

# **CAREER** RESOURCE GUIDE



# CAREER SERVICES OFFICE (CSO)











## one-on-one counseling

The staff of the Career Services Office is available to meet with you regarding your career needs. Contact the CSO to make an appointment concerning any of the following:

- Major and Career Counseling
- Internship/Job Search Strategies
- Interview Preparation
- Résumé/Cover Letter Writing
- Social Media/Networking
- Student Employment

## WALK-IN HOURS ASSISTANCE

No appointments necessary.Walk-in hours vary each semester. Review *careers.iusb.edu* for specific hours. Spend 10-15 minutes with a CSO staff member for:

- IUSBCareers Assistance
- Student Employment Assistance
- Résumé Review
- Cover Letter Review
- LinkedIn Profile Review

### PRESENTATIONS

The CSO offers various presentations throughout the academic year. Go to *careers.iusb.edu/faculty/index.php* to see what we offer each semester. We would be more than happy to speak to your group or class on various topics:

- Major and Career
- Career Options within a Field
- Internship/Job Search Strategies
- Interview Preparation
- Résumé/Cover Letter Writing
- Social Media
- CSO Services

## HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday – Thursday | 9:00 am – 5:30 pm Friday | 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Walk-in hours vary each semester



sbcareer@iusb.edu careers.iusb.edu (574) 520-4425

Visit One.IU for IUSBCareers

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Before you begin** find examples of a graduation timeline, a job search timeline, and effective job search documents.

Before You Begin
Example Graduation Timeline
Example Job Search Timeline
Résumé Brainstorm
Getting started with IUSBCareers

**Basic structure and tips** regarding cover letters, interest or inquiry letters, salary requirements and salary history information can be found in this section.

Basic Structure of Cover Letters
Interest or Inquiry Cover Letter
Application Cover Letter
Salary Requirements and Salary Histories

**Fun with formatting** from headings to listing references. Learn the best way to format your résumé, discover the truths behind résumé myths, and much more to help you score an interview.

Résumé Headings	
Résumé Myths	1
The Winning Résumé!	1
Make The Most of Your References	
Action Verbs	

**Interview preparation techniques** How to be prepared and remain calm the day of, during and after the interview.

Types of Interviews	7
Interview Preparation	8
Day of the Interview	0
During the Interview	I
After the Interview	2

Build your network Tips on networking and writing a networking email.

Building Your Network												35
Building a Strong LinkedIn Profile												36
Strategy and Approach			•			•				•		37



GETTING STARTED

COVER LETTERS

# GSTA



ver the span of your life, you may find yourself repeating the job search process multiple times since most people will change positions several times throughout their working lives. Learning and adapting job search skills will provide you with a lifelong ability to effectively maneuver through the job search process.

## **BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

### **Career Planning Basics**

- Determine your objectives ٠
- Develop effective documents
- Prepare for Interviews
- Extend your career network •
- Interview and afterward

### Example of Effective Job Search **Documents**

Job search documents can include not only résumés and cover letters, but also portfolios, thank you notes, acceptance letters, and any additional documents related to the job search. This guidebook will assist you in the development of effective documents that will assist in marketing your skills and abilities to potential employers. The CSO has several resources to assist you including:

- CSO website; careers.iusb.edu
- Programs/Presentations

Isiah D. Sutton	1		<ul> <li>Individual appointments</li> </ul>
ISIAH D. SUTTON 1700 Mishawaka Avenue ~ South Bend, CVYTHIA RERVIS Administrative Assistant Haworth College of Business Western Michigan University (574) 520-1000 sbcareer@iusb.edu SMANTHA_JONER, PH.D. Associate Professor of Communication S Indiana University South Bend (574) 520-1000 sbcareer@iusb.edu SMANTHA_JONER, PH.D. Assistant Professor of Mass Communicat Indiana University South Bend (574) 520-1000 sbcareer@iusb.edu	ISIAH D. SUTTON 1700 Mishawaka Avenue - South Bend, In Bachelor of Arts, Communication Studies, Indiana University, South Bend, Indiana, A - Five years experience in broadcast a Proven skills in producing television regional fundrasing events and corp. - Extensive media contacts at local les necogapers. - Ability to create sales/media pitches - Doussanding project management site - Doussanding project management site - Constanding project management site - Double daily news under deadline por - Created graphics to enhance and su TELVISION AND VINDO PRODUCTION - Produced hundreds of television net - Developed story idea, Stature topic - Performed live that has allowed for the EVENT MANGIENET - Scheduled and promoted news anch needs. - Helped book numerous guests for sh - Statisticat and developed promotions - Managed and coached corporate so PRESERVICION	Distant D. SUTTON         1700 Mishawaka Avenue ~ South Bend, Indiana 46615 ~ (574) 520-4425 ~ sbcareer@insb.edu         September 17, 2017         Cynthia Reeves         Administrative Asistant         Office of the Dean         Haword College of Business         Western Michigan Ave.         Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5206         Dear Ms. Reeves and Members of the Search Committee,         Meas consider this letter an application for the Office Associate position posted on the university's websit: The position serves to it well with my regerience, skills and carery interestify Inversity.         Worksridte Dear Direction for the Office professional with the aptitude to use work provides the relationships and the experience to reverse a hudget. Currently, in the spin serverse relationships and the experience for the Haworth College of Business at Westera Michigan Linership.         War position posting expresses the need for an office professional with the aptitude to use work provides a wide variery of publications, the inter antiposition posting expresses the need for an office professional with the aptitude to use work publications, the inter antiposition posting expresses the need for an office professional with the aptitude to use work publications, the inter antiposition posting expresses the need for an office professional with the aptitude to use work publications, the inter antiposition posting expresses the need for an office professional with the aptitude to use work publications, the inter antiposition posting expresses the need for an office professional with the aptitude to use work publications, the inter antintexpressing apressible productive relationships and the	<ul> <li>Individual appointments</li> <li>Check the Career Events website for a list of upcoming CSO events; <i>careerevents.iusb.edu</i></li> </ul>
	PRESENTATION  Output: Construction of the second of the se	skills to establish productive relationships and the experience to oversee a budget. Currently, in the Carecre Service Office at Indiana University South Bend, I am responsible for compiling, design and publishing print and electronic publications including e-mails, assessment reports, and pron material. I cullaborate with a wide range of people, within Student Services as well as among the Academic Units. My natural composure and diplomacy enables me to nurture relationships with faculty students, and staff at all levels. I am responsible for the papables and receivables of a var office financial accounts. Additionally, I have a proven track record of project management, wri profing, budgeting, assessment and experience with web publishing and social media marketing Please take look at my resume. I believe you will agree I have the experience you need. Feel fne contact me any time. You can reach me on my cell phone at (374) 520-4425 or e-mail me at sbearer@giubabcdu. I look forward to speaking with you soon. Best regards,	Τηανκ Υομ
	IU Alumni Association Scholarship, Indian 21st Century Scholarship, Indiana Universit IAPD Scholarship, Indiana University Sout	Isiah D. Sutton Isiah D. Sutton encloaure	

## EXAMPLE GRADUATION TIMELINE

Ideally, your job search process begins before you have even graduated



 $\frac{1}{2}$  PAGE AD

Interested in placing an ad in the next edition of the Career Resource Guide? Contact the Career Services Office for options

> (574) 520-4425 HireIUSB@iusb.edu

## EXAMPLE JOB SEARCH TIMELINE

A position opens and the employer begins accepting applications

## RÉSUMÉ BRAINSTORM



Notes	

# COVER LETTERS



cover letter is an introduction of your interests, skills, and abilities to an employer based upon their company's employment needs. Cover letters function as a career objective (which is recommended as a section on your résumé for 'résumé only' applications) as well as provide the employer a snapshot of your personality.

