

AVERAGE STARTING SALARIES FOR THE CLASS OF 2005*

- Chemical Engineering**
\$54,256
- Electrical Engineering**
\$52,009
- Computer Engineering**
\$51,992
- Computer Science**
\$51,492
- Medical Engineering**
\$51,446
- Aerospace Engineering**
\$51,446
- Industrial Engineering**
\$49,446
- Accounting**
\$43,009
- Information Sciences**
\$43,032
- Civil Engineering**
\$43,032
- Economics/Finance**
\$42,802
- Business Administration**
\$39,448
- Marketing**
\$37,832
- Liberal Arts**
\$30,337

* These approximate figures are according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers

Graduating? Prepare for the hunt

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You've finished the last four years (or maybe five) of grueling work (or maybe just getting by) and graduation has finally arrived. You can kick back and enjoy the fact that you don't have a big midterm next week or a paper due soon that's work twenty percent of your grade. But wait...what's that nagging feeling in the back of your mind. It just seems like there's something you're forgetting. Ah yes, that's it...A JOB!

For most graduating college students, a job is the next logical step after college. However, it is not usually merely as simple as sending out a few resumes and choosing from a barrage of job offers from various employers. Just the opposite, finding a job is a delicate mix of effort, talent and luck.

As a person who has just stepped out of the sometimes overwhelming process of searching for a post-graduate job, I've definitely learned a few tips. Though I am by no means a career expert, I have certainly picked up on things that employers seem to notice. Prepare for a crash course in college graduate job hunting. Here are some tips to keep in mind (in no particular order):

1. Do an internship: By doing an internship in your field, you gain real-world, hands-on experience. Plus, an internship can help you determine if you've chosen a profession that's right for you. In addition, an internship gets you lots of business contacts for the future. Be sure to meet as many people as possible and get their

contact information. A little trick I like to do is to write a little note about people on the back of their business card. For example, "met at charity dinner." This way, if you realize they'd be a useful contact in the future, you have a way to jog your memory and their's as well. Internships are invaluable and seem to impress employers. In addition, they can help you in the future. In fact, my internship boss gave me the lead for my post-grad job. After your internship, be sure to keep in touch.

2. Network. Network. Network some more: You've probably heard this. I used to think networking was annoying small talk. I actually still think this, but it's absolutely worth the annoyance. Networking gets your foot in the door and can get you interviews when you otherwise would likely be overlooked. As I mentioned before, an internship is a great place to network. As you meet new people and make new contacts, new job opportunities tend to appear. Don't be afraid to call up your contacts and ask them to keep their eyes peeled for any job opportunities that might be appropriate for you.

3. Invest in a good suit: This goes for both the guys and ladies out there. A tailored, crisp, clean suit makes you look professional and polished for interviews. Your shoes should be decent too. For you girls out there who are fans of the mile-hile shoes, put them away for a day. Your platforms might be cute, but you don't want to fall and look like an idiot in front of the potential new boss. Try to avoid too much makeup, jewelry, cologne and "major" hair. Keep it simple and professional. You're a grown-up now.

4. Prepare a portfolio: A

portfolio is a great way to show employers what you've done. Include a variety of work to show off your skills and organize it in a logical way. For example, a communications major might include a piece of graphic design and an article, while a business major might include a budget or business plan. At interviews, offer to leave your portfolio and pick it up later so employers have time to really look it over.

5. Create a resume: Start early on your resume so you have time to think about what you want to include. Don't just include jobs you've had but also what you've accomplished there. For instance, "achieved the highest regional sales in 2005." Visit Career Services for guidance and advice on your resume and other parts of the job hunt.

6. Participate in a club: Yes, it takes time. Yes, it is some work. But it certainly pays off. For me, the skills I learned at The Capital Times were a big plus in the eyes of employers. Join a club to learn leadership, business tactics, etc.

7. Start early: Do not wait until the last minute. It doesn't hurt to start checking the classifieds a semester before you graduate. See what's out there and apply. It really can't hurt. Many places have opportunities to start part time while you finish school.

8. Don't get discouraged: Have you sent out 20 resumes? Go send out 10 more. You will most likely have to wade through a sea of rejections before you get an offer. Don't take it personally.

These tips really helped me find and get the job that I really wanted. Be eager, diligent and excited about your job search, and you're sure to come out on top.

