

9 Tips to Help Your Teen Get a Job

1. Narrow the Field

Start the job search by helping identifying your likes and dislikes, strengths and weaknesses and the type of work you're interested in.

2. Help with the Hunt

Encourage searching online, cold calling and visiting businesses to ask if they're hiring. Networking with your parents friends and colleagues can play a vital role in uncovering unadvertised opportunities.

3. Promote Out-of-the-Box Thinking

If traditional employment is impossible to find, you can use your expertise and entrepreneurial spirit to start you own businesses, such as baby-sitting, lawn mowing or even tech support. Some ideas for neighborhood self-employment include:

- Scanning photos and creating digital photo albums.
- Cleaning and organizing garages and basements.
- Conducting how to use the Internet or computer seminars.
- Grocery shopping.
- Pet sitting/dog walking.
- Cleaning and detailing cars.

Parents can help their teens figure out what to charge for such work by calling competitors and asking for their rates.

4. Offer Your Proofreading Services

Résumés and job applications are a prime opportunity for you to stand out. Ask a parent or teacher to critique the résumé. Without work experience, you can instead list academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, volunteering experiences and technical skills.

5. Walk Through a Mock Interview

Find an adult to role play a practice interview. After a few sessions with your potential boss, you will be more confident for the real thing. Don't know anyone to help you? Please consider calling us here at PVB, someone will be happy to sit with you and help you.

6. Encourage Thank-you's and Follow Up's

Sending thank-you notes after an interview — even for the most menial job — is a great tool to set them apart from the competition. It shows they're both polite and interested in the job.

Also, if you haven't heard back from an interview within a couple days, make a follow up phone call. It will help ease your possible anxiety, remind an interviewer that you're still interested, and let you move on to another interview if you didn't get the job.



"Talent is cheaper than table salt. What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work."

Stephen King

PVB Teen News

Here are six tips for finding a summer job:

Start early. Start looking now. You don't want to be the last kid on the block filling out applications.

Network, network, network. Talk to everyone you know and tell them that you are looking for a job. You never know who knows someone who can help you.

Sign up for RSS feeds and email alerts. These can let you know whenever a job opens up, helping you to beat the rush.

Always dress professional. It doesn't matter if you're applying to work in a fast food place, it pays to always look sharp, smart and put together.

Where do you want to work? Make a list of places that you want to work and go ask them if they are hiring and when they start hiring for the summer. Let them know that you are interested. Don't let them forget you.

Try temp places. During a recession employers are often more willing to hire temporary employees—they don't have to pay unemployment, health insurance, and many other things; besides, a temp job is a foot in the door.

Here are some websites that can help:

Groovejob.com
Jobdoggy.com
Teenjobsection.job
Teensforhire.org
Gotajob.com

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Uncle Sam Wants to Educate YOU!

Your parents aren't the only ones who want you to get a college degree; Uncle Sam does too. In fact, the United States government is so committed to your education that they are willing to make a big financial investment in you! Every year students leave school because they can no longer afford the tuition. Don't become a financial casualty: give some time to your country and get a college degree.

What is the GI Bill?

The GI Bill (various education assistance programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs) provides benefits to veterans, service members, and some dependents of disabled or deceased veterans wishing to pursue an education.

Post 9/11 GI Bill

The new GI Bill (Chapter 33) is available to veterans who served after September 11, 2001. It offers full tuition and fees, a new housing stipend, and \$1,000 a year for books and supplies. The new bill also gives Reserve and Guard members who have been activated for more than 90 days since September 11, 2001 access to the same GI Bill benefits.

ROTC

Students who specifically seek a military career may choose to enter the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program at their college. Unlike the GI Bill, in the ROTC, you start as a student with a goal of serving in the military.

American Opportunity Tax Credit

President Obama is keeping true to his word—that word being “change.” Obama is hoping to enact a tax credit that will pay your first \$4,000 at a public university and also pay two-thirds of your tuition in exchange for 100 hours of your time toward community service.

With several solid government plans financing college education everyone should have a better chance at a brighter future. Get on the Internet, make some phone calls, and get the ball rolling for the government to finance your degree at the college or university of your choice.