Cover letters should accompany every résumé that is sent for a position or possible positions. Even when a cover letter is not specifically requested, send one if possible. In fact, few employers will seriously consider a résumé that is not accompanied by a cover letter; therefore, an effective cover letter must be incorporated into your job search strategy to increase your chances of being invited for an interview.

#### ISIAH D. SUTTON

1700 Mishawaka Avenue ~ South Bend, Indiana 46615 ~ (574) 520-4425 ~ sbcareer@iusb.edu

September 17, 2017

Cynthia Reeves Administrative Assistant Office of the Dean Haworth College of Business Western Michigan University 1903 W. Michigan Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5206

#### **Opening Paragraph:**

State why you are writing, identify the position for which you would like to be considered, and indicate how you heard of the position. If you are sending a letter of interest which is not in response to a specific job opening, simply indicate the type of work you are seeking. Be specific.

(1 - 2 sentences)

#### Dear Ms. Reeves and Members of the Search Committee,

Please consider this letter an application for the Office Associate position posted on the university's website. The position seems to fit well with my experience, skills, and career interests. I am looking forward to leveraging my mix of experience for the Haworth College of Business at Western Michigan University.

Your position posting expresses the need for an office professional with the aptitude to use wordprocessing, spreadsheet and design software to produce a wide variety of publications, the interpersonal skills to establish productive relationships and the experience to oversee a budget. Currently, in the Career Services Office at Indiana University South Bend, I am responsible for compiling, designing, and publishing print and electronic publications including e-mails, assessment reports, and promotional material. I collaborate with a wide range of people, within Student Services as well as among the Academic Units. My natural composure and diplomacy enables me to nurture relationships with faculty, students, and staff at all levels. I am responsible for the payables and receivables of a variety of office financial accounts. Additionally, I have a proven track record of project management, writing/ proofing, budgeting, assessment and experience with web publishing and social media marketing.

Please take a look at my resume. I believe you will agree I have the experience you need. Feel free to contact me any time. You can reach me on my cell phone at (574) 520-4425 or a mail me at sbcareer@iusb.edu. I look forward to speaking with you soon.

#### Best regards,

Isíah D. Sutton

Isiah D. Sutton enclosure Refer the reader to your enclosed résumé for additional information. End your letter by clarifying what will happen next and how they can most easily reach you. You might say, "I look forward to meeting with you to discuss my qualifications in more detail."

(2 - 3 sentences)

## BASIC STRUCTURE OF COVER LETTERS

Although there are **two** different types of cover letters, interest/inquiry and application, the structure for both is basically the same, however the wording is different. Three basic paragraphs should be incorporated into your cover letter, with additional paragraphs as needed.

#### Middle Paragraph(s):

Your goal here is to show how you can be useful to this particular organization. Describe what strengths you have to offer this employer.

(4 - 5 sentences)

COVER LETTERS

5

## INTEREST OR INQUIRY COVER LETTER

An interest or inquiry cover letter is sent to investigate possible job or internship opportunities. In this type of cover letter, you will need to state:

- How you found out about the organization
- Why you are sending them your résumé
- Indicate if you received a referral from someone within the organization

It is important to follow up these types of cover letters within two weeks with a telephone call since you will most likely not receive any response, especially if no positions exist.



Sincerely,

6

Natasha R. Moore Natasha R. Moore

### APPLICATION COVER LETTER

An application cover letter is sent in response to an advertisement for a job or internship opportunity. In this type of letter, you will need to:

- Indicate how you found out about the position
- · Relate your skills and experience to the specific position

As with the interest/inquiry cover letter, it is vital to follow up with the employer within two weeks to ascertain your application status.

1700 Mishawaka Ave South Bend, IN 46615

(574) 520-4425 sbcareer@iusb.edu

# Brooke M. Winston

September 24, 2016

George Kuta, Coordinator Human Resources St. Joseph County Probate Court 1000 S. Michigan St. South Bend, IN 46601

#### **RE: Electronic Monitoring/Day Reporting Officer**

Dear Mr. Kuta:

While browsing the Juvenile Justice Center website, I was excited to learn about the Electronic Monitoring/Day Reporting Officer opportunity within the Monitoring Home Detention Program. I have enclosed my résumé for your review for this position.

While working at Madison Center, I developed a passion to assist our local at-risk youth in achieving personal goals and becoming contributing members of the community and society. Additionally, while interning at the Northern District of Indiana Federal Community Defenders, Inc., I had the opportunity to grasp the impact we all have as civil servants. Therefore, I look forward to the opportunity to apply my knowledge, skills and abilities from my education and professional work experience to assist the Juvenile Justice Center in achieving its goals.

Upon review of my résumé, I am confident you will find my skills and experience to be an excellent complement for your Electronic Monitoring/Day Reporting Officer position. I would welcome the opportunity to further discuss my qualifications in an interview at your earliest convenience. Should you have questions or need additional information please contact me at (574) 520-4425 or sbcareer@iusb.edu.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Brooke M. Winston Brooke M. Winston

Enclosures: Résumé References

# SALARY REQUIREMENTS AND SALARY HISTORIES

If a position advertisement indicates they would like a salary requirement or history, you should always address the issue in the final or next to last paragraph of your cover letter.

#### Salary Requirements

In the situation of a salary requirement, it is best to indicate that this can be negotiated or discussed in the interview. This allows you flexibility in determining a salary fit for the position after you are able to discuss the full details of the position. You do not want to lock yourself into a salary figure that is either too high for the employer or too little for what the position deserves.

If you feel inclined to provide a salary requirement, perhaps because it is requested in the job advertisement, you should always give a range.

You can research salary ranges by occupation and location on the internet:

- O•Net Online
- Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Salary.com
- Indeed.com

#### NOTE: Additional Tips

Research the employer to determine how you will fit the position and organization's culture

Do not copy the position description word-for-word, but use keywords and terms from the position advertisement

Analyze your own background and highlight skills and experiences that relate to the position

In addition to yourself, have the CSO, friends and family members proofread the letter before sending

Format your cover letter and references to match and be consistent with your résumé style

Address your cover letter to a specific person rather than Human Resources or Personnel, if possible

O•Net Online	
<ul> <li>← → www.onetonline.org</li> <li>O*NET Occupational Outlook</li> </ul>	
$\begin{array}{c} & \text{A proud partner of the} \\ \hline \text{Help} & \text{Find Occupations} & \text{Ac} \end{array} \leftarrow \rightarrow \text{www.bls.gov/ooh} \end{array}$	
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	Salary Search
	Search salaries from over 50 million jobs in the past year
Free Salary Info	What Where
	Add Comparison  Search Job Titles Onl

## 1/2 PAGE AD

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#### Salary Histories

- Give the salary history of your recent work experiences or most relevant work experiences
- Can be included in one of the final two paragraphs of your cover letter or as a separate document; formatted to match your cover letter, résumé and references
- Should always be accompanied by a salary requirement since your current salary requirement may not match your salary history

#### For example:

You have worked part-time as a student and your top hourly wage is \$12.50 per hour. (A full-time employee earning \$12.50 per hour will earn \$26,000 per year.)

