## Career Center Templeton Campus Center • go.lclark.edu/career\_center • careers@lclark.edu 503-768-7114 • @piocareers

# The Resume

Your resume is a vital part of the job and internship application process. Resumes should include your educational background as well as relevant experiences, awards, achievements and skills tailored to the needs of the position for which you are applying. A well-constructed resume will help you: get an interview, market your best skills, and show that you are a good match for the job and the organization.

## Writing an Effective Resume

Tailoring each resume to the position you are applying for strongly improves your chances of getting an interview. You want your resume to draw clear parallels between your experience and the specific job requirements. You will most likely have a different resume for each job application. Go through the job description and underline key skills that are required or preferred for the position. Then, reflect on your skill set and see where you can highlight these relevant skills in your resume. Remember, the resume is the place to market your amazing abilities!

### Step 1: Start with a Self-Assessment

- Write out your current short- and long-term goals. What do you hope to accomplish in the next 3-6 months? What about the next 1 year? 5 Years?
- · Think about the type of organization, position or graduate school program that fits with these goals

### Step 2: Create a Master List

- Many people find it helpful, before doing a resume draft, to first jot down a "master list" to help them think of all of their experiences that may be applicable for a resume
- · Ideas for Master list:
  - Education including International study and off-campus semesters
  - Every paid job you've had with major accomplishments
  - Every volunteer/community service experience
  - Types of courses you've taken and the associated projects
  - Research Experience
  - All of your college activities (sports, clubs, committees, leadership)
  - Awards (Dean's list, Scholarships, etc.)
- Once you have written this master list, write down the skills you have gained along the way in each of these experiences. The skills inventory, which you can get from a career counselor, is a great tool you can use during this process
- · NOT ALL of these experiences will be on your final resume but can be on your Master Resume

### Step 3: Create a Master Resume

- Create a large master resume based on the drafting tips below that includes all of the experiences from your master list based on the drafting tips in the next section
- This resume will never be submitted but will be a document you can draw from when you write a more tailored resume



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## Drafting your Resume

Expect to go through several different drafts during the editing process. Pay close attention to content, grammar, consistency and formatting. After you create your Master Resume, you are ready to tailor your resume to the opportunity you are applying for. The information you include is determined by the industry in which you are applying for and the specifics from the job description.

### Step 1: Do your research

- · Get to know your industry or organization through online research and talking to people in the field
- · Pay attention to the skills, coursework and experience your industry needs
- If you have a specific position description, what are the *specific* skills and *experiences* listed for this particular position? Use this research to target and tailor your resume
- Don't get discouraged! If a position says that 1 year of research is required, count 2 summers of research experience or discuss research projects you have done in classes

### Step 2: Create a format

- As a starting point, here is the order of the main section headings you may want to include. You can also create special sections to highlight specific skills areas like research or field work.
   Note: Everything should be chronological (earliest first to latest last) in each section)
  - Contact information (Name, Address, Phone Number)
    - Education (College, Location, Major/Minor)
      - Optional: GPA, Study Abroad, Relevant Courses
    - Relevant Experience: List position, organization, location (city, state, country) and dates (Month/Year or Season/Year)
    - o Activities/Community Involvement/Extracurricular/Volunteer
    - Awards/Honors (can also be under education)
    - Skills (Computer/Language)
      - You can also include other skills such as CPR or lab skills when relevant

## Writing Strong Skill Statements

Strong bullet point statements make your skills, experiences and abilities stand out. Avoid paragraphs. To assess your bullet point, ask yourself: As a result of my action, what happened to: The project? My client? My organization? To others involved? Why would a potential employee care? Also ask "How?" What skills did I use to achieve the accomplishment? If your bullet does not adequately answer these questions revise it. Use #s to quantify your achievements. Avoid repetition! Each bullet should say something new about your skill set.

