

GUIDE TO CAREER FAIRS

CONTENT HIGHLIGHT

1. WHAT IS CAREER FAIR?
2. HOW TO HANDLE VISA QUESTIONS

BENEFITS FROM ATTENDING A CAREER FAIR

- Discover job opportunities
- Research an organization/industry
- Network with professionals
- Increase your chances of getting a job interview
- Meet with many recruiters at once
- Receive feedback on your resume

What is a Career Fair?

A Career Fair, or Job Fair, is an exposition of employers, recruiters, and schools to meet job seekers and to find applicants for open positions. Typically, companies and schools set up a booth in a large room and provide information about themselves and the various career opportunities available with the firm. A Career Fair can host as few as ten up to hundreds of booths. The prospective job seekers can walk around to talk to as many employers as they wish and to hand out resumes for the recruiters to review. You want to make a good impression during the Career Fair and receive an interview offer.

When are Career Fairs held?

There are several Career Fairs on campus, both major-specific and campus-wide. Check www.hiremizzoutigers.com for the Career Fairs (check "upcoming campus career event" in the middle).

First Impressions

A recruiter will form an impression of you within the first three minutes of meeting you. Make your first impressions count by following these tips:

- Show confidence with a firm handshake and confident body language
- Maintain steady, engaged eye contact throughout the conversation
- Avoid using slang (say "yes" instead of "yeah")
- Be mindful of any nervous habits you might have such as playing with your hair, swaying your body, or bouncing feet
- Look professional by wearing business attire

**Prepare Your Resume
& writing material
(note and pen)**

**Research
the Company**

**Treat a Career Fair
Like an Interview**

Also pick up Career Center's Guide to Career Fairs for a more information on the topic!



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' CAREER SERVICES
Student Success Center, Room 7
909 Lowry Mall, Columbia, MO 65211

573.882.2170 - iscareer@missouri.edu - <http://career.missouri.edu/ISCS>

Guide to Career Fairs

HELPFUL TIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



HAVE A LIST OF QUESTIONS PREPARED TO ASK THE RECRUITERS

- “What do you see happening in your company in the next five years?”
- “Can you tell me more about your hiring process?”
- “What qualities and background are you looking for in employees?”
- “What course would you recommend someone take before being hired as a _____?”
- “What kind of experience would you recommend someone have before applying for _____ position?”
- “Do you have a business card I could have for future reference and contact?”

HOW TO HANDLE VISA QUESTIONS

A. “WILL THE COMPANY HIRE INTERNATIONALS?”

- Find out the list of companies that will attend the Career Fair
 - Find out if there are any international-friendly companies attending the Career Fair
 - o Website
 - o Calling the company ahead of time
 - o Talking to friends and your department’s career services
 - o Research whether the company has sponsored H1-B visa in the past
 - To find out information on the companies that applied for H1-B visa,
 - o Sign up for an account for GoInGlobal at the Career Center Front Desk
 - o Log on to <http://online.goinglobal.com> and find lists of companies that applied for H-1B visa by U.S. States and Cities.
 - o Log on to <http://flicdatacenter.com/CaseH1B.aspx> **
- ** This is a U.S. government sponsored website where you can search for companies who have applied for H1-B visas in the past couple of years. This list does not mean that these companies are currently hiring international students. It is only to be used as a starting point in your research of potential companies that hire internationals.

B. “WHEN TO REVEAL YOUR VISA STATUS”

- You do not need to reveal it right away
- The ideal time to talk about your work eligibility in the U.S. is when the employers expressed interests in hiring you
- Don’t be too disappointed if the company does not hire international students. Consider it as a learning experience

C. “WE DON’T HIRE INTERNATIONALS”

- Ask if they know any other places that does
 - o For instance: Their Headquarter or Main Office
- If you’re talking to a multinational company, you can mention you’re willing to relocate
- Branches in your home country?
- Thank the recruiter for their time and go to the next company

