

Tips for Securing a Part-Time Job

Living tips for Niagara international students, volume 4



As an international student, you might be looking to supplement your living expenses, gain valuable work experience, or simply enhance your skills through employment. Securing a part-time job can be a challenging yet rewarding endeavor, especially if you're new to the country. To assist you in this journey, we've compiled some practical tips to help you navigate the part-time job market effectively.

1. Identify Your Strengths and Weaknesses:

Reflect on your abilities and potential contributions to a business. Consider your learning skills, not just your current abilities. Set clear target positions for yourself based on this self-assessment.

2. Explore Various Channels and Be Proactive:

(1) **Job Search Websites:** Platforms like Indeed often list more formal part-time jobs where employers seek longer commitments and stability.

(2) **Direct Application:** Approach target employers personally with your resume. This method is effective for sales and service roles, but may not suit all industries, like accounting.

(4) **Campus Career Zone:** Regularly check your campus's career zone website for updates on part-time job opportunities, particularly for summer positions.

(5) **Job Fairs:** Regularly check your campus's career zone or online for upcoming job fairs. Always carry an updated resume to these events, as they often offer immediate interview opportunities, allowing you to directly impress potential employers.

(5) **Contact Professors for TA Positions:** If aiming to be a Teaching Assistant, ensure you excel in the relevant class and make a good impression throughout the semester. Then email your professors directly express your desire to become a TA.

(6) **Network for Recommendations:** Engage with your connections for potential job leads.

3. Balance Work and Studies:

(1) **Balance Work and Studies:** Plan a work schedule that supports your academics. Seek insights from past students in your program about course demands to inform your work commitments.

(2) **Allow Flexibility:** Keep your schedule flexible for personal growth, skill development, and networking opportunities.

4. Understand Your Rights as a Part-Time Worker:

(1) **Minimum Wage:** Check the latest minimum wage in Ontario (currently \$16.55/hour).

(2) **Termination Pay:** Part-time workers qualify for termination pay after three months of employment, provided there's no misconduct involved.

5. Adhere to Work Hour Limits:

The policy allowing international students to work more than 20 hours weekly ends on December 31, 2023. Adhering to this rule is essential to ensure eligibility for future work permits and permanent residency applications.