

Tips for Success at a Career Fair

Dress appropriately:

Most employers are the age of your parents or a teacher. Imagine what your parents or a teacher would like to see you wear to an interview.

- No facial piercings
- No visible tattoos
- No trendy clothing.
 - Wear a contemporary, yet conservative style
- Long hair should be pulled back
- No wet hair
- No excessive cologne or perfume
- No hats
- Your cell phone should be turned off (not on vibrate).
 - Texting or constantly checking your phone gives a bad impression.

Posture and body language:

- Be Professional
 - Do not try to be overly businesslike or formal, as this can come across as cold
- Smile
- Be friendly
- Sit up straight
- Maintain eye contact
- Avoid fidgety, nervous behaviors
 - Example: Playing with your hair or clothing

Be prepared to answer questions:

- Be Confident
- Practice at home
- Show motivation
- Give clear examples of your strengths
- Talk about your skills, experience, and education
 - Skills: Mathematics, computer skills, and/writing skills
 - Related coursework: automotive, art, or speech classes
 - Work Ethic: being a team player and being able to follow rules
 - Extra-curricular Activities: sports teams, artistic, or academic clubs

Ask questions:

You have a captive audience of employers. Ask good questions to make good use of this time

- See the following page for questions you can ask
- Take notes to show interest in employer and company

Informational Interview Sample Questions

Career Questions:

- What types of positions are available in this industry?
- What experience or skills are desired in this field?
- How do people generally get the required qualifications?
- What occupations would prepare someone for this career?
- Is there a preferred or required education level for this kind of job?
- What is the salary range of this career?
- Are there many opportunities for advancement in this career?
- What is the career outlook for this occupation?
- Is there a lot of competition for jobs in this field?
- Can you think of any drawbacks or disadvantages to this career choice?
- What kinds of other careers could someone in this career transition into?
- What would a typical day on the job in this field be like?
- What kinds of problems do you solve from day to day in this career?
- What kinds of decisions are you responsible for making?
- Why did you choose this career?

Company Research Questions:

- What is the mission of your organization?
- What products and services does your company provide?
- What are the current goals of your company?
- What long term goals does your company have set for itself?
- What types of positions do you have at your company?
- How does your company typically recruit employees?
- What kinds of qualifications does your company look for?
- What kind of personality best fits your corporate culture?
- What are the usual shifts or hours at your company?
- What is the dress code at your company?
- What kinds of salaries and benefits does your company offer?
- Are there many advancement opportunities at your organization?
- Is training usually provided for employees to advance to higher positions?
- Why do you like working for your company?
- Is there anything you would change about your organization?

Questions You Can Always Ask:

- What special tips or guidance can you give me to build a career in this field?
- What other resources would you suggest I check into for more information?
- Would it be okay for me to keep in contact with you as a resource person?
- Do you know other people in this organization or career field that I might be able to talk to?