Your skills statement should read like this:



### **Action Verbs**

- When writing about your experiences begin your bullet point detail with a varied action verb
- Why? Powerful action verbs place you as an initiator of action, leaving a positive impression on the reader
- · Identify important job details to help guide your choice of action words
- Avoid starting off descriptions with "Responsible for". Instead use action verbs such as **"managed," "implemented," "developed," "created"** which more clearly states your function



### **Skill Utilized**

- Identify the skills you demonstrated or developed in your various experiences (internships, thesis, tutoring, volunteering, course work)
- Pinpoint the relevant skills, core attributes, and abilities you utilized in these experiences as a means to show your value to the reader
- · Tell the reader/employer what you can do for them
- Ask yourself: What was it for? Where was it? How was it done? For whom? Why was it done?

### **Results (Quantify your achievement/skills)**

- Employers want to see workers who can achieve solid results and results are best stated in terms of reportable numbers
- How many people did you organize, manage or oversee? By what percentage did you increase sales, event turn out or efficiency? How much of a budget did you work with, with what type of results?
- By using numbers in detailing your work experience, you are demonstrating your focus as being results- oriented rather than task-oriented
- In order to measure your accomplishments, try to obtain as much data as you can in regards to your previous work experience. It is never recommended to make up numbers

### Remember to emphasize the valuable liberal arts skills you have gained at L&C in your bullets!



## Formatting Your Resume

You have just seconds to get noticed, so your resume should look clear, concise, professional and easy to read. Make it visually appealing! For undergraduate students and recent graduates, your resume should not exceed 1 to 1.5 pages. **Consistency is key**. If you write dates in months, do this throughout. If you list experiences as position, company, location-make sure this is done throughout.

### **More Formatting Tips!**

- Balance white space with text, and make sure margins are no smaller than 0.5 inches
- Emphasize information (titles, organizations, etc.), with *italics*, **bold**, ALL CAPS, <u>underline</u> or a combination
- Be consistent and choose easy-to-read fonts, between 10 and 12 points in size



- Organize your information the way people read left to right and top to bottom
- Avoid complicated fonts or formatting that will get jumbled when sent from varying programs
- For printed resumes and cover letters, use white or off-white high-quality paper (e.g., 80 lb. linen).
- Do not use templates! These are hard to edit in the future
- Have dates all line up so document looks clean
- Do not include a picture of yourself, personal information (age, marital status, etc.), salary information or experiences that are irrelevant to the employer's needs (there are exceptions to this rule if you are applying for an international position)
- References should be on a separate page

## Before you submit your Resume...

- Proofread, proofread, and proofread! Have two other sets of eyes proof your resume before you submit it
- Have your resume reviewed by the Career Center
- Use your network to have your resume reviewed by someone in the industry
- Review your final draft with a critical eye make sure all of your resume statements are positive, accomplishment-oriented and truthful. Facts can be easily checked from past employers
- Keep track of the resumes you create in a computer folder
- Submit and good luck!
- Now what?
  - Do you have a LinkedIn profile? Use the language you developed for your resume on your profile
  - For tips and advice click on icons to check us out on social media and our website
    - Career Center
    - @PioCareers
    - L&C Net
    - Career Center Website
    - Want help with cover letters or interviews? Make an appointment with a career counselor on the Career Center website: <u>go.lclark.edu/career\_center</u> and click "Schedule an Appointment" to find the time that works best for your schedule.
    - Want links to resources and more!? Go to our website! http://college.lclark.edu/student life/career development/

For additional specific tips on formatting and what to include in each section, take a look through the attached sample resumes.

