# RESUME HINTS

## TO START:

- 1. Use as a marketing tool and personal advertisement to catch employer's attention.
- 2. No two resumes should be the same so applicants need to write the resume themselves.
- 3. Choose a chronological (education and experience is arranged listing most recent first), functional (experience is arranged according to areas of skill), or combination resume.
- 4. Omit personal information such as health, marital status, height, weight, and birthdate.
- 5. Make use of *italics*, **boldface**, and <u>underlining</u>, but don't overdo it.
- 6. In most cases, do not include artwork on a resume keep it simple and professional.
- 7. Be consistent throughout the resume.
- Start with 1" margins (but can be adjusted) and keep resume to one page, or maximum of two if having been in the work force for a while. If two pages, include name on second page.
- 9. Print on one side of high-quality, 8 1/2" x 11" paper.
- 10. Best colors are white, off-white, or light gray.
- 11. Use black ink in Times New Roman or Arial font; use font size no bigger than 12pt (unless for name or headings), and no smaller than 10pt.
- 12. Proofread for typos and grammatical errors. Have two other people proof resume.
- 13. Never make corrections by hand.
- 14. Never mail resume without a cover letter.
- 15. Do not attach letters of recommendation, transcripts, certificates, references, or pictures.
- 16. The appearance of the resume should look like the applicant is worth the money the company is going to pay them!

## **HEADER:**

- 1. The header should include name, address, telephone number, and email address.
- 2. Do not include the word "Resume" at the top of the resume.
- 3. Do not list the date of last revision or current date on resume.

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE:

- 1. Include a professional profile that is specific. Make sure this is appropriate for the position.
- Gear professional profile toward what applicant can do for company, not what company can do for applicant.

## **EDUCATION:**

- 1. High school information is unnecessary for a college student.
- 2. List institution's name, city, state, degree/program name, and dates of attendance.
- 3. List courses relevant to the major or relevant to the career objective.
- 4. Include awards from college or previous involvement in professional organizations.
- 5. Education should precede work experience for recent graduates.
- 6. Do not list a GPA below 3.5.
- 7. Know the official name of award obtaining and the official name of the program.

# **WORK EXPERIENCE:**

- 1. The work experience should include company name, city, state, dates of employment, job title, and duties.
- 2. List any volunteer work, co-ops, internships, and part-time employment while in school.
- 3. Use action verbs to describe responsibilities (for example: managed, organized, processed).
- 4. Skills and experience should try to tie into the career objective.
- 5. Long paragraphs are difficult to read. A job description should be six lines or less. Or use bullets.
- 6. Use concise phrases without pronouns such as *I* or *my*.
- 7. Use specific examples where results are shown, such as: reductions, increases, profits.
- 8. Do not include supervisor names, telephone numbers, street addresses, zip codes, salary, or reasons for leaving.
- 9. Downplay gaps in work history. State if job was temporary or summer employment.

## **OTHER CATEGORIES:**

 There are numerous other headings that can be included: Clubs/Organizations, Summary of Skills, Honors/Awards, Accomplishments, Certifications, Military Experience, Community Service, Volunteer Work.

# **REFERENCES:**

- 1. Include reference information on a separate page.
- 2. Use same heading as on resume.
- 3. Use same paper that resume and cover letter is on.
- 4. Ask references for permission first. Give them a copy of resume.

# FOLLOW UP:

- 1. Follow up with the company 5-7 days after mailing resume.
- 2. One to two phone calls is fine but do not "bug" the employer with excessive telephone calls.
- 3. Keep a log of where resume was sent, to whom, when, and dates of follow-up.





# ACTION WORD LIST

For use in identifying skills on the resume/cover letter.

•			
accelerated	decided	investigated	reorganized
accomplished	defined	judged	repaired
achieved	delegated	justified	represented
acted	delivered	kept	reported
adapted	demonstrated	launched	researched
administered	derived	lectured	resolved
adjusted	designed	led	responded
advised	detected	maintained	restored
allocated	determined	managed	routed
amended	developed	marketed	revamped
analyzed	devised	maximized	reviewed
applied	diagnosed	measured	revised
appointed	directed	mediated	revitalized
appraised	discovered	modernized	scheduled
approved	dispensed	modified	screened
arbitrated	doubled	monitored	selected
arranged	drafted	motivated	served
assembled	drew up	negotiated	serviced
assigned	drilled	notified	set criteria
assisted	edited	obtained	set up
attained	eliminated	observed	shipped
audited	enabled	opened	simplified
averted	enforced	operated	sold
balanced	engaged	ordered	solved
billed	engineered	organized	specified
blasted	entertained	oversaw	staffed
bound	established	packaged	standardized
briefed	evaluated	packed	streamlined
budgeted	executed	participated	strengthened
built	exhibited	perceived	structured
calculated	expanded	performed	studied
cared for	expedited	pinpointed	succeeded
carried out	facilitated	pioneered	summarized
cataloged	farmed	planned	supervised
charted	fashioned	prepared	supported
certified	filed	presented	surveyed
clarified	formed	processed	surveyed
cleaned	formulated	procured	•
coached	founded	produced	taught teamed with
collected	gathered	•	•
communicated	gamered	programmed projected	tested traded
compiled	guided	promoted	trained
	handled	1	translated
completed	headed	proposed proved	traveled
composed computed	identified	provided	trimmed
conceived	illustrated	-	
concluded		publicized	tripled tuned
conducted	implemented	published	tutored
constructed	improved increased	punched purchased	
consulted	influenced	raised	typed uncovered
contracted	initiated	received	undertook
controlled	innovated	recommended	unified
convinced	installed	recorded	
			updated
cooked coordinated	instituted	recruited reduced	upgraded
	instructed		used
counseled	interpreted	referred	utilized
created cultivated	interviewed introduced	regulated reinforced	verified worked
decentralized			
uccentranzed	invented	renegotiated	wrote