SOCIAL IMPACT CAREERS
INDUSTRY GUIDE

This guide provides an initial, brief summary of career prospects, industry resources, and professional development information for students interested in Social Impact Careers. Whether you are new to the field, or pivoting from another field or industry, you can start here and continue to utilize 1:1 advising, industry engagement, and additional resources from Wagner’s Office of Career Services.

As agents of change across sectors (private, nonprofit, and public), Social Impact, Innovation and Investment professionals innovate services, delivery systems, enterprises and investment approaches to improve lives and solve major domestic and global challenges.

KEY INDUSTRY QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS

- Multiple years of relevant work experience, such as project evaluation or impact analysis
  - Up to 2 years for entry level, 4+ years for mid level, and 7-10+ years for senior level careers
- First hand experience in social enterprise of nonprofit organizations
- Familiarity with impact assessment methodologies
- Strong team skills and effective communication with ability to manage networks
- Business modeling skills
- Pitching and Storytelling
- Fundraising and resource mobilization

CAREER EXAMPLES AND PATHWAYS

- Director of Operations
- Government Partnerships and Business Development Lead
- Corporate Social Responsibility Manager
- Social Entrepreneur (Founder/CEO)
- Impact Measurement Specialist
- Associate Lead Analyst
- Impact Investor
- Social Impact Analyst
- Senior Associate, ESG Research
- Various consultant, for-profit and nonprofit management roles

SALARY INFORMATION

More information can be found on our Recent Employment Statistics.

Salaries related to the relevant field, location, career stage, and organization of interest can be found on our salary research sites page.

More at Stanford Social Innovation Review
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As an NYU student, there are a number of Wagner student organizations and NYU organizations to engage in community and belonging. Additionally, you can join and participate in industry professional associations such as:

- **Wagner student associations**
  - SIIA, IPPA, PASA, WagRAC, WHN
- **Industry professional associations**
  - Council on Foundations
  - FSG Social Impact Consultants
  - Impact Capital Forum
  - Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship
- **Newsletters**
  - Kyle Westaway Newsletter
  - Morning Brew
  - NIIF
  - ImpactAlpha
  - Philanthropy News Digest
- **LinkedIn Groups**
  - Front End of Innovation
  - Innovation and Entrepreneurship Society
  - Innovation Excellence
- **Social Media**
  - @AspenInstitute, @BCorporation, @ImpactAlpha, @SustainableCareerPathways

SAMPLE EMPLOYERS & ALUMNI

View Wagner Alumni Profiles and see how Wagner alumni have taken roles in organizations like Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence, Community Reinvestment Fund, MSCI Inc., Moody's Investors Service, Seed Impact, and more. You can connect with alumni for informational interviews through LinkedIn groups and the NYU Violet Network.

INTERNSHIP & FELLOWSHIPS

- Acumen Global Fellows
- Ashoka Fellowship
- Coro Fellowship
- Echoing Green Fellows
- Impact Investment Internship
- Venture for America

CAREER ADVISEMENT & DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Career Services

OCS provides individual career coaching and support. Visit our website to schedule a career advising appointment or email us at wagner.ocs@nyu.edu.

Innovation Labs

Email support at wagner.labs@nyu.edu

How To Guides

Networking & Informational Interviews, Interviewing, Career Planning, and more!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Wasserman Center for Career Development
  email us at career.development@nyu.edu.
- Entrepreneurial Institute
  email us at entrepreneur@nyu.edu.
- Institute of Human Development and Social Change
  email us at ihdsc@nyu.edu.
- NYU NetImpact
  email us at impact@stern.nyu.edu.
- NYC Chapter of NetImpact
  email us at netimpactnyc@gmail.com.