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5 Things Not to Do at The Job Fair

Tips and Tricks for Surviving the Job Fair

A job fair is a great place to gather information about potential employers and make contacts that can lead to your first job. A job fair can also provide valuable experience in selling yourself to employers – especially if you are typically shy. The more experience you get talking about your skills, the more confidence you will have for when it really matters.

Here is some advice on how to make the most of your time!

1. Don't cruise the booths with a group of friends

Interact with the recruiters on your own. Make your own positive impression!

2. Don't carry your backpack, large purse or other items

Carry your resume in a professional-looking portfolio. It will keep your resume neat and handy and will give you a place to file business cards you receive. You can stow your coat, backpack or other gear outside the job fair.

3. Don't come dressed in your workout attire (or any other extremely casual activity)

A job fair is a professional activity – perhaps your first contact with a future employer.

4. Don't “wing it” with employers

Do your homework! Research the companies just as you would for an interview. You'll be able to focus on why you want to work for the organization and what you can do for them.

5. Don't wait until the last half hour of the event

Many employers travel a long distance to attend the fair and may need to leave early. Additionally, if they have been at the fair talking to students all day, they are not as responsive as they probably are at the beginning of the job fair. If you come late, you may miss the organizations you wanted to get in contact with.