Job Fair

One great way to land a job or internship is to attend job fairs because you can meet 70 to over 100 employers/recruiters in a few hours. They are excellent places to find employment because:

- Employers are actively searching for candidates to interview and hire.
- You can network with fellow professionals and gain knowledge about companies and positions you are interested in.
- You get the opportunity to practice your presentation skills.
- Employers attending will be recruiting for full-time, part-time, temporary or summer positions as well as internships or co-op employment.
- Computers don't hire people, people hire people.

When and Where Are Job Fairs?

Job fairs can occur all the time and in a variety of venues, from college campuses to convention centers. Some even take place in cyberspace. The Brooklyn College job and internship fair is held once every semester in October and March from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. It is held in Brooklyn College’s Student Center on Campus Road on every floor from 2nd to 7th, except for 3rd floor). There will be employers in all rooms. We advise you to arrive on time and plan to stay the entire time to meet as many employers as possible. You can, however, arrive and leave at any time. Even if there are companies not of direct interest or not recruiting for what you want, visit them once you are done with your target list. This 2 minute video can help you get a sense of what to expect.

What is a Job Fair/What Can You Expect?

A job fair is a recruiting method used by a large number of employers (70 to 120). They can be general or industry-specific and include multiple types of applicants or positions. Typically, they involve employers hosting tables or booths. There may be one or several representatives from the company. This minute video can help you get a sense of what to expect. Representatives will mainly be from Human Resources, but will also come from line positions within the organization. At the fair they may:

- Provide information and literature about the organization and employment opportunities and possibly applications.
- Collect applicants' resumes (About 50% of employers will not collect resumes and will refer applicants to their websites where the resumes may be uploaded).
- Answer applicants' questions.
- Provide applicants with important follow-up contact information.
- Meet with you for a few minutes, depending on how busy they are, most attempt to do quick assessments of applicants to determine those they wish to follow-up with after the event.
- Recruit for current openings or for future anticipated openings.
- Have large crowds/lines of applicants waiting to talk to them.

How Can you Prepare for the Fair?

Preparing for the job fair can make the difference between landing an interview or not. This includes:

- Choosing the proper attire
- Having a great resume
- Researching the companies (Typically you will get a list of the employers attending the event as well as the positions they are recruiting for)
- Preparing what you will say at the fair to the employers

Check out our detailed tips on how to prepare in advance and on the day of the fair to make the best impression.