

How to: get a summer internship

Lela Dickerson
The Clackamas Print

The time is coming to apply for summer internships – but what is an internship, and how do you get one?

An internship is basically working somewhere to learn the field. Getting an internship allows you to decide whether or not you want to pursue a career in that specific line of work. Most internships last three months to a year.

The first few steps to getting an internship are very similar to the first steps of getting a job. Prepare an attractive resumé, and make it look professional. If you need help writing a resumé, go to the Writing Center in the

Community Center, Room 140. It's okay if you haven't had much work experience; part of the reason you're applying for an internship is because you want experience working in a field you're interested in. Put any jobs or community service you have had on your resumé. This includes babysitting for your neighbor or even picking up trash in the community.

Focus on your strong points. If you are a people-person, make note of that. If you like to clean and organize, say that. Make yourself look good.

When the resumé is finished, create a cover letter. A cover letter is a letter that you attach to your resumé that states who you are, where you're applying, why you're applying, how you learned of the internship and what position (if applicable) you're applying for. Be enthusiastic, and emphasize your accomplishments. Make a note of how you'll follow up after you've sent in your application.

Essentially, a cover letter is a resumé in essay-form. Be wary, though; the cover letter should compliment, but

not exactly regurgitate, your resumé. Again, help with cover letters can be found in the Writing Center.

Once you've completed a resumé and cover letter, fill out the application and mail it in.

After you've sent in your application, resumé and cover letter, change your voicemail message. The last thing you want is to have a potential employer call your phone while you're

unavailable and have a funny voice message greet him or her. Change it to something professional, like, "Hello, you've reached the voicemail of (your name). Please leave a message, and I'll get back to you as soon as I can. Thanks!"

Wait about a week before you call back. That gives time for the application to get through the mail and for the employer to review it.

While you're waiting to call back, prepare answers to commonly-asked interview questions. Some sample questions are:

Why do you want an internship with this company?
Why should we hire you?
How many hours per week are you available to work?
What are your strengths/weaknesses?

Why do you feel you're qualified to work here?

Be prepared to answer these questions completely and honestly. Nobody likes a liar or exaggerator.

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 (but not too much).

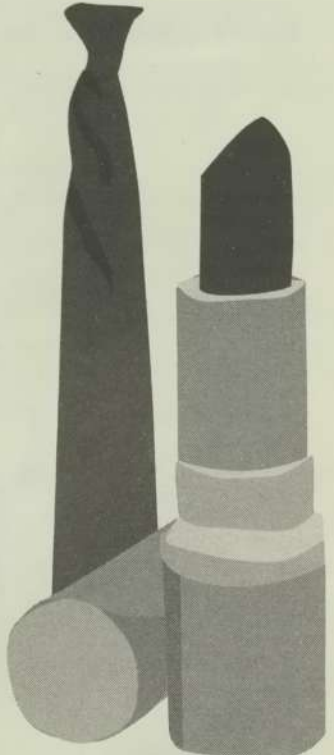
Promptness will impress your potential employer. Show up 10 to 15 minutes early.

Before the interview begins, shake the interviewer's hand and clearly introduce yourself.

Answer the questions direct-

ly and honestly. If you don't know the answer or you're 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.



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May Fair brings past to the present

Heatherann Price
The Clackamas Print

The May Fair, in Estacada, follows in the footsteps of nearly 15 years of tradition.

Until recently, the city's medieval fairs were run by the Estacada Library. Due to lack of funding, the project changed hands: Thea Kuziensi, another employee at the library, decided to take over and turn it into a community club.

The Estacada Medieval Society is currently six members strong.

Clackamas student Golda Kamerman is a proud member of The Society. She goes to meetings with friend and fellow club member Eric Hyde. Kamerman and Hyde plan events, like the fair that took place on the 19th, or the one coming up in August, and participate in those that benefit the community.

The Society's mission statement is boldly printed on one of their flyers: "Estacada Medieval Society will provide a safe learning environment for our area. Our fairs will be dedicated to entertainment and education. Families/communities playing and learning together."

Unfortunately, the club is off to a rough start. They have not yet been able to live up to their legacy. There are fewer members than in the past, and their events do not draw as many people as previously.

This past Saturday was a keen example of the change. The May Fair took place on the front lawn of their City

Hall. Even for a small town, there was limited attendance.

There was only one merchandise booth. The wares sold were more of the pioneer era than of the medieval, though there were spindles and raw wool as well.

Meals on Wheels sold some basic, and perhaps sub-par, food items. The proceeds, of course, went to help fund the group's goal of taking meals to house-bound members of the community.

One could make hand-dipped candles or small bags at the crafts tables run by The Society, though dipping a candle into tin cans of either hot wax or water did not add anything to the feel of the day.

Two other groups came to help out with the festivities. Both a club from Washington, Gypsy Realm Productions, and members from Amtgard, a live-action role play and boffer group, came to help flesh out the fair.

The highlights of the day were admittedly the stocks and the games led by the "Queen." Much like in Alice in Wonderland, she led activities and demanded attention.

Dances and small plays were held at the behest of the Queen, who called for everyone to come and entertain her, join in a traditional circle dance, or laugh at those in the stocks.

Hyde, in a great, theatrical manner, was in the stocks or putting others into them throughout the day. The Society had neck tags listing different crimes; offenses ranged from "not honoring your Lady," to "making

off with your neighbors live stock." One would be accused of his or her "crime" and led off to the stocks, with all in attendance called to watch and help decide the guilt and punishment.

Another bright spot was the attire of the volunteers. Most of the people helping to put on the fair were in costumes both colorful and lovely. There were ladies and pirates, as well as gypsies and lords. The people were as friendly as their attire was stunning.

But among the wonderful were a few eyesores. Some people were wearing jeans under dresses too short for them, or their clothes, while well-made, were not medieval. For example, one woman wore a pioneer-era dress.

To close the fair with a bang, the day ended with a dance around the May Pole. The ribbons were of traditional colors, red for women and white for men. Because there were not enough men, several women gladly stood in the gaps. Around a tree the ribbons were woven, if not gracefully, then with glee.

Estacada Medieval Society will be having more events and has high hopes for the future. Another fair will be held on the first or second weekend of August; the final date has yet to be nailed down. The Society is optimistic and looks to learn from the May Fair and put on an even better show next time.

For information about upcoming events, contact the Estacada Medieval Society at lost_arts_culture@hotmail.com.