Now you are applying for a full-time position in your field where the average starting salary is \$40,000 per year.

In this situation your:

- Salary History is \$12.50 per hour (or \$26,000 per year as a full-time employee)
- Salary Requirement is \$38,000 \$42,000 per year





Notes		

# RÉSUMÉS



he résumé is a personal marketing tool that outlines your skills and experiences so an employer can see, at a glance, how you can contribute to their organization. The most effective résumés are clearly focused on a specific job title and address the employer's stated requirements for the position. While you may have all the requirements for the position, your résumé may be overlooked if it does not clearly identify these requirements. The more you know about the duties and skills required for the job, and organize your résumé around these requirements, the more effective the résumé.

## RÉSUMÉ HEADINGS

Select headings to be used on your résumé that best highlight achievements and experiences that are relevant to the position you seek. Begin with the basic sections: Identification, Summary of Qualifications, Education, Skills, Experience, and Work History. Add additional sections to customize your résumé.

#### I. Identification Section

- The identification section does not require a title.
- Be sure to list your full name (no nickname) including your middle initial.
- At a minimum, you should provide the basics including your current mailing address, city, state, zip code, telephone number, and email address. (When uploading your résumé to a large job board, like Monster.com, it's okay to list your telephone number and email address only.)
- Web addresses can act as an additional plug for your qualifications, used ONLY if they are professional and promote you as a job seeker.
- Consider including your LinkedIn address. Most employers will review your linkedIn account before offering you a position anyway.
- Do not display personal information from any of the links on your website; if it is not visible on your résumé, it should not be on your website.





#### NOTE: Objective Section

The objective section of a résumé is often used in place of an accompanying cover letter, when an employer asks for a résumé only.

RÉSUMÉS

#### 2. Summary of Qualifications Section

This is a list of the strongest qualifications you can bring to the job and should be tailored to each of the positions for which you apply. It is important to use a summary of qualifications. It can be one of your defining elements. The employer will typically scan your résumé, looking for keywords which can be clearly marked in this section. Summary of Qualifications examples include:

- Fluent in English and Spanish
- 10+ years in financial management and forecasting, team management, and mentoring
- A professional educator with seven years of experience in the field working with students and teachers
- Improved standardized test scores in reading and writing on average by 4% over three years
- 5+ years of familiarity with PCR DNA PCR HPLC and sterilization techniques
- Highly skilled in microbiology techniques, terminology and equipment and supplies in addition to having an in depth knowledge of laboratory tests
- 10+ years of experience of maintaining confidentiality of medical, civil, and research documents
- Strong ability to develop and maintain professional relationships with clients and staff
- 3+ years experience with Adobe Creative Suite: Acrobat Pro, Dreamweaver, Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop; Microsoft Office Suite; Windows and Macintosh OS environments

#### **Examples**

- Summary of Qualifications
- Profile
- Qualifications Summary
- Career Summary
- Key Qualifications
- Career Profile
- Career Highlights

#### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- Six months of basic bookkeeping
- Over three years combined of customer service
- Possess the initiative to work independently as well as part of a team
- Strengths: Communication, Honesty, Integrity, Organization, Creativity, Detail-oriented
- Computer Skills: MS Office (Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Word), Peachtree, SPSS, Prosystem

## 1/8 PAGE AD

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#### (574) 520-4425

#### HireIUSB@iusb.edu

#### 3. Education, Training, and Certifications Section

List your primary academic institutions (those institutions that have granted a certification/degree to you or that you are currently attending). Include the institution's name, city, state, graduation date, degree/diploma, field(s) of study, grade point average (if 3.0 or higher), and academic honors and awards. If you have limited experience in the field for which you are applying, consider listing relevant course work related to your job objective and career-related research and projects.

#### **EDUCATION**

#### Bachelor of Science in Business with Concentrations: Accounting and Finance Dec 2016

South Bend, IN

Indiana University South Bend

#### Relevant Coursework:

- Auditing
- Applications in Financial Management
- Introduction to Taxation
- International Business
- Business and Professional Communication
- Intermediate Finance

#### Examples

- Education, Training, and Certifications
- Education and Certification
- Education
- Training and Certification
- Education and Training
- Training
- Academic Achievements and Accomplishments
- Educational Profile

## 4. Skills, Experience, and Work History Section

For most job seekers, this is the most difficult section of a résumé to develop. It requires you to take a look at your current and previous experiences in full-time, part-time, paid, unpaid, volunteer, and internship positions plus be able to put these experiences on your résumé in a way that will garner attention. Choose action verbs to start each statement describing your work experience (examples on pages 24-25.)

#### Examples

- Work History
- Relevant Experience
- Work Experience
- Relevant Skills and Experience
- Employment History
- Skills and Experience
- Employment Experience
- Volunteer Experience
- Volunteer Skills and Experience
- Career Profile
- Particular Area (i.e., Accounting, Counseling, ...) Experience

#### **ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE EXPERIENCE**

#### Tax Intern

**RSM** 

#### Feb 2016-April 2016 Elkhart, IN

- Verified all relevant information
- Complete data entry into computer tax program
- Discovered discrepancies by comparing this year's return to last year's

Accounts Payable Intern Markley Enterprise, Inc.

#### July 2015-Dec 2015 Elkhart, IN

May 2014-May 2015

May 2013-May 2014

South Bend, IN

- Transferred purchase orders between programs
- Received goods against purchase orders
- Matched up invoices and packing slips, key bills, and completed check runs
- Performed daily price audits to guarantee correct information

#### Vice President

#### Treasurer

#### Finance Student Association

- Balanced finances and secured additional funding for club
- Organized meetings
- Initiated contact with new speakers

#### NOTE: Bulleted Lists

Timothy McAdoo notes in his APA Style Blog entry 'Lists, Part 5: Bulleted Lists' 'Bulleted lists allow a writer to create a list that stands out from the text without the implied chronology or order of importance that a numbered list might convey... When full sentences are used, the first words should be capitalized and appropriate end punctuation should be included.'

Most word processing programs will create list formatting automatically. Look for an icon that looks like a bulleted list. Click the icon and then type your list. Click the icon again to stop the formatting.

#### 5. Individualized Section

Although all résumés have the same purpose, your résumé should be unique to you and not a generic template. Employers receive hundreds of résumés for jobs every day and it is to your advantage to design a résumé that will set you apart from all the other candidates. Consider using text box quotes, lines, graphics, lightly colored or textured paper, or a unique layout to enhance your résumé.

