

Tips for recent grads

What to do when you graduate without a job

By RACHEL DOUGHTY
Newsletter Editor

In a tough economy, not every graduate receives the luxury of a job following commencement. In need of some tips? Job hunting post-graduation doesn't have to be a dead end, as long as you're willing to put in the time and effort.

The Black Collegian Online posted a story that contained many tips that could help you in your job search.

—The Job Search—

First, you need to dedicate a significant amount of time to searching and applying for jobs. Establish a schedule each day, and stick to it. Conduct research on companies, set up information interviews, and follow up with the contacts you've made.

You aren't doing yourself any good by sending out mass amounts of the same résumé and cover letter. You need to take time to write personal cover letters, and make sure your resume is professional. Get friends and family to edit them before sending anything to a company.

You also shouldn't rely on passive online searches. They can be helpful in determining companies for which you want to apply, but you ultimately need to get out and meet people. Shake hands,

hand over résumés, and smile. Even if they're not hiring right now, they might have a job opening in the future, or know someone in the business who is hiring.

Networking is also an essential part of the job search. Keep close contact with those college groups of which you were a part, and spread the word that you're searching for a job. Talk to friends and family—they might know someone who is hiring, and can put a good word in for you.

—Landing The Job—

The inevitable interview is an important part of the process. You can't hide that you're unemployed, so you need to be prepared to explain why you haven't been able to secure a job yet, and make sure to stay involved in the community.

You could volunteer your services to a company in a related field to your interests. Who knows? A job may even come out of that opportunity. Your loans and bills are important, but in order to gain work experience, you might have to offer your services for free while working a part-time job. Either way, you need to stay up to date on events and new

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Spring Quarter Calendar

May 18 —

~Fall quarter priority registration begins

May 19 —

~Last Toolkit Tuesday with Career Services:

3:10-4 p.m. Interview Essentials

4:10-5 p.m. Jump Start Your Job Search

5:10-6 p.m. Professionalism 101

6:10-7 p.m. Résumé Revamp

May 25 —

~Memorial Day-University closed

June 1 —

~Last day for returning and transfer students to withdraw from housing and receive full housing deposit

June 5 —

~Last day to drop all classes for spring quarter-courses will remain on student's academic record as WP/WF

June 6 —

~Last day of classes for spring quarter

June 8 —

~Last day to pay fees for summer quarter without late payment charge

~Spring quarter exam period begins

June 12 —

~End of final exam period

~Annual Graduate Commencement

June 13 —

~Annual Undergraduate Commencement

June 18 —

~Spring quarter grades e-mailed to students

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skills in your field so you can continue to impress future employers. Follow up with informational interviews that turn out particularly well. Make sure you're friendly to everyone in the office so they know you have people skills and that you would be an enjoyable person with which to work.

Determine your skills, and market them accordingly. Do you have experience in computer technology that could put you ahead of the game? Make sure to mention it. They will ask the difficult questions, and a strong answer to "Why should we hire you?" could make all the difference. Know your skills and who you are, so you can sell yourself well.

—*Alternatives*—

In all reality, the job you want or need might still not be there, despite your greatest attempts. You should have a backup plan. College loans and lack of income can be difficult, but if you have the money to do so, furthering your education might be a fulfilling way to spend your time. Head to graduate school, apply to medical school, or get another degree in an area that might supplement your current one. A move like this could make you more marketable later on, and you continuing to advance your education shows initiative and keeps you focused and involved in the industry. If you've maxed out all the education you can muster, attend conferences and read journals. Stay up to date on new occurrences. Employers will see your hard work as dedication.

Internships, paid or unpaid, can often lead to jobs. Some often pay a hefty amount of money, and the most impressive interns could be offered to do the same job full time, or recommended to another industry company.

Have you ever thought about joining the Peace Corps? Traveling and helping others might be just what you need to enjoy life and clear your mind. Teach for America and AmeriCorps are also great alternatives and look impressive on a future résumé.

Whatever you plan to do after graduation, don't sit around and wait for the right job to fall in your lap. You will need to work for it, research, and sell yourself to recruiters, and be prepared for a long journey. But after all that work, the right job might come to you, and you'll be happy that you invested so much time and effort into your job search.

Meet the Career Services employees

Sybil Kennedy:

—**What she does:** Graduate Assistant for Outreach to Regional Campuses

—**Previous education:** Bachelor's in Speech Communications, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

—**How long she's been here:** More than a year — her husband works in Residence Life



—**Current studies:** Master's program — College Student Personnel

—**Favorite class:** "I really don't have a favorite subject. I like the classes where we get to discuss the subject rather than have a test. I seem to learn better that way."

—**Interests:** Playing with her daughter; playing Nintendo Wii or DS

—**Favorite thing about Athens:** "I know most people are not going to like me for saying this, but I have to say Walmart."

—**Best advice:** "Pay attention to the choices you make. Even though you are young and in college the things you do today really can affect you tomorrow."

Sarah Meadows:

—**What she does:** Graduate Assistant for Outreach to Student Groups

—**Previous education:** Bachelor's in Communications, Ohio University 2008

—**Current studies:** Master's program — College Student Personnel



—**What's great about Career Services:** "I love the services we provide to the students and I believe that the services we offer have a huge impact on the student's future."

—**Favorite class:** Counseling Techniques

—**Interests:** Member of the OU cross country/track & field team; spending time with her little brother

—**Best advice:** "I would tell students that these four years are what you make it. They have the ability to make college the best four years of their lives or the worst. They have the ability to take advantage of what the campus has to offer and to start building their future now."

Companies are recruiting this fall

By RACHEL DOUGHTY
Newsletter Editor

Believe it or not, fall quarter is a great time to start applying for full-time jobs and internships. Companies are still recruiting full swing, but fewer students are thinking about jobs after graduation.

Many students put off thinking about life in the real world until winter or spring quarter, while there are many opportunities available right now.

Why not take advantage of the time you have and start your job search early? It could save you undue stress winter or spring quarter, when you're more worried about graduating and soaking up the last few rays of college life.

Career Services can help you get ahead in your search for employment. For a list of companies recruiting for full-time, part-time and internship positions, check out the Career Services student recruitment page online at: www.ohio.edu/careers/students/recruit.cfm. There you will find information about upcoming ca-

reer fairs, a calendar of when companies are planning recruitment on campus and a guide for basic and advanced interviewing skills.

On-campus interviewing for fall quarter started in late September and will continue until Nov. 14.

You can also check the weekly news updates at www.ohio.edu/careers/students/news.cfm. The page lists dates and times of companies with planned campus visits, instructions for the pre-screening process and each employer's preferred majors as well as the job for which they are specifically recruiting.

To take advantage of these programs, you must sign up for eRecruiting or the Bobcat Online Job Search. Visit the Career Services Web site or stop in the office for information on how to register.

Don't wait until the last minute – begin searching for jobs and internships now. It could save you a lot of time and energy later on in the year.