

# NAVIGATING YOUR NETWORK

Networking events are all about creating connections and bringing like-minded people together. They provide an opportunity for learning and sharing of knowledge, personal development, and can open doors for career advancements. For most people the thought of approaching strangers to initiate conversation can be daunting, but each time we do this, we build confidence.

To assist you in this space, Study Gold Coast have put together the below hints and tips to help you make the most of this opportunity to extend your professional network.

## Before your event

Prior to attending events, its important to think about the type of connections you would like to make to ensure you get the most out of your time and that you are creating quality networks. Ask yourself these questions before attending:

1. What is my number one networking goal for this event?
2. Do I know anyone else attending this event that I could connect with?
3. Which organisation attending am I most curious about and why?
4. What type of people do I want to connect with - employers, industry?
5. What do I hope to take away from this event?
6. From my research do I have anything in common with any of the attendees/employers?

## Starting the conversation

**Start a conversation by introducing yourself:**

- Who are you? – eg. I'm a student at xyz school, I'm interested in...
- What do you want? – eg. I'm attending today's event to find out more about...
- Why should anyone care? – eg. I'm really keen to learn more about xyz .....



## Connect

Start building your professional network NOW! Ask if you can connect via LinkedIn. You can create an instant connection on your phone with a QR Code. Find out how [here](#).