Louise A. Clark 0615 SW Palatine Hill Rd. Portland, OR 97219. 503 956 5024 — <u>LClark@Iclark.edu</u>	
EDUCATION	
Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR Bachelor of Arts, Psychology — GPA: 3.78 Overseas program, Culture and Language Immersion: Siena, Italy	May 2016 Jan-May 2015
Relevant coursework: Education in a Complex World, Developmental Psychology, Community Psychology, Philosophy of Ecological Education	
Awards: Lewis & Clark Leadership Scholarship, Terry Cady Scholarship	
RELEVANT EXPERIENCE	
<ul> <li>Capstone Project, Lewis &amp; Clark College, Portland, OR — Researcher</li> <li>Designed strategic plan for new student center entitled "Incorporating the Student into the Student Center: A Fresh Look at Templeton.</li> <li>Conducted in depth literature review, collected data, performed qualitative analysis and provided design recommendations for Lewis &amp; Clark College's Student Center</li> </ul>	Aug -Dec 2015
Education Practicum, Jackson Middle School, Portland, OR — Lead Tutor > Designed and implemented culturally appropriate strategies to help East African immigrant children strengthen reading and writing abilities. > Created interactive science curriculum to engage students	Aug 2014-May 2015
Community Garden Practicum, Food Works, Portland, OR — Assistant • Educated underserved youth on importance of sustainability and garden cultivation • Coordinated garden-based interactive workshops to help teach youth about healthy eating, plant science and help increase self-efficacy • Established innovative fundraising event resulting in over \$10,000 in donations	July-Aug 2014
ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE	
Student Service, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR — Coordinator > Planned and implemented volunteer projects in the local community; composed weekly newsletter and other recruitment and outreach communications. > Managed a group of 100 volunteers to ensure logistical organization	Aug 2014-Present
Varsity Crew Team, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR — Representative Acted as a liaison between the women's crew team and the athletic department to increase positive communication Helped orient prospective crew team members and answer questions about Lewis & Clark college athletics so they could make an informed college decision.	Dec 2014-Present
LEADERSHIP ROLES	
Journal for Social Justice, Portland, OR — Editor International Students of Lewis & Clark, Portland, OR — Vice President	Aug 2014-Present Aug 2015-Present
LANGUAGES & OTHER SKILLS	
<ul> <li>Comtortable with both APA and Chicago Manual style guides</li> <li>Basic knowledge of HTML; proficient in Microsoft Office</li> <li>CPR, Child and Adult Rescue and Community First aid</li> </ul>	

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←HEADING: Make your name and contact information prominent.

 $\leftarrow$  EDUCATION: For most recent grads, Education is next. This example shows a simple way to present the college and your degree. Relevantcoursework, honors/awards and international study are also common topics under Education. Avoid listing high school unless you are a freshman or a specific high school experience is extremely relevant.

 $\leftarrow$  HEADINGS:

Notice how each position lists Job Title, Organization Name, Location (city, state).

← SKILLS: This is one way to present computer skills, language skills and other certification applicable to the position

### Bella Hooksing

1021 SE Division Street Portland, OR 97210

### (458) 687-5555 Ø bellhooks@lclark.edu

#### EDUCATION

Lewis & Clark College

Bachelor of Arts, Sociology/Anthropology and Gender Studies GPA-3.62

Study Abroad

University of Amsterdam with Public Health Intensive

### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

#### **Dutch Gender Alliance Community Development Intern**

- Prepare weekly reports data reports using Excel and presented findings at staff meetings •
- Serve as youth liaison advocating the needs of youth both in and out of school to increase wellbeing of sexual minority students
- Collaborate effectively with 12 other organizations to develop a weeklong festival raising awareness of issues relating to gender policy and equity issues

#### Feminist Student Union

President

Portland, Oregon September 2015 - December 2015

- Coordinated women's rights awareness events including Take Back the Night, Gender Studies Symposium and relevant film screenings for the student body
- Identified and partnered with six local organizations to create gender equity related volunteer opportunities for students occurring weekly
- Scheduled and facilitated weekly meetings for 20 members
- · Created marketing materials to increase attendance at events

#### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

#### SMART (Start Making a Reader Today)

Tutor

Portland, Oregon September 2014 - December 2015

- Read to 25 elementary students twice a week to improve reading skills and comprehension
- Created a positive atmosphere to develop students confidence and enjoyment in reading .

### Momentum Alliance

**Reproductive Justice Ally** 

Portland, Oregon September 2013 - December 2015

- · Lobbied for statewide reproductive justice legislative efforts including the Women's Comprehensive Health Bill in Oregon
- Advocated for issues that intersect with LGBTQ, gender, sexuality and reproductive justice issues including affordable housing and education to help change inequitable policies
- Developed workshops and trainings for potential partners and organizations to build coalitions

#### SKILLS

Technical: Mac and PC Platforms; Microsoft Office, SPSS, Adobe Photoshop, Social Media Tools Language: Proficient in Dutch and Spanish

### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

These experiences were unpaid, but they are *relevant* to the specific internship application. List in reverse chronological order.

