

Top tips to snag a summer job

Lela Dickerson

The Clackamas Print

It's June, and your mom is telling you that if you don't get a job by the end of the month, you're going to have to move out - what the hell do you do? Finding a summer job is a difficult task most of the time. It's tedious and usually very exhausting. But no worries, friend; here's what you do.

Apply at more than one place at a time. By doing this, you're opening as many doors for yourself as possible. If you apply at only one place and are turned down for a job, you have no other options than to start over from the beginning. If you're applying at more than one company that uses generic applications, save yourself some time and make photocopies at your local public library, at a grocery store, or here at the CCC library.

When you go to ask for an application, pay close attention to anything the person you're speaking to says; it may be important later.

Also, don't dress in your trashiest jeans. You don't necessarily have to ask for the application while wearing your best suit or dress, but you never get a second chance to make a first impression. Wear some nice jeans, nice shoes and a nice shirt. Do your hair neatly, and (women) wear a little makeup.

Attach a resume to your application. Don't staple it, though. Invest in some of those really nifty, big, pinchy paper clips. If you attach a resume to your application, you look more professional and usually have room to add more work experience or references.

If you need help writing a resume, go to the Writing Center in the Community Center, Room 140, and the people there will be more than happy to help you.

If you haven't had much work experience, that's okay. On your resume put any jobs or community service you have had, including babysitting for your mom, mowing your neighbor's lawn, or even picking up trash in the community.

Focus on your strong points. If you're really good with people, say that. If you like to clean and organize, say that. Don't say things like, "I'm okay with people" or "I've had little experience with blah blah blah." Phrases as such make you seem weak and not a good candidate.

Look for companies that are just opening nearby where you live, especially if you don't drive. For example, there is a Safeway and a Quizno's that just opened a few weeks ago in Milwaukie. New companies like that are almost always hiring, and even if you don't want to work there or think they won't hire you, apply. A job is a job, and you'll never know if you'll get it unless you try.

Call back. Then, call back again. Keep calling the companies back until they give you a definite "No" answer.

Don't be rude, though. Always be courteous on the phone. It will impress your potential employer and makes you look professional.

When you call, ask to speak to a manager. After you get the manager on the phone, ask him or her if he or she had a chance to review your application and resume. If the answer is no, ask when he or she might have a chance to

look at it.

Then, give them a definite date without giving a date. Say, "If I call back tomorrow, do you think you'll have looked at it by then?" Remember, POLITE! POLITE! POLITE! You are trying to butter up this person, while still being sincere. When you get called back for an interview, dress your best. Fix your hair nicely, (men) shave and (women) put on modest make up and perfume. Show up 10 to 15 minutes early; promptness impresses.

When you begin the interview, shake the interviewer's hand and introduce yourself. Answer the questions directly and honestly. If you don't know the answer or are not sure how to answer, ask the interviewer to rephrase the question. Honesty is the best policy.

After the interview is finished, shake the interviewer's hand again and thank him or her for taking the time to meet with you. Call them back the next day, and keep calling until you get a definite answer.



Illustration by Kayla Berge Clackamas Print

Pantages draws on experience, research for popular classes

Lydia Branshaw

The Clackamas Print

It's not every day that you get a teacher who openly admits to being in trouble, but Health Education Instructor in Pantages will.

Though he looks nothing like the "ex-long-haired-hippie-freak from Berkeley, Calif.

the '60s," Pantages has a background in drugs. Thirty-two years ago, he was behind bars and used to change his

As a child growing up in Northern California, Pantages remembers at one time wanting to be a doctor, which may

have later led to his becoming an addiction counselor. He spent a lot of time at the schools with his mother, who was a high school registrar.

"Even when I wasn't in school, during the summer, I was at school," Pantages said. Like many college students, he had "lots of pay-the-bills" through college, including working as a furniture mover, a house painter and tennis teacher. He attended Clackamas Community College and majored in psychology, and later continued his education at OHSU, working in medical psychol-

ogy.

"It was a change of career," said Pantages in reference to becoming an educator.

He came to Clackamas in 1990, just as Ballot 5 was passed, one of the first bills to cut educational spending.

"I came at a bad time, but they gave me a position anyway," he said.

With a 15-year background in addiction counseling, Pantages uses his experience not only with drugs, but also his professional experiences, to teach his popular classes. Currently, he teaches the Body and Drugs series, Body and Alcohol, a class on

Mental Health, and also Music and Media: Sex, Drugs and Rock n' Roll. In the past, he has taught leadership classes, as well as study skills.

Pantages has no favorite course to teach.

"I like them all. I teach such cool classes. How couldn't you like them all?" he laughed.

Pantages said that his classes have been easy to teach because his students are openly interested in the subject matter.

And though he teaches classes about drugs and alcohol abuse, he does not tell

his students what is right and wrong.

"I try to teach without a bias in mind," he said. "I try to get the students to think. I don't tell them to quit."

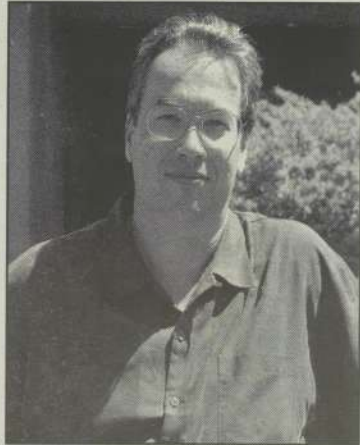
He enjoys the topic of drugs and alcohol.

"It keeps me up to date," he said. "Thirty years ago, cocaine wasn't a big thing. I have to research just to understand what I'm teaching."

As a member of the CCC family for more than 17 years now, Pantages has been more

than involved. He was actively part of the leadership program and still helps with the part-time faculty.

As for the future, Pantages and his wife are looking forward to their snorkeling trip in Hawaii, drug-free of course.



PANTAGES

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