

Messenger Associates, Inc.

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July 2008 Newsletter



Summer is a Great Time for Job Seekers

Taking a summer break from job searching can hurt your chances of landing a job once fall arrives. To help job seekers make the most of the summer months, Messenger Associates offers the following tips to gain momentum and increase opportunity:

Think Temp-to-Perm: Many organizations hire temporary employees during the summer months to deal with surges in business and less staff due to employee vacations. These temporary assignments can provide you with valuable job experience and possibly lead to full-time employment as regular operations begin once more in the fall.

Network, Network, Network: Summer is a great time to network outside of traditional business situations in more relaxed social settings while still remaining focused on making business contacts.

Show Off This Summer: Many managers are more willing to offer informal interviews during the summer, as a result of less demanding schedules. Make contact with the hiring managers for the positions you want. They will know you are serious about finding a job if you contact them during what some believe to be traditional job search down time. They will respect your tenacity.

Take Personal Development Time: Take advantage of all opportunities to enhance skills and use resources to increase knowledge about companies you may be interested in pursuing.

Thinking about Relocation - Take a Vacation: If you are thinking about relocating to a new town, plan a vacation to that destination. While you are there, set up informational interviews with potential employers.

If You Decide to Go, Go Wireless: There is no excuse for being "un-connected" while traveling this summer. Take advantage of wireless networks at retail establishments, computers at Internet cafes, and web access at hotels and motels. Make time each day to check job boards, e-mail, and use other online job search tools even when on vacation.

Always Be Ready To Make A Great Impression: You never know whom you might meet at a social summer venue. Be prepared with business cards featuring your name, e-mail address, and contact numbers. Have your resume updated and ready to forward when an opportunity arises.

O*Net Online Career Exploration Tool

O*Net Online is a Career Exploration Guide worth checking into. The O*NET system serves as the nation's primary source of occupational information, providing comprehensive information on key attributes and characteristics of workers and occupations. Here are some of the highlights:

- When building a **Marketing Plan** and **Resume** you will find a searchable database of job titles and corresponding summary / detail reports. These are great for defining tasks, tools, and technology requirements for different occupations. It is a great place to start building your Accomplishment Statements and broadening your search vocabulary.

- **Career shifters** - This site will help you to identify In-Demand occupations and high growth industries. For those going back to school or seeking training, the website assists with learning about related skills important to employers and educators and identifies gaps in learning and experience.
- Finally, O*Net ties personal **assessment results** to "real-life" occupations. Interests, work styles, and work values data are presented for each job title to assist in determining job fit.

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