#### **Examples**

- Computer Skills
- Honors
- Technical Skills
- University/Community Involvement
- Laboratory Skills
- Professional Affiliations
- Awards and Recognitions

#### ASSOCIATIONS

Accounting Association - Member	Aug 2015-Present
Nap Club - Treasurer	Aug 2014-Present

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges

April 2016

RÉSUMÉS



The Do's

#### The Do Not's

#### of Formatting your Résumé

- State your Summary of Qualifications clearly and concisely
- Focus on accomplishments, skills, and results
- Show verifiable accomplishments in terms of numbers, percentages, or dollars
- Make sure your résumé is accurate, concise and error free
- Use short phrases and strong action verbs and words
- Write in the active voice
- Allow for ample white space
- Use a visually appealing format
- Use bolds, small caps, italics, underlines, and bullets to emphasize key points and create visual interest
- Use graphics only when necessary
- Use a quality paper in white, ivory or a light hue
- Be consistent in all matters of style, punctuation, grammar, and format

#### Heading Options

14

Academic Achievements and	Laboratory Skills				
Accomplishments	Professional Affiliations				
Awards and Recognitions	Profile				
Career Highlights	Qualifications Summary				
Career Profile	Relevant Experience				
Career Summary	Relevant Skills and Experience				
Computer Skills	Summary of Qualifications				
Education	Technical Skills				
Education and Certification	Training				
Education and Training	Training and Certification				
Education, Training, and Certification	University/Community Involvement				
Employment History	Volunteer Experience				
Honors	Work Experience				
Key Qualifications	•				

- Include personal or discriminatory information such as; height, weight, race, religion, etc.
- · Include anything not considered absolutely essential
- Include any misrepresentations or any statements that cannot be proven
- Send your résumé out with errors or incorrect information
- Use flowery language or self-congratulatory puffery
- Use I, me, my, or we
- Use too little or too much white space
- Send out copies with smudges and marks on them
- Overuse bolds, small caps, italics, underlines, and bullets
- Use tasteless or unnecessary graphics or attach a photograph
- Use odd sized or brightly colored paper, fancy binders or folders
- Use abbreviations, acronyms, or buzz-words where misunderstanding may result

#### NOTE: Individualized Section

Although all résumés have the same purpose, your résumé should be unique to you and not a generic template. Employers receive hundreds of résumés for jobs every day and it is to your advantage to design a résumé that will set you apart from all the other candidates. Consider using text box quotes, lines, graphics, lightly colored or textured paper, or a unique layout to enhance your résumé.



## RÉSUMÉ MYTHS



#### Myth #1: Your Résumé Must Be Only One Page

"Your résumé should be as long as needed [in order] to get your concise message across with zip and punch," says Joyce Lain Kennedy, career columnist and author of Résumés for Dummies. If your experience and background justify two or more pages, so be it. Recent grads should not go beyond one page, but senior executives with decades of experience will probably need at least two pages.

#### Myth #2: Employers Do Not Read Cover Letters

"Remember that anything you send is part of an image you're projecting," says Dominguez Chan. "If [nothing else,] your cover letter shows your writing skills...and if all the candidates [for the position] really are top notch, it could be the cover letter that lands you the job."

#### Myth #3: Résumés Should Include and Describe Your Entire Work History

Your résumé is a sales piece, a personal marketing tool. Take time to consider what skills the position requires. It is likely that a part-time job you took for a few months is not going to be relevant or impressive. Unless you need to cover a significant time gap, it is wise to include only those jobs that will showcase your ability to excel in the position for which you are applying.

Volunteer and other unpaid positions can be just as valuable as paid ones—especially if you are a recent grad or are re-entering the workforce after an absence. Use your résumé format to communicate volunteer work as experience.

#### Myth #4: It Is Okay To Fib On Your Résumé

If you think "blowing smoke on your résumé—inflating grades, inventing degrees, concocting job titles—is risk free because nobody checks, you're wrong," says Joyce Lain Kennedy. Employers do check, and those fibs will catch up with you. "People think they have to puff themselves up," says Ronnie Gravitz, a career counselor at UC Berkeley. "You just need to make a good case for what you have done."

#### Myth #5: Including References Available Upon Request Is Standard Protocol

"An employer won't assume [that] you don't have references," says Dominguez Chan. "[Removing the line] gives you more room to include important information about who you are." She adds, "The only reason to include that [information] is if for some reason references are absolutely needed in the field. Academic positions, for example, typically ask for several reference names and/or letters."

## 1/8 PAGE AD

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> (574) 520-4425 HireIUSB@iusb.edu

#### Myth #6: If Your Résumé Is Good Enough, It Will Produce a Job Offer

Your résumé is only one part of the process. The résumé's job is to land you an interview. "Once you get the interview," says Joyce Lain Kennedy, "you are what gets you a job—your skills, your savvy, your personality, your attitude."

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RÉSUMÉS

## THE WINNING RÉSUMÉ!

The ultimate test of your résumé will be adapting it to fit multiple positions. This is why it is crucial to review each job that you apply for and spend quality time on developing a résumé that will target each job. This will show the employers that you have taken the time to think about their needs and how your experiences and skills relate to their qualifications by highlighting the key qualifications in the job description. By doing so, you can clearly communicate in the employer's language that you have what it takes to get the job done!

#### Chronological Résumé

A chronological résumé is the most common type of résumé. It lists your work experience in reverse chronological order. So, your most recent work experience is listed first, then the one prior to that and so on. Because a chronological résumé is sequenced by dates, it is customary to clearly list the dates of your employment, education, and related activities.

		10		
		13		
	SHARQUIDA	B. GREEN		
	ACCOUN	TANT		
1700 Mishawaka SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS	Avenue, South Bend, IN 46615	Cell: 574-520-4425	sbcareer@iusb.edu	
<ul> <li>Possess the initiati well as part of a te</li> </ul>	ombined of customer service vertice vertice vertice vertice to work independently as	Organizatio • Computer S	Communication, Honesty, Integrity, n, Creativity, Detail-oriented skills: MS Office (Excel, Outlook, , Word), Peachtree, SPSS, Prosystem	
EDUCATION				
Bachelor of Science in Busines Indiana University South Bend- Relevant Coursework:	s with Concentrations: Account South Bend, IN	ing and Finance	Dec 2016	Relevant Coursework:
Auditing		Internation	al Business	Courses should only be listed
<ul><li> Applications in Fin</li><li> Introduction to Tax</li></ul>	ancial Management vation	<ul><li>Business an</li><li>Intermediat</li></ul>	d Professional Communication te Finance	when they are 'relevant' to the position that interests
ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE EXPERIE	NCE			you. They should be courses
	<b>RSM-Elkha</b> t information was included ry into computer tax	Discovered	Feb 2016-April 2016 discrepancies by comparing this n to last year's	that incorporate 'specialized' information or experience.
Accounts Payable Intern	Markley Enterprise,	IncElkhart, IN	July 2015-Dec 2015	
<ul> <li>Received goods ag</li> </ul>	ase orders between programs ainst purchase orders es and packing slips, key bills,		ted check runs daily price audits to guarantee rmation	
Vice President	Finance Student		May 2014-May 2015	
	Finance Student and secured additional	Organized r		Skills:
funding for club ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE – IU		<ul> <li>Initiated col</li> </ul>	ntact wit <del>h new speakers</del>	Only skills relevant to the positio
Peer Mentor	Student Se	rvices	June 2015-Present	
	d guests to answers about		dents during registration phase	Be prepared to provide examples
Orientation Team Leader • Follow through wir support	<b>Student Se</b> th students for additional	• Lead preser	April 2015-Present	of how you have used each skill during in an interview.
ASSOCIATIONS				
Member	Accounting As		Aug 2015-Present	
Treasurer	Nap Cl	ub	Aug 2014-Present	
ACHIEVEMENTS				

#### Functional Résumé

A functional résumé organizes your work experience by job function rather than by date. It emphasizes your abilities, rather than your career history. For instance, a functional résumé could be divided into headings, such as Supervisory Experience, Accounting Experience, Technology Experience and other headings that are related to the job and career.

