

Next Steps for OLCS Graduates

Planning 1+ Years Out

- What community organizations can you join to improve your electoral chances and/or fundraising base?
- Volunteer with the party and campaigns to make connections and learn “how it really works”.
- Attend meetings of the body that you are running for, especially the budget committee.
- Can you be more active in your union?
- Can you do a community service project that helps your community standing? Can you get press on this?
- Meet key community members, decision makers, journalists, bloggers, big donors etc. through work in other organizations.
- Get to know the decision makers for party, unions, and ideological PACs both in and out of the district.
- Get to know the money people in your district.
- Meet people who regularly volunteer on political campaigns.

Begin Building Contact Lists

- Family and friends, members of affiliated organizations
- Business associates, current & former bosses, employees and union representatives, customers, suppliers
- Neighbors, extended friends, acquaintances, friends of family, former neighbors
- K-8 & college classmates, teachers, former boyfriends/girlfriends, coaches, sport team members
- Facebook friends / acquaintances

CREATE YOUR LIST:

- Make sure you have current info like address, work phone, home phone, cell phone, fax number, personal email addresses
- Add in spouse name, names & ages of children to database, and other notes
- Every group has a “connector”, identify group and org connectors
- Mail your list a birthday / holiday card to make sure you have a correct address and to renew a connection
- Find ways to start reaching out to people on all of your lists

Planning 5+ Years Out

- Can you relocate to a different community to improve your electoral chances?
- Can you add experience to help your candidacy:
 - Education
 - Boards and commissions
 - Volunteer activity
- Can you change jobs to improve your prospects?

Building my Political Resume

I hope to run for _____ in _____.
(political office) (year)

Activity	Timeline	Goal
Example: Networking	Monthly for 3 years	Meet with one person a month to talk about my political aspirations. Can be from Labor, Business or Government
Boards and Commissions Executive Appointments		
Local committees, groups or campaigns		
Networking		
Volunteering for political campaigns		
Meeting with current elected officials		
Other:		

Please take some time to start writing out some of your goals. This could be for the next 1 year or 5 years, depending on your personal timeline for running for office. The more detailed you make it, the easier it will be to stick to it. Make goals that are meaningful and doable for you and your life circumstances.