PSH fast facts

Penn State Harrisburg is an undergraduate college and graduate school of The Pennsylvania State University, one of the largest and most widely recognized academic institutions in the nation. The Harrisburg campus enrolls more than 3,700 students and offers two associate, 27 baccalaureate, 20 master's, and two doctoral degrees as well as certificate and certification programs. At the undergraduate level, Penn State Harrisburg offers the first two years of study leading to more than 160 baccalaureate majors available throughout the Penn State system, including 26 of its own programs.

Founded: 1966

Campus size: 218 acres, located eight miles east of the capital city of Harrisburg

Academic year: two semesters, early September to mid-December; mid-January to mid-May

Off-campus opportunities: internships, fellowships, study abroad, international study programs and exchanges, two centers in downtown Harrisburg

E-mail address: hbgadmit@psu.edu

Home page: www.hbg.psu.edu

Student housing: New apartment-style housing for 300 students opened on the Harrisburg campus in August 2002. The 72 units each contain four single bedrooms, two full bathrooms, a full kitchen, living area, and washers and dryers.

Library: The Penn State Harrisburg library is the most technologically advanced facility of its kind in Central Pennsylvania. The three-story, 115,000-square-foot academic research library includes 290,000 volumes, more than 1,250 journals, and 1.3 million microforms. With access to nearly 350 databases and approximately 10,000 electronic publications through the University Libraries, the facility provides extensive support to online and remote users.

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 2,047
Full-time: 72.1%
Part-time: 27.9%
Male: 51.6%
Female: 48.4%
Average Age: 25.7

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 1,682
Full-time: 12.5%
Part-time: 87.5%
Male: 61.7%
Female: 38.3%
Average Age: 32.9

FACULTY:
Full-time: 150
Adjunct: 90

STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO:
Undergraduate: 17/1
Graduate: 10/1

FINANCIAL AID PROFILE:
Students receiving financial aid/scholarships: 2,974
Total of All Aid: \$16,970,000

*PSH Fast Facts is adapted from the "Penn State Harrisburg General Information" sheet available from the Marketing Office

Ideas turn to cash for local students

From Career Services

The Capital Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC) held the final presentations Wednesday and announced the winners of the Central PA College Venture Challenge, a business plan competition for regional college students.

"This is the third year for the College Venture Challenge. Each year we continue to be amazed at the quality of the business plans developed by the students," said Linda Goldstein, COO and VP of CREDC. "It is our belief that any of the teams involved in this competition could develop viable businesses in the region sometime in the future. The competition helps them to understand what it takes to start a business and learn more about the resources the region has to offer them."

Undergraduate division winners:

First Prize: The Dirty Dogz, a pick-up/delivery laundry business at the University of Florida in Gainesville that caters to students and the surrounding community. The team included Dustin Clodgo, Kurt Startoni, Preston Burgett and Ryan Indar, who are all students at Penn State Harrisburg. The team received \$1,500 and \$1,500 was awarded to Penn State Harrisburg for use in its entrepreneurial studies program.

Second Prize: Wolf Hill Farm, an equestrian facility that specializes in horse back riding lessons, summer camps, boarding and training. The team included Krista Lynn Innerst, Michael Jae Parsons, Ashley Smyk and Theresa Kusen, who are students at Penn State Harrisburg. The team received \$750 and \$750 was awarded to Penn State Harrisburg.



Photo courtesy of Beth Feltenberger/Journal Publications

The winners of this year's College Venture Challenge stand with their awards. Many of the winners were PSH students.

Third Prize: Romp Around, a program that will aid inactive and overweight children in achieving a healthier lifestyle. Team members included Shippensburg students Amy Polmouter, Jennifer Grimes and Lisa Watson. The team and the university each received \$250.

Graduate division winners:
First Prize: Zinnanti Surgical Design, Inc., which introduced a plan for the development, manufacturing and marketing of the "Hot Switch", a disposable switch that places control over electrosurgery back in the surgeon's hand. The team includes William J. Zinnanti and Jelana Lazovic, students at Penn State College of Medicine. The team and the College of Medicine each received \$3,750. Additionally the team will have the opportunity to receive a board of advisors for one year if they decide to start their business.

Second Prize: Preventa, a proactive solution to home maintenance and an alternative to home repair. The team included Mike Williams, Adam Malinowski, Nate Poff and Cory Hockensmith from York College of Pennsylvania. The team and

York College each received \$1,500.