SIAH D. SUTTON 700 Mishawaka Avenue ~ South Bend, Indiana 46615 ~ (574) 520-4425 ~ sbcareer@iusb.edu	
EDUCATION	
achelor of Arts, Communication Studies, Major: Journalism	
ndiana University, South Bend, Indiana, August 2015	
SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS	
<ul> <li>Five years experience in broadcast and print media</li> <li>Proven skills in producing television newscasts, radio features and sales presentations; coordinating regional fundraising events and corporate sponsorships</li> <li>Extensive media contacts at local level including affiliates, independent stations and large regional newspapers</li> <li>Ability to create sales/media pitches that result in generous positive publicity</li> <li>Outstanding project management skills and organization</li> </ul>	
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE	
OURNALISM	
<ul> <li>Developed thousands of story ideas and wrote features for local television broadcast</li> <li>Wrote daily news under deadline pressure for television</li> <li>Created graphics to enhance and support newscast clarity</li> <li>YELEVISION AND VIDEO PRODUCTION</li> <li>Produced hundreds of television newscasts and weekly features</li> <li>Developed story ideas, feature topics, and news reports</li> <li>Performed live that has allowed for creative flair to be developed and entertain.</li> <li>WENT MANAGEMENT</li> <li>Scheduled and promoted news anchors for regional fundraising events, benefiting various community needs</li> <li>Helped book numerous guests for shows and events</li> <li>Solicited and developed promotions for weekly movie review show</li> <li>Managed and coached corporate softball team</li> </ul>	Bullet Points: Each bullet point should contain relevant, verifiable experiences. Quantifiable accomplishments are most useful.
RESENTATION	
<ul> <li>Delivered comprehensive media campaign presentations to local businesses and corporations, including PowerPoint, written proposals and speeches</li> <li>Established sponsorships with numerous companies including 20th Century Fox, Buena Vista Studios, and the College Football Hall of Fame</li> </ul>	
RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE	
ssociate Producer, Entertainment Reporter, TVMC/Studio Operator	
VSBT-TV (CBS), South Bend, Indiana, 2010-2015	
MEMBERSHIPS	
ssociate Member, National Association of Broadcasters, 2010-Present	
reasurer, Student Communications Club, Indiana University South Bend, 2013-2015	
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS	
U Alumni Association Scholarship, Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, Indiana, 2013-2014	
1st Century Scholarship, Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, Indiana, 2012-2013	

#### **Combination Résumé**

As the name implies a combination résumé format combines the functional and chronological résumé formats.A combination résumé format may be a more desirable variant of a functional résumé. Here the functional aspects of your career are highlighted within a chronological format.

		SHARQUIDA		
	1700 Mishawaka A	venue, South Bend, IN 46615	Cell: 574-520-442	25   sbcareer@iusb.edu
SUMMARY OF	QUALIFICATIONS			
•	Six months of basic b Over three years com	bined of customer service to work independently as	Organizat • Compute	s: Communication, Honesty, Integrity, tion, Creativity, Detail-oriented r Skills: MS Office (Excel, Outlook, int, Word), Peachtree, SPSS, Prosystem
EDUCATION				
Bachelor of	Science in Business v	vith Concentrations: Account	ing and Finance	Dec 2010
Indiana Uni	versity South Bend-So	uth Bend, IN		
Relevant Co	oursework:			
•	Auditing Applications in Finand Introduction to Taxat		Business	onal Business and Professional Communication liate Finance
ACCOUNTING	AND FINANCE EXPERIENCE			
Tax Intern		RSM-Elkha	art, IN	Feb 2016-April 2010
	Verified all relevant in Complete data entry program	nformation was included into computer tax		ed discrepancies by comparing this turn to last year's
Accounts P	ayable Intern	Markley Enterprise,	IncElkhart, IN	July 2015-Dec 2015
•	Received goods again	orders between programs ist purchase orders and packing slips, key bills,	Performe	pleted check runs ed daily price audits to guarantee Iformation
Vice Presid		Finance Student		May 2014-May 2015
Treasurer		Finance Student	Association	May 2013-May 2014
•	Balanced finances an funding for club			d meetings contact with new speakers
	VORK EXPERIENCE – IU SO			
Peer Mento •		Student Se uests to answers about		June 2015-Presen students during registration phase
Orientation •	Team Leader	Student Se students for additional		April 2015-Presen sentations
Member	-	Accounting As	sociation	Aug 2015-Presen
Treasurer ACHIEVEMENT	c	Nap Cl		Aug 2014-Presen

#### Scanned or Uploaded Résumés

Get in the habit of naming your résumés in this manner: firstname.lastname.jobtitle.This will ensure the recruiter can identify your résumé by the document title.This can be a great advantage when applying for a highly sought after position.

Many businesses use computers to scan résumés, whether they are submitted on paper or electronically. Computers read résumés differently than people. If you are sending a résumé that may be scanned by a computer, here are a few tips:

#### ► ABC Company ► Human Resources ► Applications

Brenda.Winston.CaseManAsst

Nicole.Markham.PublicRelationsInternship

- Sharquida.Green.Accountant
- Put your name as the first readable item on the page (one page preferred to two), then list your contact information including your email address
- Substitute a Keyword Summary for your Summary of Qualifications
- Use nouns as your keywords
- As always, do not include personal information, particularly information that could expose you to identity theft; such as birth date, social security number
- Use a non-serif font (e.g., Helvetica or Arial) and 10-14 point size, not decorative type
- Use white (preferred) or light-colored paper, printed on one side
- Avoid italics, underlining, shading, graphics, and horizontal and vertical lines; also avoid staples and folds

#### Adapted from

North Carolina's Career Resource Network. 'Electronic Résumés.' Career Choices in North Carolina 2009–2010: 39

## MAKETHE MOST OF YOUR REFERENCES

After hours and hours of searching for positions, focusing your résumé, and scoring an interview, you are still not done. Potential employers often want an outside opinion on your work habits, skills, and qualifications. In your last stretch of the application process, be sure your references do not shut the door on your chances for employment.

#### I. Choose the Best 3-6 References

Select people who can speak about the skills that are relevant to the job. Good choices may include: former or current supervisors, co-workers, customers, vendors, colleagues, coaches, mentors, and professors. Less impressive references may be an adviser, or other more personal contacts. Tailor your reference list for each job, similar to how you tailor your résumé for each position.

#### NOTE: Reference List

Tailor your reference list for each job. Remember to ask permission before including someone as a reference.

#### 2. Ask for Permission

This is very important! Before including someone as a reference, ask for their permission. This will also give them a heads up that they may soon be contacted. Occasionally, someone will tell you they will not be the best reference. You would rather know this before the employer contacts them. If necessary, remind your references to focus on: how they know you, the time frame of your relationship, and positive qualities they remember about you.

Sending a copy of your résumé may also be helpful. Ask how they prefer to be contacted, and include all contact information they are willing to provide. For example, provide the person's name, title, organization, and two ways to contact them (phone number and email address being the most popular.) Be sure they will be available during the hiring process.

#### 3. Provide a Reference List When Asked

A reference list should be prepared ahead of time, and provided after the employer has asked for references, or toward the end of the interview process. Have your references on a separate sheet of paper, with the same header as your résumé and cover letter. Check for typos as one wrong digit or letter could prevent them from being contacted.

