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College Students: Network Over Holiday Break

Corporate Recruiters on jobipedia.org Offer Tips for the Season

Washington, D.C. – Today, students and other jobseekers are preparing for the holiday season. Most are looking forward to neighborhood gatherings, family dinners and holiday parties. These are all great occasions to network for job opportunities, and corporate recruiters on jobipedia.org provide suggestions on how to more successfully approach these holiday gatherings.

Jobipedia.org Executive Director Michael Z. McGuiness said, “For graduating students and other jobseekers, the holiday season can be full of great networking opportunities. By following the advice of the recruiting and hiring experts on jobipedia.org, these jobseekers will be more prepared and better equipped to make the most of these opportunities.”

Over 700 questions have been posted on jobipedia.org, a free career advice website where hiring officials from America’s leading employers answer questions for students and first time job seekers. And, with the holidays fast approaching, visitors to jobipedia.org are interested in networking tips.

Here is a compilation of some of the advice provided by the jobipedia.org experts on how to network during the holiday season:

- Prior to the holiday:
 - Prepare to discuss your career aspirations and job search with people you will see over the holiday break.
 - Practice a brief “elevator speech” about yourself and the kind of jobs that interest you.
 - Update your resume. If someone at a holiday party or gathering asks you to send them your resume, you can send it quickly and demonstrate responsiveness.
- During holiday parties or other gatherings:
 - Tell people that you are looking for a job, even family members and good friends. Use the elevator speech about yourself that you practiced!
 - Ask directly if you can send them your resume. Or, ask if they could connect you to recruiters or hiring managers within their company.
 - Ask if you can have their email address so that you can follow up with them.
 - Ask that they keep you in mind if they learn of other opportunities.
- After the holiday:
 - Follow up promptly with the people you connected with over the break.
 - Send everyone a brief thank you email or note, even if they weren't particularly helpful. Thank them for their time and any suggestions they might have provided you.

- Engage social media tools, especially LinkedIn, to further connect with individuals, and use these tools to also connect with employers and the group pages of company group pages that interest you.

For additional advice on networking, resumes, interviews, and other tips on finding a job, visit www.jobipedia.org.

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With over 700 questions received and nearly 2,700 answers given, **jobipedia.org** brings together career service professionals and top tier recruiters to help first-time jobseekers and recent graduates get hired and succeed in the first steps of their professional careers. Jobipedia.org is a free, reliable online resource where candidates can ask questions and quickly receive the most honest, useful and timely information from hiring experts at some of America's largest companies, all members of the HR Policy Foundation.

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