Summer and Fall Employment Opportunities

Now is about the time that campus departments and off-campus organizations begin to advertise and conduct hiring processes for student staff, both over the summer and for the following academic year. You may either hear from your student that they are considering different positions or trying to figure out how to find campus positions, or you may be encouraging your student to consider work. Regardless of the motivation, having a part-time job enables your student to assist with the costs associated with school, textbook costs, and/or simply provide themselves with some spending money.

Beyond the financial boon of part-time employment, students benefit by gaining practical, lived experience in a work setting and learning from supervisors who understand the demands of students’ lives and academic responsibilities. Here are some tips from the OSU Career Development Center for encouraging your student to seek and gain employment.

1. Highlight the benefits of on-campus jobs:
   • Many on-campus jobs do not require students to work weekends, allowing students to have plenty of time for relaxation and self-care, or homework if they are taking summer courses.
   • Often on-campus jobs allow students to take off school holidays and breaks
   • On-campus employers are generally very understanding of student needs and will work around class schedules.
   • On-campus positions do not allow students to work more than 20 hours a week, ensuring that they are not stretching themselves too thin between work and school.
   • On-campus jobs often provide students with training on valuable skills such as leadership, problem-solving, event planning, and teamwork.
   • Employers state that they seek a well-rounded resume from college graduates, which ideally will include on-campus employment and/or activities.

2. Encourage your student to apply early:
   • Due to the benefits stated above, on-campus employment is popular. It is important to start looking for on-campus jobs for the fall, as early as now and over the next few months.

3. For off-campus employment:
   • Start looking for employment very early. Because Corvallis is a small college town, part-time jobs are filled quickly.
   • If your student has had previous part-time work experience, it is best to look for jobs with the same organization or the same type of work, due to the competition in the area.
   • Due to a large portion of students leaving Corvallis for the summer, openings for off-campus jobs will increase.

Students who have work experience during college are often more prepared and marketable for job searching upon graduation. If your student is interested in working during school, encourage them to start thinking about it now and consider the benefits and the processes necessary to acquiring the most suited job for their interests and goals. Encourage your student to check Handshake, Oregon State’s online platform for career development and off-campus job postings (part-time and full-time), or jobs.oregonstate.edu for on-campus openings. Students can utilize the Career Development Center for help on their resume, cover letter, interviewing skills, and general application questions. Encourage your student to stop by or give us a call!