## 4. Keep References Up-to-Date on Your Job Search

As appropriate; keep your references up-to-date on your job search. They are often excited to hear of your successes, and it is polite to let them know when and from whom they may be contacted.

#### 5. Properly Thank References

Thank your references at the end of your job search. Although a handwritten note is usually best, a personalized email is also an acceptable way to say thank you.

Five tips to help you make the most of your references. University Career Services, Brigham Young University. Retrieved June 2, 2013, from https://ucs.byu.edu

RÉSUMÉS

#### NOTE: Résumé Review

Ask those who know you best (i.e., friends and family) to review your résumé and give you an honest opinion about its effectiveness.

The staff at the CSO can also review your résumé and answer any questions you may have about preparing and presenting your résumé.

Make an appointment with CSO

#### (574) 520-4425 or

#### sbcareer@iusb.edu

We offer individual appointments to help you with any job search related needs.

### ACTION VERBS

The following list, in alphabetical order, includes some great action verbs to make your resume stand out. Begin each of your phrases with an action verb. Keep the tenses consistent: use the past tense of verbs for former positions and experiences and present tense of verbs for current experiences and positions.

А	Advanced	Approved	В	Canceled	D
Abated	Advertised	Arbitrated	Balanced	Capitalized	Debated
Abbreviated	Advised	Arranged	Banked	Centered	Decorated
Abolished	Advocated	Articulated	Billed	Centralized	Decreased
Abridged	Affirmed	Assembled	Blended	Certified	Defined
Absorbed	Aided	Assessed	Bolstered	Challenged	Delegated
Abstracted	Alerted	Assigned	Booked	Championed	Deleted
Accelerated	Alleviated	Assisted	Boosted	Changed	Deliberated
Accompanied	Allocated	Assured	Braced	Channeled	Delineated
Accomplished	Altered	Attained	Branded	Charged	Delivered
Achieved	Amassed	Attracted	Bridged	Charted	Demonstrated
Acquired	Ameliorated	Augmented	Briefed	Checked	Derived
Acted	Analyzed	Authenticated	Broadened	Circumscribed	Designed
Activated	Anchored	Authored	Budgeted	Circumvented	Developed
Adapted	Answered	Authorized	Built	Clarified	Devised
Added	Anticipated	Automated		Classified	Directed
Addressed	Applied	Averted	C	— Completed	Distinguished
Adjusted	Appointed	Avoided	Calculated	Cured	Distributed
Administered	Appraised	Awarded	Called		Doubled
Adopted	Appropriated		Calmed		_ 000100

E	Н	M	Q	Shortened	V
Earned	Halted	Made	Qualified	Slashed	Vacated
Edited	Handled	Maintained	Quantified	Sold	Validated
Eliminated	Hastened	Managed	Queried	Sorted	Valued
Enabled	Headed	Measured	Quickened	Staffed	Verbalized
Established	Heightened	Mended	Quizzed	Stimulated	Verified
Evaluated	Helped	Minimized	R	Stocked	Vitalized
Examined	Hired	Molded	Raised	<ul> <li>Streamlined</li> </ul>	Voiced
Executed	Honed	Motivated	Rated	Strengthened	W
Expanded	Hosted	Multiplied	Rebuilt	Stressed	
Explored	I	N		Submitted	Waged Widened
Extracted			Recruited	Summarized	
F	Identified	Narrowed	Reduced	Summed	Withdrew
Facilitated	Implemented	Negotiated	Regained	Supervised	Withstood Won
	Improved	Nurtured	Regulated	Supported	
Fashioned	Increased	0	Reinforced	Sustained	Wove
Fielded	Individualized	Observed	- Relieved	т	Wrote
Finished	Innovated	Obtained	Removed	 Taught	- Y
Focused	Instructed	Operated	Renewed	Tested	Yielded
Forecast	Introduced	Organized	Renovated	Thinned	
Formed	Invented	Oriented	Reorganized	Tightened	
Formulated	Invested	Outlined	Repaired	Tracked	
Fortified	ltemized	Oversaw	Researched	Transformed	
Fostered	J		Resisted	Translated	
Founded	Joined	– <u>P</u>	Resolved		
Fueled	Judged	Packaged	Retained	Transported	_
Funded	Justified	Performed	Revised	U	
Furthered		Persuaded	S	 Undertook	
G	— <u> </u>	Planned	Saved	Unified	
Gathered	Landed	Positioned	Scheduled	United	
Generated	Launched	Presented	Screened	Updated	
Grounded	Led	Probed	Segmented	Upgraded	
Guarded	Liaised	Programmed	Selected	Urged	
Guided	Located	Proposed	Serviced	Utilized	

RÉSUMÉS

Serviced

Shared

Published

Purged

Guided

Logged

Lowered

21

Notes		

# INTERVIEW SKILLS



ow that you have spent weeks or even months working on your job searching skills, networking with employers, and sending out résumés, your hard work has finally paid off with an interview. The interview process will not only allow the employer to evaluate you, but also you to evaluate the employer. Interviews are a great opportunity to determine if you will fit within a particular organization and will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about how your skills and abilities can be utilized in a professional setting.

Many job seekers mistakenly think the interview begins when you step foot into the company on the day of the interview. In reality, the interview began the second you were contacted by the employer and invited for an interview.

Your communication, organization, and preparation skills (or lack thereof) will determine the success of the interview from beginning to end and even beyond. Perhaps the most important element to remember is to be yourself!

## TYPES OF INTERVIEWS

#### Screening or Initial interview

- **Phone Interview**: normally a 30-45 minutes interview with human resources and/or the hiring manager.
- Skype/Video Interview: (same as the phone interview) be sure to dress as you would for an on-site/in-person interview.



#### NOTE: The Interview Process

The interview process will not only allow the employer to evaluate you, but also you to evaluate the employer

#### **On-site Interviews**

- One-on-One Interview: normally 30-60 minutes meeting with one specific person. In the course of an interview day you can have several of these types of interviews.
- **Group Interview**: same time frame as above but with several people asking questions. Normally interviewers are organized by departments or work groups.
- Presentation Interview: 15-60 minutes. In some situations, you may be asked to present on a specific topic related to the job for which you are interviewing. There can be several people in the room and normally there is a question and answer session after the presentation.
- Social Informal Interview: this type of interview involves a social type event such as a lunch or dinner with certain members of the interviewing team. It may feel informal but don't let that fool you. It is designed to see how well you carry yourself and interact with people in social situations.

**INTERVIEW SKILLS** 

## INTERVIEW PREPARATION

#### I. Research the Company

Learn as much as you can about the company and its position. This provides a basic understanding of who the company is, services and/or products they provide, dress code, culture, and any other points of interest.

Much of this information can be found by researching the company's website, networking with contacts within the company, and researching employer databases such as **Hoovers. com** or **Vault.com**.

#### NOTE: Research

As a candidate, make sure to familarize yourself with the company, the job and even the people who may interview you. Many job opportunities have been lost because a candidate has not been prepared.

#### 2. Know the Job Description

It is important to have a complete job description prior to the interview in order to understand the full spectrum of duties and responsibilities. If you are unable to obtain a complete job description prior to the interview, research the occupation using the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) or Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT), both of which are available online.

#### 3. Practice Your Interview

Conduct practice interviews with the CSO staff, friends, family members or yourself. Practicing the interview beforehand will allow you the opportunity to pinpoint areas in need of improvement such as communication, posture, dress code, etc.

