



## Job Searching Through Uncertainty

Although it may feel like the world has stopped and there are no opportunities for summer or after graduation work, there are employers that are actively looking for talent. You may not be searching in the traditional way that you have in the past, but this is a great opportunity to expand your job searching knowledge and develop some new skills. However, there are some things to do and not do to help you during this time.

### DO:

- ✓ Update your resume
- ✓ Search the essential workplaces list put out by the Ontario Government for sectors that continue to be operational during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ✓ Look outside traditional sectors that hire students from your discipline. Determine what knowledge, skills and attitudes you have that can be transferred between sectors.
- ✓ Tap into the Canadian Professional Associations list to home in on employers that are members of these associations as a way of developing company lists in your field of work.
- ✓ Look at opportunities for new ways to work: entrepreneurship and remote work for example.
- ✓ Continue to gain knowledge and skills by taking on-line courses through LinkedIn Learning or Ivy League credit courses.
- ✓ Boost your network. Re-connect with friends, family or past co-workers and use LinkedIn to foster new connections.
- ✓ Look around your community for opportunities to not only help others during this time of uncertainty, but also to continue to develop valuable skills (and show initiative to prospective employers).

### DON'T:

- X Wait until there is certainty again. Be ready for all opportunities.
- X Rely on the skills or knowledge you already have. Continue to find ways to enhance or improve.
- X Rely on job postings to find work.
- X Narrow the sectors you research based on where you were successful in the past.
- X Limit yourself to job titles. Think of challenges you would like to work on and organizations that are working on those challenges as opportunities for meaningful work.
- X Forget about your network and the value they could provide in searching out an opportunity (and the value you can provide them).
- X Attempt to do this alone. Reach out for help from family members, your extended network and from the Experiential Learning Hub.

### Resources:

Essential Workplaces:  
[ontario.ca/page/list-essential-workplaces](https://ontario.ca/page/list-essential-workplaces)  
Canadian Professional Associations:  
[cpmdq.com/htm/org.canada2.htm](https://cpmdq.com/htm/org.canada2.htm)  
LinkedIn Learning (University of Guelph):  
[uoguelph.ca/ccs/service/linkedin-learning](https://uoguelph.ca/ccs/service/linkedin-learning)  
(Free) Ivy League Courses:  
[classcentral.com/collection/ivy-league-moocs](https://classcentral.com/collection/ivy-league-moocs)