WHY YOU SHOULD GET AN ON-CAMPUS JOB

Trying to decide whether or not to get a job on campus? While it can seem like a large commitment, there are a variety of benefits to working while going to school. The most obvious reason is that it’s a way to earn money for yourself. It is also an opportunity to offset the amount of loans you take out or a chance to start paying back your loans before graduation. Furthermore, if you are work-study eligible, the majority of on-campus departments accept work-study.

Besides the financial benefits, getting an on-campus job is also a way to develop yourself professionally. If you have not had any previous work experience, this is your chance to start building your resume and becoming familiar with the interviewing process. Real world work experience is much different than the academic setting. When applying for full-time positions after graduation, if you and another applicant have the exact same degree, the way to differentiate yourself is through your work experience. Employers look to see if candidates have developed a professional skillset in addition to their degree. These skills such as communication, teamwork, and time management can be acquired through any job, it does not necessarily have to be a position that relates to your major.

However, if you are fortunate enough to find an on-campus position that relates to your major, this is a great way to gain experience in the field and figure out if you enjoy it or not. Furthermore, this gives you a chance to network with people in your field who might be able to help you obtain a full-time position later on. Regardless of whether or not the job relates to your major, you can still build connections with your employer and use them as references for future jobs or graduate school.

While you can find many positions in and around Pullman, there are definitely benefits to working on-campus. The greatest is that you will have a school friendly schedule. On-campus employers will workaround your class schedule and usually give you holiday breaks off. You also have the chance to meet other students and be able to feel a sense of community. According to Professor Laura Perna from the University of Pennsylvania, research has found that “students who work a modest number of hours per week (10 to 15 hours), on campus, are more likely than other students—even students who do not work at all—to persist and earn degrees.” Working while attending college is not only a way to earn money, but also enables you to develop yourself professionally and build skills that will benefit you long after you receive your degree.

HOW TO FIND AN ON-CAMPUS JOB

If you are a current student at Washington State University, you are eligible to be employed on-campus by any of our 209 departments. In this article, you will learn more about student employment at WSU and how to apply for on-campus positions.

There are currently 5,744 students working on campus and each semester, dozens of job openings become available for current students. Whether you are working for University Recreation, Housing & Dining, the Compton Union Building, or any other department on-campus, working at WSU has a large variety of benefits. Some of those benefits include professional development, class accommodations, internship opportunities, and much more.

Here are a few quick facts to remember before you apply for any on-campus positions at WSU:

- Every on-campus position is reserved specifically for current WSU students
- Students can only work a maximum of 20 hours per week
- All on-campus employers are required to work around your class schedule
• All on-campus positions are Work Study eligible

To get started- you will need to use a resource called CougLink. CougLink is a tool made specifically for current WSU students and alumni. CougLink is used for student employment, full-time job listings around the world, internship opportunities, events, and much more.

First, you will need to go to www.CougLink.org

1. Click on the icon that says ‘Student/Alumni/WSU Temp Employment’
2. Sign in with your Student Network ID and Password*
3. Complete your personal profile and academic profile under the ‘Profile’ tab**
4. Upload a current resume under the ‘Documents’ tab
5. Click on the ‘Jobs’ tab
6. Click on ‘WSU On Campus Student Employment’
7. Browse all current jobs
8. Apply!
* All first-time users must go through an approval process. Approval will take place within one business day.
**You will not be able to apply for any positions until this is complete.

Once you upload your resume to CougLink, it will always be with your profile, so you can log onto CougLink with any computer and apply for positions. Also, every semester- you will need to update your profile by changing your academic year, address, phone number, and other contact information. If you need any assistance with CougLink, you can stop by the Student Employment Center in Lighty Student Services 160 or call (509) 335-6634 for more information.

NATIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT MONTH

November is National Career Development Month! The Academic Success and Career Center is partnering with the WSU Student Veterans Center and the Office of International Programs to put together several events to help prepare you for life after graduation.

Take a look at what is happening:

1. Resume Coloring Book
   • Perfect your resume and cover letter writing skills by completing this free online resource for WSU students.
   • To get started, go to www.ascc.wsu.edu/rcb

2. Seattle Industry Tour
   • Tour five different high-tech companies and network with potential employers in the heart of Seattle, Washington.
   • Information session: November 4, in Sloan 161 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

3. Student Veterans Resume Workshop
   • Give your resume one last polish before winter break. Consult the Student Veterans Career Coaches on translating your military experience into civilian terms.
   • November 5, in Holland 120B from 5:10 – 6 p.m.

4. Internationalizing Your Resume
   • Have you studied, been an intern, or volunteered abroad? Ensure your employers understand the value of your international experience through strategic placement and development of transferrable skills on your resume.
   • November 5, in Lighty 180 from 2:10 – 3 p.m.

5. Let’s Write a Resume
   • Create a resume that reflects who you are in a powerful and professional way. Increase your understanding of the basic components of a quality resume, learn to incorporate your academic and professional accomplishments, and find great action words to describe your work.
   • November 6, in Fulmer 125 from 4:10 – 5 p.m.

Take advantage of these events and be prepared for graduation! For more information, go to www.ascc.wsu.edu.