#### 4. Prepare for Questions

Evaluating and thoroughly understanding your interests, skills, and abilities as they relate to the position will help you answer questions. Although you want to be prepared with answers to possible questions, you want to be genuine and sincere in your answers. It is best to have a general idea of the types of questions anticipated and be able to communicate your answers concisely, while allowing yourself freedom to change gears if asked a question you did not expect. On the next page is a list of possible questions you may answer and questions you may want to ask.

## 1/2 PAGE AD

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(574) 520-4425 HireIUSB@iusb.edu

### Questions Employers May Ask You

- Tell me about yourself.
- What attracted you to this position?
- What do you consider to be your greatest strengths and weaknesses?
- What are your short- and long-term goals?
- Where do you see yourself in ten years?
- Describe your most rewarding accomplishment.
- What qualifications do you have that you think will make you successful in this position?
- Why are you interested in working for our company or organization?
- What two or three things are most important to you in your job?
- Why should I hire you?

In addition to answering questions, be prepared to ask questions. This is your opportunity to demonstrate your interest and knowledge of the business as well as garner information from the interviewer. The following is a list of possible questions you may want to ask.

#### Questions You May Ask Employers

- What skills and abilities would you ideally look for in the person filling this position?
- What are the major responsibilities of this position?
- How would you describe a typical day in this job?
- How does one advance in the organization?
- What is the greatest challenge your organization faces or will face within the next year?
- What are the challenging facets of this position?
- What will be expected of me as a new employee?
- Why do you enjoy working for this company or organization?
- If I am extended an offer, how soon would you like me to start?
- When can I expect to hear from you?
- May I have your business card?



#### Legal and Illegal Questions

In addition to anticipating what questions they may ask, you should be aware of legal and illegal questions.

Legal Questions	Illegal Questions
Are you authorized to work in the U.S.?	What country are you a citizen of?
Are you over the age of 18?	How old are you?
Will you be willing to relocate if necessary?	Are you married/ have kids/ plan on moving?
Are you able to perform the essential functions of this job?	Do you have any disabilities?
Have you ever been convicted of ? (with relevance to the job)	Have you ever been arrested?
In what branch of the Armed Forces did you serve?	Were you honorably discharged from the military?

INTERVIEW SKILLS

#### Prepare an Interview Package

It is always best to be well-prepared and make a checklist of items you will need to bring with you when you attend an interview.Your list might include:

Extra copies of your résumé
Copies of your references
Portfolio of work samples, if requested or needed
List of skills and abilities for your own reference
Complete job description
Names of interviewers
Typed questions for the interviewers about the company and the job
Interview schedule, if one was provided
Paper and pen or a tablet to take notes
Cliff notes of information about the company and
about the people you are interviewing with (use LinkedIn or the company website to find this information)
(use LinkedIn or the company website to find this

Briefcase or portfolio to hold items

## DAY OF THE INTERVIEW

#### **Punctuality**

Before the interview, know where you are going and arrive 15-20 minutes before the interview. This will allow you time to get adjusted and prepare for the interview while indicating to the employer your commitment and promptness. Do not arrive late or miss an interview. If you cannot avoid being late for your interview (e.g. involved in a traffic accident), call ahead and indicate so. Although employers do not look favorably upon tardy interviewees, they will appreciate your consideration in calling.

#### Relax Before the Interview

If you are like most job seekers, you may have some anxiety and nervousness associated with interviewing, which is normal. Practicing some relaxation techniques may help relieve some of your nervousness.

#### NOTE: Interview Package

If you take the time to prepare an interview package or file, be sure to actually bring it! Make sure you have all your items in the package and keep it near the door or in your car, so you will not forget it. You will appear to be and feel much more confident about yourself.

## 1/8 PAGE AD

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#### Dress the Part

You will need to identify proper interview attire including outfit, accessories, and appearance prior to the interview. If you are concerned about what this may entail for a particular employer, be sure to contact them and simply ask. Here are some guidelines for men and women:

#### Men and Women

- Neatly trimmed, well groomed hair
- · Modest jewelry and accessories
- Polished shoes
- No missing buttons, crooked ties/scarves, lint or loose threads
- Crisp and clean clothing (dry cleaning interview attire is best)
- Portfolio or briefcase only
- No visible, eccentric piercings or tattoos!
- No perfume or cologne



Images on this page courtesy of stockimages at FreeDigitalPhotos.net

## DURING THE INTERVIEW

#### Greet and Shake Hands



It is common in American business culture to shake hands with those you first meet. It is seen as a sign of respect. Also, making physical contact with an individual will have a much greater positive impact on their impression of you, if handled properly. The general rule for shaking hands is for the receiver of the handshake to adjust his or her grip depending on the individual who initiates the handshake. Before shaking hands, be sure your hands are clean and not sweating, clammy or cold because this may come across as unfavorable.

### Atmosphere and Culture

Nonverbal cues are any gestures or ways in which we communicate without using words. These can include but are not limited to:

- Body posture
- Facial expressions
- Hand gestures
- Eye contact

Nonverbal cues help us in evaluating situations and determining our effect on others.

#### NOTE: Salary and Benefits Questions

Given the opportunity during the interview to ask questions, do not jump right into asking what the pay is and how much vacation time you get.

#### Salary Negotiations

Salary negotiations normally take place only after you have received a job offer. Many companies consider it unprofessional to ask about salary and benefits during the initial interview and the on-site interview phases. However, during these interviews you may be asked 'What are your compensation requirements?' Be prepared to answer this question. A safe answer is asking what the salary range is for the position. If the interviewers open the door first regarding compensation, then it is OK to discuss.

When preparing to discuss/negotiate your compensation do your homework and attempt to find what comparable salaries are for the position you are being offered. There are several web sites with information such as **Glassdoor**, **Salary.com** and job boards will have salary tools as well. Avoid looking at just one site, check several to get an average. Try to use compensation sites that will provide you with geographical breakdown based on the location of the job. The more informed you are the better the chances you will successfully negotiate your starting compensation.

#### **Before You Leave**

Ask when a hiring decision will be made about the position. This will give you an approximate date by which you can expect to receive a telephone call or email regarding the hiring status.

Get business cards from all the interviewers. The business cards you collect will come in handy later when writing thank you notes or emails and when following up after the interview. In addition, the business cards should be kept in a network file for later use.

#### NOTE: Consider the Company Culture

Look at the environment around you to see if this is the right position for you.

- » Do the people seem happy?
- » Are they helpful?
- » Do you feel welcome?
- » Do you like the people?
- » Are they enthusiastic about their work?
- » Does this seem like a good place to work?

## AFTER THE INTERVIEW

#### Thank You Note

Oct 11, 2017

#### Dear Ms. Reeves:

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me this morning. I enjoyed meeting you and Ms. Moore.

My enthusiasm for the Haworth College of Business has been strengthened by our talk. I am energized by the opportunity to leverage my skills and past successes for the benefit of WMU. Please be assured of my strong interest in the position and in working with you and Ms. Moore. Feel free to contact me at 574-520-4425 or sbcareer@iusb.edu if I can provide you with any additional information. Thank you again. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

> Best regards, Isíah Sutton

Be sure to follow up with a thank you note or email. It is a rarity for employers to be thanked for their time. A thank you note not only shows your gratitude for the interview, but also may help you stand out from other candidates.

