

# Social Media Do's and Don'ts

Do you take P.R.I.D.E. in your social media self?

## DO

### **Start By Googling Yourself**

*Even if you have a common name, you never know what might show up in a search!*

### **Post "Career-Friendly" Links**

*Social media is great for sharing opinions, but be wary of what your posts may say about you to an employer.*

### **Follow Your Mentors/Role Models**

*Stay up to date on what professionals in your dream career field are doing!*

### **Make (and USE!) a LinkedIn Profile**

*It gives you a professional social media self, and keeps the networking going with those in your field!*

### **Keep a Consistent Social Media Presence**

*Conflicting personas across accounts can make employers unsure of which "you" they are hiring!*

### **Use Proper Grammar and Spelling**

*Using shortened lingo is OK if you're on Twitter and have a character limit, but using "U" or "TTYL" elsewhere on social media can look unprofessional.*

### **Bring Social Media Interactions into the "Real World"**

*If you run into someone you're connected with online, say hi and use the link to strike up conversation!*

## DON'T

### **Post Illegal Activities**

*No matter how you slice it, sharing anything related to illegal activities can get you into hot water with a lot more than just an employer.*

### **Bully or Use Hateful Speech**

*The idea of "treating others as you would like to be treated" still stands as the Golden Rule — even on social media!*

### **Trash-Talk Professors, Co-Workers or Companies**

*You never know who might be able to see what you post. Don't let something you say one day get you into trouble the next!*

### **"Check-In" Excessively**

*Constantly updating social media with your whereabouts can be annoying as well as dangerous.*

### **Lie, Cheat or Plagiarize**

*You wouldn't use someone else's work in a paper, right? Your social media self should be just that — yours!*

### **Have an Unprofessional Social Media Presence**

*Posting pictures from last Friday might be fun, but do you really want an employer to see them?*

### **Rely on Your Privacy Settings**

*Privacy settings, though great, are not a catch-all. You never know who may be able to see your posts!*