← BULLETS WITH ACTION VERBS: Start your bullets with strong, varied action verbs. State specific accomplishments and quantifymeasurable results with numbers.

### ←COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

While these may not be as relevant to the specific internship, these experiences show a wellrounded applicant with transferableskills.

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Portland, Oregon

Expected May 2017

January 2016-Present

Amsterdam, Netherlands

January 2016 - Present

### Valerie Waterford

3339 SE Milwaukee St., Portland, OR 977202 + (503) 914-3271 + vwaterford@gmail.com

### EDUCATION

Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR - Spring 2014 Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies - GPA: 3.3 Relevant Courses: Natural Resource Economics, Environmental Law, Political Economy of Food

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

National Science Foundation, R.E.U. Program, Williamsburg, VA -Summer 2014

- Surveyed 200 residents in Williamsburg using structured interviews to understand understanding of sustainability practices
- Completed a study on implementing a fee-based storm water utility in James City County.

#### Senior Thesis, Environmental Studies Capstone, Lewis & Clark College - Spring 2014

 Determining what incentives best promote residential storm water runoff management, a comparison of incentives offered in Downspout Disconnection Program and the proposed City of Portland storm water fee discount plan.

### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Field Assistant, Ethan Perkins, Wetlands Specialist & Consultant, Eugene, OR - Fall 2014-Present

- Use soil analysis and plant identification techniques to determine wetland boundaries.
- Organize and distribute necessary equipment to collect samples.

Canvasser, OSPIRG (Oregon State Public Interest Research Group), Portland, OR - Summer 2013

- Explained OSPIRG's environmental and consumer protection campaigns.
- Identified environmental sympathizers, then recruited members into OSPRIG.
- Secured monetary contributions of approximately \$7,000.
- Attended and assisted in the preparation of 8 major OSPIRG media events. .

#### Intern, Solar Energy Association of Oregon, Portland, OR - Fall 2012

- Assisted in giving solar energy presentations to middle school students.
- Created and maintained membership database.
- Represented organization at events and sustainability conferences.
- · Researched and wrote papers on the history of solar energy in the United States

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE KLC Radio, Lewis and Clark College, Portland OR – Fall 2011-2013 Assistant General Manager - Spring 2013

- · Scheduled, supervised and supported student DJs with radio shows.
- Managed radio station budget and organized and promoted 9 campus concerts.
- Led weekly KLC Board meetings and represented the radio station at student group meetings.

Promotions Director - Fall 2011-Fall 2012

- · Established and maintained working relationships with local concert halls, performance venues, promoters and production companies.
- Maintained database of all local companies.
- Solicited in-kind donations for concerts and performances.

#### RELEVANT SKILLS

Language: Bilingual (English/Spanish) Music Skills: Proficient in electric guitar and cello Computer: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Photoshop; basic knowledge of GIS.  $\leftarrow$  ROOM FOR VARIATION: Usually, Relevant Experience would follow Education. But the order of the headings on this resume clearly shows that research experiences are most important to the particular position the student is applying for.

### ← BULLETS

SHOW **RESULTS:** Notice how bullets show results, how the student made a quantifiable impact

#### ← ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE:

While not as relevant to an environmental position, these "Additional Experiences" demonstrate strong leadership and organizational skills.

