



The Job Search for International Students

The job search process for international students can be overwhelming, particularly in difficult economic times. Finding a job in the US is possible, though it is very important that you are aware of all the resources available to you, both on campus and off. Make sure you are in touch with the Career Development Center early in your internship and job search process. The following are some tips and resources to help you get started.

The Interview & The Visa Question

Employers are interested in hearing about your specific accomplishments and career goals.

Elaborate on your achievements and focus on your strengths, using examples from your past performance. American employers favor candidates who can demonstrate a thorough knowledge of their career interests and of the organization.

The quality of the interview for an international student can be affected by cultural variables. These can include language proficiency, nonverbal communication style, body language, and overall appearance. Interviewees are expected to be well groomed and to be able to communicate self-confidence, goal-direction, flexibility, and independence. Speak directly and clearly. In addition, communicate your self-confidence with a firm handshake in the greeting and closing, and maintain eye contact during the interview.

Know your work permission status and be able to discuss it confidently with the employer. However, keep the focus of the interview on your skills and qualifications. Understand your eligibility and the visa options available to you. Your job is to explain these factors and process to the employer in a clear and confident manner. Do not let the visa issue dominate the interview.

Apply only for positions that are available to individuals with foreign status.

There are particular American companies, organizations, and government agencies that hire only United States citizens. Do not waste your or the employer's time pursuing positions with these organizations.

The decision to introduce your visa status and work issue is a personal and individual one.

Remember, it is not required for you to bring up this topic. However, if the interviewer introduces the issue, address your visa status and work eligibility directly and confidently.

Internet Resources

www.h1visajobs.com

<http://h1b-visas.findthecompany.com/> (*Searchable database of all US companies that submitted H-1B Visa sponsorship requests within the past year*)

<http://www.twolingos.com>

www.idealists.org

www.grip-eu.com

www.embassyworld.com

www.embpage.org

www.planetrecurit.com

<http://zicklin.baruch.cuny.edu/services/students/international.html#international>

<http://www.nyu.edu/careerdevelopment/sites/international/>

<http://www.flcdatacenter.com/>

www.escapeartist.com

www.topinternships.com

www.optcircle.com

www.getusavisa.com

www.uscis.gov