

WHERE TO

A resource dedicated to student-athletes and their Life After Notre Dame.



WINTER 2025

POST-ATHLETICS CAREER TRANSITION PARTNER: NEXTPLAYU



Stepping away from the game doesn't mean leaving behind ambition, discipline, or impact. That's why LAND is proud to partner with **NextPlayU** to help former Notre Dame student-athletes open the next chapter of their professional journey.

NextPlayU is a career transition program built for athletes by athletes, and through our partnership, LAND athletes

gain access to tailored career coaching, employer connections, and a national network of high-performing former athletes who are successfully navigating similar transitions.

TAKING ON THE TRANSITION CHALLENGE AND WINNING

Founded by former professional athletes and mission-driven leaders, NextPlayU empowers former college and pro athletes to thrive beyond the game. Like LAND, the NextPlayU team knows that finding a new career after sports is challenging. So their approach is grounded in identity coaching, career preparation, and community, helping athletes find direction, gain confidence, and transition into industries where their skills translate and their potential is valued.

The NextPlayU team includes:

- **Ryan Nece**, former NFL linebacker, Founder & Chairman
- **Oren Gabriel**, Stanford MBA, Founder & CEO
- **Jason Price**, USC All-American and Harvard MBA, Founder & COO

Together, they bring a powerful mix of sports grit and professional acumen, and they've built a pathway that speaks directly to athletes' strengths and challenges.

PREPARING, PLACING, EMPOWERING

NextPlayU is not a generic staffing agency. It's a professional accelerator tailored specifically to the athlete experience. Through small-cohort learning, one-on-one coaching, and direct introductions to hiring companies, athletes receive the training, exposure, and guidance they need to succeed.

Participants learn how to position their athletic background as a strength, build key professional skills, and join a growing community of alumni who are now thriving in industries such as tech and finance.

HOW TO GET STARTED

Any former Notre Dame student-athlete interested in exploring career opportunities through NextPlayU can reach out directly to the LAND team, by submitting [this form](#). We'll set up a brief intro call to understand your goals and determine next steps.

"Our partnership with NextPlayU brings a complementary dimension to LAND's services by matching athletes with companies based on need and authentic fit and regularly checking in and maintaining dialogue for their continued success."

— Dr. Tom Carter, LAND's CEO

"NextPlayU's blend of industry expertise, strong company connections, and hands-on coaching equipped me with the confidence and clarity I needed to transition from professional basketball into tech sales. Jason and Oren's approach, both personable and practical, makes them exceptionally effective at helping athletes break into the field, and my experience was no exception. I'd recommend them without hesitation to any athlete looking to enter the world of tech sales."

— Nikola Djogo, MBA (ND '20, '21)
LAND client placed through NextPlayU