#### STEPHANIE GIBBS

0615 Palatine Hill RD, MSC 924, Portland, OR, 97219 709-360-6209 stephaniegibbs@lclark.edu

#### EDUCATION Expected May 2016 Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs, minor in Gender Studies Cumulative GPA: 3.32 International Affairs GPA: 3.73; Gender Studies GPA: 3.80 Beijing Institute of Education, Beijing, China Fall 2014 Chinese language intensive study abroad EXPERIENCE Peer Career Advisor Aug. 2015 - Present Career Development Center, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR Provide guidance for students on internship and career research and resume/cover letter assistance, which increase their confidence in applying for and securing jobs and internships. Plan and implement workshops on career development to support student preparation and job planning Complete administrative tasks including database management, statistical analyses, customer service and reception Cultural Research Intern May - Aug. 2014 Seattle Institute of East Asian Affairs, Seattle, WA Designed and participated in research project examining the relations between cultural norms and public policy on women and girls in China. Worked with cultural experts and project managers to compline and present research at end of internship. Translated written and printed documents from Chinese to English. Worked with public relations staff to reach out to greater Seattle community about findings Aug. 2013 - May 2014 Global Engagement Board Chair Associated Students of Lewis & Clark (ASLC), Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR Proposed the addition of a global engagement position on student government to distribute funds supporting experiential learning with an emphasis on international humanitarian issues. Allocated \$8,000 to students to complete self-designed service projects. Managed a board of 8 student members to design and develop short and long-term sustainable goals Leadership & Involvement Experience Diversity Advisory Committee Member, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR Sep. 2012 - Present

Examine and modify policies regarding diversity and difference which impact the community

- members of all three campuses of Lewis & Clark.
- Sought comments and suggestions from students, faculty and staff regarding community diversity and implemented feedback in policy review process
- United Genders & Sexualities Secretary, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR Sep. 2014 - May 2015 Planned events such as Coming Out Week, Day of Silence, and the AIDS Summit in collaboration with the Feminist Student Union and the Gender Studies Symposium

#### SKILLS

Computer: Database management using Excel and SPSS; Microsoft Office; Photoshop Language: Advanced Mandarin Chinese, translation and interpretation

 $\leftarrow$  GPA:

Werecommend including a GPA of 3.0 or higher on your resume. A GPA that is not exceptionally high can be balanced out by strong experience.

← EXPERIENCE MATTERS!!! This student's resume is an excellent example of how important it is to incorporate on and off-campus experiences into your professional development. While nearly all of this

student's positions were unpaid, they demonstrate very strong experience.

## Petri Amygdal

314 Organelle Rd, Portland, Oregon, 90158

(434) 656-6666 ∞ Petri@email.com

#### **EDUCATION**

Lewis & Clark College Portland, OR, Anticipated May 2018 Bachelor of Arts, Major- Biology, Minor- Mathematics G.P.A 3.3 overall; 3.5 Biology, 3.7 Mathematics

Related Coursework: Organic Chemistry I&II, Statistical Analysis, Combinatorics, Biomedical Ethics, Biology of Infectious Diseases, Calculus IV with Applications to Sciences, Genetic Engineering, Molecular & Cellular Biology, Differential Equations

Independent Project "Categorizing the motor-driven and diffusive motion of secretory granules containing neuromodulatory proteins"

#### LAB TECHNIQUES AND COMPUTER SKILLS

 Atomic force Microscopy Fluorescence Microscopy

Polymerase chain reaction

 Laser Spectroscopy Western blotting

Plant identification

- Programming in C++ and R LabView Geographic Information Systems Terralode 4 Mathematica
  - MS Office

#### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Researcher, John S. Rogers Research Program –Summer 2015

Department of Biology, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR.

• Executed High-resolution fluorescence microscopy; image deconvolution, live-cell imaging, diffusion modelling • Prepared samples by fixing cells, mounting on microscope slides and conducting immunohistochemistry and electroporation

#### Researcher, Vertebrate Lab- Winter 2015- Present

Department of Biology, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR.

• Perform laboratory and literature research on molecular basis of vertebrate circadian clock with Principal Investigator Robert Geeko

- Investigate expression and functional domains of clock gene cryptochrome using luciferase gene reporter system transfected in COS-7 and NIH3T3 cell lines
- Present data at weekly lab meetings and collaborate with team to make sure study runs smoothly

#### Research Assistant, Greta Binford Lab- Fall 2014- Present

Department of Biology, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR.

 Organize, clean and set up lab for Principal Investigator Great Binford who investigates biodiversity and arachnids, examining the evolutionary processes of spider venoms

#### Assistant, La Selva Biological Station - Summer 2014

International Science Internship, Monteverde, Costa Rica.

