
University Advising & Career Center

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Career Resources for Students with Disabilities

You have the skills, experience, personal qualities and enthusiasm an employer is looking for. You might also have a disability. If this is the case, it's important to take some additional steps to ensure a successful job search. This handout provides resources to help prepare you for your career search.

Self-Assessment

Assessing your goals, skills, interests and values is good way to begin. The online guide, Discover Yourself, (<http://www.csun.edu/~sp20558/dis/discover.html>) helps you through this process and includes a disability assessment to “help you clarify your own disability and related ‘functional limitations.’ ” This will help you later in the process when you assess if you are able to perform a job with or without reasonable accommodation.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed in 1990 and makes it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against a qualified applicant or employee with a disability. To learn more about your rights under this act, go the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's website under Job Applicants & the Americans with Disabilities Act (<http://www.eeoc.gov/facts/jobapplicant.html>).

If you do not disclose a disability to an employer you are not covered by the ADA. However, when to disclose can be a difficult question to answer. The guide, Discover Yourself, has a section that can help you sort this out: When and How To Disclose A Disability (<http://www.csun.edu/~sp20558/dis/present.html>).

Knowing what a reasonable accommodation is for your disability can be useful to both yourself and the employer. The Job Accommodation Network is a searchable online resource for identifying reasonable accommodations. Their website is <http://www.jan.wvu.edu>, and their phone number is (800)-526-7234 (V/TTY).

Additional Resources and Advice

UNH's University Advising & Career Center website link
<http://www.unh.edu/uacc/careersanddisability.html>

Disability Employment Resources on the Internet
<http://www.disabilityresources.org/>

Internships

Entry Point! (<http://www.entrypoint.org/>) is a program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) offering internship opportunities for students with disabilities in science, engineering, mathematics, computer science, and some fields of business.

Education and Business Resources
<http://www.allabilities.com/business.html>

National Organization on Disability
<http://www.nod.org> includes articles on interviewing, resumes and employment information.

Use your campus resources including Disability Services for Students (<http://www.unh.edu/disabilityservices/disabilityservices.html> /) for additional information and support. They can discuss functional limitations as it applies to your documentation on file. The University Advising and Career Center staff provide assistance to students and alumni at each step of the job search process. Visit us in Hood House 102.

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