



Looking for a Job? Take an Internship for a Foot in the Door

If you have been out of work for longer than expected and you have exhausted all of your job search capabilities, you might want to consider an unorthodox tip. It could be in your best interest to take an internship. We know that you probably had one while in college, but internships can lead to incredible job offers with the same company.

Should you decide to take an internship and use it as a foot in the door, you could receive payment from the company since you will not be getting credit at a university or college. Make sure that you are applying for internships that match your job experience and your educational background. The more often you apply for internships that match your experience, the more likely it is that you will be able to acquire one.

Even if working an internship is not something you want to do, this can help you turn a temporary job into a full-time position. Try to view the position more as a temporary-to-hire position where you are working part-time hours to start. If you work your hardest and put in the effort, the company will take notice and either offer you a full-time position within their ranks or provide you with an invaluable reference for a job somewhere else.

According to a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) in 2012, 60 percent of people who worked in paid internships were offered full-time positions. However, the news is not as promising for those who work in unpaid internships. The study found that just 37 percent of people in unpaid internships were offered a full-time, paid position. The 37 percent statistic is just one-percent higher than college graduates who acquired a full-time job without having an internship.

Here are some tips for turning an internship into a job:

Work as Much as Possible: Make it a point to apply for internships that require you to perform a substantial amount of work. The more you work, the more you will be noticed by those who have the power to hire new employees.

Follow the Company Rules at All Times: Come to work each day either early or before the final reporting time. Stay late every now and then to make an impression. Adhere to the dress code even on casual days so you get noticed.

Build a Network at the Office: Introduce yourself to the top officials at the company and your



fellow interns. Make friends with everyone because you never know when you will need their help with a job reference or an interview.

Offer Help on Projects: Even if you have projects assigned to you already, volunteer to take on projects that need to be completed. Just make sure you do not overwhelm yourself to the point where you cannot complete the work.