- Conducted research on ecological genetics by collecting soil, root and leaf samples from various field sites
- Performed DNA sequencing and genotyping in environmental sciences lab utilizing Applied Biosystems 3100 -AvantGenetic Analyzer
- Followed proper safety precautions and created organized work space so analysis was successful
- · Co-edited manuscript to be submitted for publication in international journal

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Math Tutor, Symbolic and Quantitative Reasoning Center- Fall 2015-Present

- Tutored algebra through introductory major courses in mathematics
- Presented material in clear, engaging manner to increase students' understanding and performance

### ← WHAT CAN GO IN THE EDUCATION SECTION? Colleges attended, study abroad, GPA, related coursework and A capstone, thesis or senior project can be included if your major had one.

← PUT MOST **IMPORTANT** FIRST: Ordinarily, Relevant Experience would come next, but Laboratory Techniques are very important to this position, so the student has chosen to put them up front.

←KEY

WORDS Some companies scan resumes electronically, so try to use "key words" from the job ad, such as specific computer or scientific skills, foreign languages or job responsibilities.

### ROBERT BLUTH

Lew	is & Clark College, 0615 SW Palatine Hill Rd, Portland, OR 97219 -	(702) 882-6251 – <u>rbluth@gmail.com</u>
ducation		
Bache	elor of Arts, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR	Expected 05/2015
Double Major History and German Studies		GPA: 3.5
Ludw	ig-Maximilians Universität, Munich, Germany	08/2013-08/2014
Releva	ant Coursework: Advertising in American History, Historical Mate	rials, Principles of Economics
lelevant	Experience	
L	ewis & Clark College History Department, 09/2014-present	
•	Research Assistant, assessed historical publications, compiled fin volumes of book reviews, searched academic resources for schol with professor of German history	
St	tudent Affairs and Activities Board, 08/2014 - present	
	German Language Tutor, assisted students with German gramma answered student questions, edited student writing samples, org	
D	eutsches Auswandererhaus (German Emigration Center) Muse	um, 06/2013-08/2013
•	Research Intern, collaborated with PR department, helped plan a collected and archived information and historical documents, re- emigration to Australia, guided tours in English through the mus museum library, spoke German to colleagues and patrons on eve	searched for an exhibition about German seum, organized and catalogued new
xperienc		
•	erman Bread Bakery, 06/2012-08/2012 Bakery Salesperson, handled cash and credit cards, spoke Germar inventory and stock, sales, handled and prepared food, cleaned, t	
R	ealty Executives, 06/2010-08/2010	
•	Office Assistant/Receptionist answered phones and made cal copied, and filed documents, entered data into programs like Mid	
onors a	nd Awards	
54 •	AAB Research Grant Recipient, 12/2014 Student Affairs and Activities Board, used SAAB Research Grant fo	unds to research for German Studies Thesis
F •	<b>Cowler-Levin Summer Internship Award Recipient, 03/2013</b> Center for Career and Community Engagement, funded the Emigration Center in Bremerhaven, Germany	Research Intern position at The German
Communi	ty Contributions	
	nina hite	

German food for events

Skills

- Fluent in German, beginning level French
- Knowledge of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Photoshop; Comfortable using Macs or PCs

### ← STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE: Notice how this student focuses on many study abroad experiences that were impactful and applicable to a the job they are applying for

### $\leftarrow$ IS THIS

**RELEVANT?** While you may think some of your jobs may not be relevant to what you are applying to- This bakery job shows this student's ability to effectively utilize German. Customer Service Skills as well as managing many tasks

### ← AWARDS AND SERVICE: Feel free to expand on significant awards or community contributions to make you stand out from the

pack

(Use the heading from your resume which includes your name & email)

### REFERENCES

Greta Binford Associate Professor of Biology Lewis & Clark College 503-768-7653 binford@lclark.edu

Louis Kuo Professor and Chair of Chemistry Lewis & Clark College 503-768-7535 kuo@lclark.edu

Benjamin Smith Director of Division of Endocrinology Oregon Health & Sciences University 503-494-8642 <u>smith@ohsu.edu</u>

Note: Three references are usually sufficient. This student selected two academic references and an employment reference who was her internship supervisor. Choose references who know you well and who can speak to your academic accomplishments, skills, work ethic and achievements. Always get permission prior to using someone as your reference and make sure you send your reference a copy of your resume. It is best practice to give a reference a minimum of 2 weeks' notice if putting them as a reference and a months' notice if you would like a written reference letter.