The College Venture Challenge is presented by CREDC and the Central Penn Business Journal and supported by the Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Central and Northern PA and the Life Sciences Greenhouse of Central PA. It is open to undergraduate and graduate students from Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties. Students submitted concept papers from which semi-finalists were selected. The semi-finalists prepared full business plans from which the finalists were chosen. The finalists were asked to make presentations to a panel of judges at an event on April 27, 2005 held at the Wyndham Harrisburg-Hershey.

The Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC serves as a catalyst for promoting growth and quality of life in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry Counties by providing a unique blend of business, community and economic development and advocacy services under one roof to boost our economic vitality and livability as a region.

Penn State Harrisburg Learning Center

- Math/science and writing tutors
- Resource center
- Study techniques
- MLA & APA citation assistance
- Quiet study space
- Solution guides

...And much more

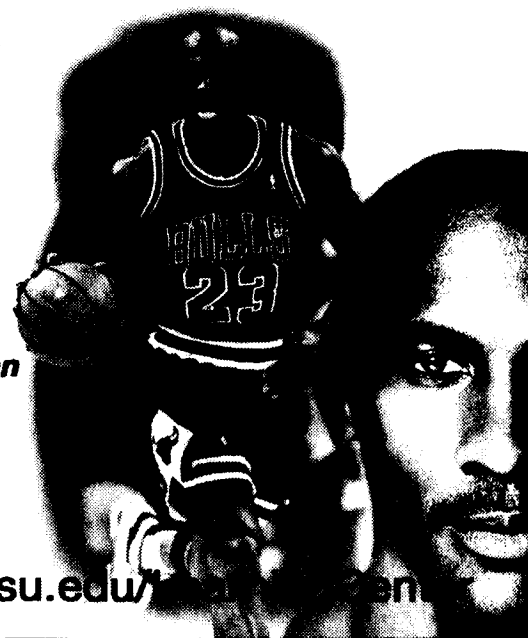
Your Tuition \$s Working For You

Penn State Harrisburg Learning Center
C-216 Olmsted
phone 717.948.6475
Janice Smith, Coordinator
jes57@psu.edu

If he had to practice and revise, perhaps you...

I've failed over and over and over again in my life and that is why I succeed.

-- Michael Jordan



www.hbg.psu.edu

CAREER SERVICE OFFERS:

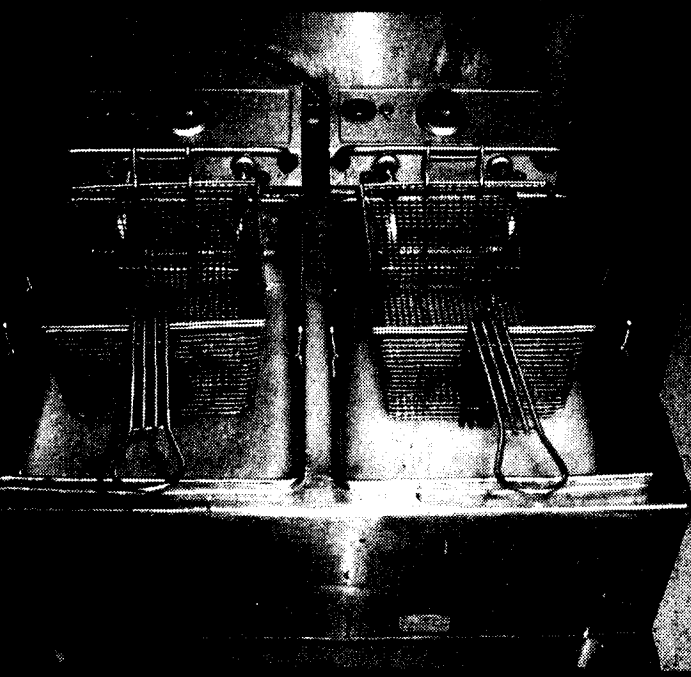
- Career counseling
- Career planning and development
- Assistance with developing cover letters, resumes, etc.
- On campus interviews
- Career library
- Lifetime assistance
- Career internship fairs
- 48 hour resume critique
- Employment information
- Online employment database

...AND MUCH MORE!!!

Penn State Harrisburg
Career Services
W-117 Olmsted
Phone: 717.948.6260
Fax: 717.948.6261

www.hbg.psu.edu/career

...SO IT WORKED FOR THIS LONG, BUT DON'T YOU DESERVE A CHANGE?



PSH CAREER SERVICES