build confidence, and take meaningful steps toward the career you want.

Closing Thoughts

The future of agriculture depends on curious minds, bold ideas, and young leaders willing to grow, learn, and make a difference. This resource was built to help you take those first steps with confidence—whether you're crafting a resume, exploring career paths, or discovering your “why” in agriculture.

At Valent U.S.A., we believe in the power of your potential. Your passion, your voice, and your story matter—and they have a real place in this industry. As you continue learning and building your career, we’re committed to supporting your journey and helping you connect with opportunities that inspire you.

Agriculture is evolving. New challenges. New technologies. New possibilities. And you are part of that future.

Keep exploring. Keep growing. Keep moving forward.