References go on a separate page from your resume. There is no need to have "references available on request" on your resume – this is a given.

## ACTION VERBS

### Achievement

Advanced Assured Bolstered Eliminated Encouraged Enhanced Expanded Facilitated Fostered Generated Guaranteed Identified Improved Increased Inspired Mastered Maximized Motivated Obtained Overcame Promoted Reduced Restored Stimulated Strengthened Upgraded

Analysis/ Problem Solving Abstracted Analyzed Appraised Assessed Briefed Clarified Compared Correlated Critiqued Debated Defined Determined Diagnosed Dissected Evaluated Examined Identified Interviewed Investigated Judged Maintained Mapped Monitored Observed Perceived Ranked Read Reasoned Related Researched Reviewed Screened Scanned Solved Studied Summarized Synthesized Verified

Visualized

Assistance Advised Assisted Bolstered Collaborated Contributed Consulted Cooperated Enlisted Facilitated Fostered Helped Participated Referred Served Strengthened Supported Sustained

Communication Addressed Advertised Answered Briefed Communicated Corresponded Debated Explained Expressed Facilitated Interpreted Interviewed Lectured Listened Narrated Prepared Presented Publicized Recorded Responded Spoke Wrote

**Creation &** Development Acted Adapted Authored Bolstered Built Charged Clarified Composed Conceived Corrected Created Designed Developed Devised Discovered Drafted Eliminated Established Expanded Expedited Initiated Innovated Instituted Integrated Introduced Invented Launched Modified Originated Perceived Performed Planned Prioritized Produced Promoted Proposed Recommended Reduced Refined Revamped Set Shaped Simplified Strengthened Upgraded

### Negotiation

Advised Advocated Arbitrated Bargained Expedited Facilitated Lobbied Mediated Merged Motivated Negotiated Persuaded Promoted Reconciled Solved

**Operations** Adjusted Adapted Bolstered Clarified Corrected Eliminated Expedited Facilitated Fixed Implemented Installed Performed Prepared Prioritized Produced Programmed Promoted Ran Reduced Repaired Serviced Set Transported Upheld Used Utilized

Organization Accumulated Assembled Built Catalogued Clarified Coordinated Correlated Detailed Developed Facilitated Filed Gathered Graphed Identified Inspected Located Maintained (records) Mapped Met (deadlines) Methodized Obtained Planned Prioritized Processed Programmed Reorganized Reproduced Retrieved Revamped Revised Scheduled

Set Simplified

Solved

Streamlined

Structured Synthesized

Systemized

Updated

Persuasion Aided Advertised Auctioned Bolstered Enlisted Facilitated Helped Improved Led Maintained Motivated Negotiated Persuaded Promoted Purchased Raised Recommended Recruited

Service Assisted Attended Cared (for) Catered Delivered Entertained Facilitated Furnished Listened Maintained Prepared Procured Provided Satisfied Served Supplied

Management Administered Allocated Approved Arranged Assigned Authorized Coached Conducted Decided Delegated Directed Dispatched Distributed Educated Encouraged Enforced Evaluated Executed Exercised Expedited Facilitated Fired Followed (through) Hired Implemented Instructed Led Maintained Managed Met (deadlines) Monitored Motivated Organized Oversaw Planned Prepared Regulated Reinforced Responded Retained Reviewed Scheduled Set Supervised Taught Trained

Supervision/

Teaching/

Counseling Adapted Advised Advocated Aided Assessed Assisted Briefed Charged Clarified Coached Communicated Conducted Consulted Coordinated Demonstrated Educated Empathized Guided Helped Implemented Improved Influenced Informed Inspired Interpreted Investigated Observed Perceived Persuaded Restored Saved Shared Solved Spoke Strengthened Substituted Supported Sustained Taught Trained

### SAMPLE KEYWORDS

### <u> Advertising /</u>

<u>Communicatio</u> Client presentations Promotional materials Marketing management Creative ability Media planning Cable television Video editing