A handwritten note may be the thing that sets you apart from the other candidates. This will only be the case if your handwriting is neat and legible. Otherwise an email may be the better option.



#### Job Search Status

Follow up with the interviewer within one to two weeks after the interview. If the employer has given you a deadline for making a hiring decision, do not be afraid to contact them by either telephone or email if you do not hear by that date. This will allow you to determine the status of the hiring process and whether or not you have a chance of being offered the position. Depending on the outcome, you can continue to focus your energy on your job search or accepting/rejecting job offers.

If offered the job, be sure to follow up with an acceptance or rejection letter. An acceptance or rejection letter will serve as formal means of concluding the interview process. It is important to objectively weigh the pros and cons of each job offer and make a sound decision based upon your individual needs.

Notes		
	INTERVIEW SKIL	LS

# PLANNING & STRATEGIES



etworking, whether social or professional, is about building and maintaining relationships. Your professional network may provide you with the means to tap into the hidden market of unadvertised jobs and internships. Creating a network can be intimidating when you feel as though you have no professional connections. At first, networking can seem unnatural. However, being prepared can alleviate the fear associated with networking.

## BUILDING YOUR NETWORK

#### **Network Preparation**

- Know the key players in your industry, including individuals, employers, and current trends
- Understand that rejection is not a reflection of who you are and should not be taken personally

Confidence will be built with each positive response; persistence will be gained with each negative response. With the two working in conjunction with each other, you are well on your way to becoming a networking pro!

#### **Cultivating Current Contacts**

Many students believe they have no place to start because they have no direct links to professionals in their field of study. This is simply not true. As a student you have access to an excellent source of contacts: professors! In addition to professors, you can cultivate contacts within your:

- Immediate and extended family
- Friends or neighbors
- Social clubs and organizations
- Campus clubs and organizations
- Religious groups
- Professional associations
- Alumni and classmates
- · Former employers, supervisors and co-workers



#### **Cultivating New Contacts**

The contacts you already have can be extended to secondary contacts. This will include those you may not know directly, but through someone who knows them. In addition, if you have not already done so, cultivate new contacts from the preceding list.

#### Social Media

Recruiters check online to find out about you; everything from LinkedIn to Facebook. Therefore, it is important to make sure your online profile appears professional. Information posted about you, such as provocative photos, references to drinking and drug use, are cited by employers as 'red flags'. Bad mouthing previous employers/colleagues and poor online communication skills are also a problem.

PLANNING AND STRATEGIES

#### NOTE: Social Media

It is reported that 90% of recruiters use social media to vet candidates. Prior to starting a job search, do an audit of your online presence or have someone else do it. First impressions count – even online!

## BUILDING A STRONG LINKEDIN PROFILE

#### I. Use Keywords

Your summary of qualifications should contain keywords that match your background and goals. Many employers search by keyword, e.g. technical terms and skills from your field. Not sure what your best keywords are? Find profiles of people who hold the job you would like to get and see which keywords they use.

Sample keywords: Analyze, Communications, Coordinate, Data, Database, Fund-raising, Image, Promotion, Public Speaking, Relationships, Special Events, Write



∎€

Summary

#### Producer | Writer | Media Contact

After five years in broadcast and print media, I have proven skills in television news, radio features, and sales presentations.

I will leverage my extensive media contacts to promote your image, special event or fund-raising campaign. Analyzing your relationship data to coordinate your communications efforts, I will improve your public image.

## 1/8 PAGE AD

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#### 2. Write Short Text

Describe your skills and abilities in short bursts of keyword-rich text. Use bullets to separate information.

#### 3. List All Your Experience

LinkedIn helps you connect with former colleagues and networking contacts that may be able to help you find a job opportunity. It also gives employers a description of your expertise.



#### 4. Ask for Recommendations

Collect one or two recommendations from someone at each organization where you have worked. Do not forget to get recommendations for internships you have completed.



#### 5. Refresh Your News

Frequently update your status about major projects you have completed, books you are reading, and professional successes you have had. This lets your professional contacts know what you are doing and serves as a sign of activity for potential employers.

Courtesy of the National Association of Colleges and Employers, copyright holder.

## STRATEGY AND APPROACH

- Be genuine, confident, positive, and enthusiastic
- Know the questions you want to ask in advance
- Make sure you have the correct contact information and spelling

In networking, you can take either a direct or indirect approach. The direct approach is to contact your network lead in-person or by telephone. The indirect approach is to send an email.

Depending upon your individual style, either approach can be successful within some basic guidelines:

- Be genuine, confident, positive, and enthusiastic in all communications
- When you approach a contact by either telephone or email, know the questions you want to ask and decide in advance how to ask them. Do you want to know:
  - a. More about that person's type of field or career path?
  - b. What types of employees the person's firm hires?
  - c. About the requirements for a posted opening at the person's firm?
- When you are calling a cold contact, write down what you would like to say on a card or piece of paper and keep it handy just in case you get nervous and forget your lines
- Ask your contact if you may forward your résumé to him or her and, if the contact says yes, send it promptly, along with a cover letter referring to your conversation
- Before you end a conversation with a cold contact, make sure you have the correct spelling of his or her name, the correct job title, telephone number, mailing, and email addresses

#### Informational Interviews

In developing a job search strategy, networking is one of the most important elements. It is reported that over 75% of jobs are gained through networking. One of the strongest elements in networking is the Informational Interview. In preparing your search strategy you should have a solid idea of the industry you want to work in and have selected companies you are interested in.

Using the strategy outlined in the previous section, use your connections to these companies to arrange a face to face informational interview. An informational interview is not about directly obtaining a job but more about getting perspective employers to see you face to face and learn something about you. The focus of this type of networking is for you to learn about the industry, the company and to get noticed. Prepare for this as you would any interview. If nothing else it's great practice for doing interviews.



#### Keeping the Details Straight

In your effort to cultivate networks, you will begin to develop numerous relationships. It is vital to maintain these relationships. In order to keep your contacts organized, it is best to keep a manual or electronic log including the following:

- Correct spelling of first and last name
- Title, employer, address, telephone, and email
- Priority of contact (high, medium, low)
- Dates when contact is made and nature of contact

First Name	Last Name	Title	Company	Phone	Email	Address	Priority	Date of Contact
Sherise	Devaneau	Administrative Assistant	WMU/ Haworth	269-555- 1000	sdevanea@ wmu.edu	Kalamazoo, MI	Med	9/11/16 10/28/16
Brett	Newkirk	Director of College Recruiting	Midwest Mercantile Company	312-555- 2000	bnewkirk@ midwest.com	Chicago, IL	High	1/16/17
George	Kuta	Coordinator, HR	St. Joseph County Probate Court	574-555- 3000	georkuta@ court.org	South Bend, IN	Low	9/24/16

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### A Networking Email

Structure this email along these lines:

- Make a connection between you and the reader e.g., mutual acquaintance, similar background, etc.
- State your purpose without pressuring the reader. Explain your situation briefly
- Request a meeting at a mutually convenient time, and indicate that you will call to make arrangements



### Following Up

After you make a connection with a contact, be sure to send a thank you letter. This will indicate your appreciation of their time and maintain the relationship. On a weekly basis, check your network log and make contact with those individuals with whom you have not connected in a while. If your contact gives you additional names of individuals, make sure to connect with these leads as soon as possible.

## $\frac{1}{2}$ PAGE AD

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