### **Community Development**

Project / Outreach Volunteer

### Education

Child development Education administration Instruction Coaching Supervision

### <u>Engineering</u>

A1 Analog Compiler Control systems Electronics Graphics Hardware engineering Instrumentation Manufacturing Mechanical engineering Optical design Peripherals R&D Robotics Signal processing Software engineering Structural System level design Thermal

### **Finance**

Account administration Accounting Banking Cash management Credit Commercial lending Corporate finance Mergers and acquisitions P&L

Government/Politics Foreign affairs International affairs Research

### Human Resources

Benchmarking Benefits Compensation Diversity EAP and EEO Employee relations Job banding Organizational behavior Performance management Total Quality Training and development Wage and salary

### Information systems

Any actual application, Ian-Gauge, operating system Database administration File system management On-line information services Real-time processing Software support System administration

### **Interpersonal Traits**

Adaptable Challenge Communication skills Team player Delegate Detail minded Implement Innovative Leadership Multitasking Negotiating Problem solving **Results-oriented** Service-oriented Self-accountable Team player

### Investments

Arbitrage Broker-dealer Cold call Derivatives Dividend Equity Financial portfolio Futures Investor relations Margin Mutual fund Risk analysis Stock analysis Treasury Trusts Management Budget Organizational design Policy development Resource allocation Risk management Strategic planning **Total Quality** 

### **Marketing**

Account penetration Business development Competitive analysis Forecasting Market segmentation New product Pricing strategy Point of sale Sourcing

### Medical / Healthcare

Analytical skills Medical records Casework services Healthcare policy Observation

### **Process Design / Consulting**

Dynamic simulation Feasibility studies Problem-solving Software solutions Client-server technologies LAN/WAN Interpersonal skills

### **Project Management**

Estimating Project engineering

### **Public Health**

Evaluation Target population Project coordination Social marketing

### Purchasing

Acquisitions Logistics Vendor

**Telecommunications** 

LAN Network design Satellite

### Typos and grammatical errors

Your resume needs to be grammatically perfect. If it isn't, employers will read between the lines and draw not-soflattering conclusions about you, like: "This person can't write" or "This person obviously doesn't care."

### • Lack of specifics

It's important to move beyond your basic job description to more detailed information about your accomplishments. For example:

- "Worked with employees in a restaurant setting"
- "Recruited, hired, trained, and supervised more than 20 employees in a restaurant with \$2 million in annual sales.

Both of these phrases could describe the same person, but clearly the second one's details and specifics will more likely grab an employer's attention.

### • Attempting "one size fits all"

Whenever you try to develop a "one-size-fits-all resume" to send to all employers, you almost always end up with something employers will toss in the recycle bin. Write a resume that clearly shows how and why you fit the position within a specific organization.

### • Highlighting duties instead of accomplishments

Employers are much more interested in what you've accomplished than a simple list of what you've done. Here are some examples of simple listings of job duties:

- Worked with children in a day-care setting
- Updated departmental files

Each of these statements could be strengthened by stating:

- Developed three daily activities for preschool-age children and prepared them for a holiday program performance
- Reorganized 10 years' worth of files, making them easily accessible to department members

### • Going on too long or cutting things too short

Begin by creating a full list of all of your activities and accomplishments. From there, choose which items best represent yourself for any given position. Work with Career Center staff to help prioritize your various activities and skills.

### • A bad objective

A generic objective is not helpful in selling your best self. If you choose to include an objective, be sure it is specific and, more importantly, something that focuses on the employer's needs as well as your own. It is better to have no objective, than a vague one.

### No action verbs

Avoid using phrases like "responsible for." Instead, take advantage of the Action Verb list to develop some powerful statements about your skills and accomplishments.

### • Leaving off important information

You may be tempted to eliminate jobs you've taken to earn extra money. However, the soft skills you've gained from these experiences may be more important to employers than you think.

### • Visually too busy

If your resume is wall-to-wall text featuring five different fonts, it will most likely give the employer a headache. You can create a stylish resume without going overboard. Get the opinions of several people before finalizing your resume, and simplify if necessary.

### • Incorrect contact information

While it seems obvious, many people accidentally list the wrong contact information. Double-check even the most minute, taken-for-granted details before sending your resume.

### For other tips & questions, contact the Career Center at careers@lclark.edu