

College of Business Administration Business Career Center • (414) 288-7927 • businesscareers@marquette.edu Business Career Center

#### **RESUME OVERVIEW**

A resume is one of the most important documents in your internship or job search. It is a personal marketing tool that may lead to an interview. Think of your resume as a highlights summary of the skills, experiences and knowledge you will bring to a specific position or industry.

#### Format: What should my resume look like?

Most employers spend fewer than 20 – 30 seconds reviewing your resume. Resume formats need to be readable, well organized and concise. Avoid using Microsoft Word templates. Creating your own document demonstrates your computer skills and initiative. Templates can also be more difficult to edit, download and format over time. To help you get started, the Business Career Center provides samples of well-organized resumes.

#### Content: What should my resumes include?

Your resume is unique to you. It should highlight your skills, experiences and accomplishments.

A resume should include:

Header – Contact information

**Objective** (optional) – Answers the questions, "What do I want to do?" and "What can I offer?" **Education** – School, degree(s), and graduation date

Skills (optional) - Describes skills that are above and beyond what is expected

Experiences – Work, internship, volunteer, and class project accomplishments

Honors & Activities – Honors/scholarships awarded, extracurricular activities and leadership roles

#### Length: How long should my resume be?

Your resume should be concise. In most business settings one-page resumes are preferred by employers for interns and entry-level opportunities. A two-page resume is acceptable within IT and non-profit fields.

### **Resume Dos and Don'ts**

Do

- Use bullet points to keep text action-focused and concise
- List job experiences in reverse chronological (most recent first) within sections
- Use action words
- Use readable font styles and sizes
- Include accomplishments
- Represent your experiences accurately *Exaggerations or false statements within a resume can be grounds for termination*
- Proofread carefully

### Don't

- Have spelling or grammatical errors
- Include "References upon Request" at the bottom of your resume *Most employers who want* references will ask. Use space on your resume to share more details about you and your experiences
- Include personal information such as age, ethnicity, photos, date of birth or marital status
- Use personal pronouns such as I, me, my, or their

# **RESUME WORKSHEET**

As you prepare your college-level resume, use the following worksheet as a guide and reflective exercise. Try to fill in as much as you can and obtain as many "yes" responses as you can.

Header	Did you use your Marquette email? Yes Not yet Is your address utilizing either two parallel sections or one centered address for one residence? Yes Not yet Is your name larger than the rest of your header and bolded? Yes Not yet Is only 1 phone number listed? Yes Not yet
Education	What is your degree?
	If you know your major(s), please list here:
	If you do not have a major, it's okay! Leave that line off until you're
	reasonably certain in your path – that might be next month, or next year!
	I have excluded all high school education: Yes Not yet Additional reminders:
	<ul> <li>Include a previous post-secondary institution only if you have</li> </ul>
	obtained a degree there
	<ul> <li>Include study abroad when applicable</li> </ul>
	- Marquette graduation should be listed as "Month Year," not inclusive
	dates. List your graduation month and year here:
Skills (optional)	If applicable, did you include any language skills and your proficiency? Yes No
	If applicable, did you include any extraordinary computer skills (not including MS Office)? Yes No
	Remember, skills are best incorporated into the bullet points associated with
	your roles. A reader wants to know the context and HOW you developed skills, not just that you HAVE skills!
Experience: Format	Does each experience include the organization name, job, city and state?
	Yes Not yet
	Did you list relevant experience in reverse chronological order? Yes Not
	yet
	Do you indicate dates of employment? Yes Not yet
Experience: Verbs	Are action verbs used at the beginning of each bullet point? Yes No
	Are action verbs used in the appropriate tense? YesNo
	Do your verb forms match an '1' subject? Yes No

	Did you remove all personal pronouns from your bullet points? Yes Not yet
	Practice makes perfect: use this space to craft 1-2 bullet points for your most
	recent experience (remember, experience is experience! It does not have to
	be paid roles; class projects and volunteer endeavors are impactful):
	1.
	2.
Experience: Skills	Do you make use of skills associated with your degree, such as written and
	verbal education, any data analytics work, etc? Yes Not yet
	Are the job duties listed relevant to industry needs? Yes Not yet
Honors, Activities and	Do you have any class projects that you can include on your resume, such as
Class Projects	Business Day One? Yes Not yet
	Are you involved in any clubs or activities on campus? Yes Not yet
	Would you like to be involved in any clubs or activities? List a few Maquette-
	specific clubs or student groups you could join. Remember, this could relate to
	your educational pursuits, identity, or be simply ways to meet new people and
	pursue hobbies you enjoy. This information can be found both on the <u>COBA</u>
	website and on the Office of Student Development website:
	1.
	2.
	Do you have any scholarships? Yes No
	If yes, did you list why you received those scholarships? Yes N/A
	Did you exclude any previous high school involvement or activities?
	Yes No

## OTHER FORMATTING POINTS TO CONSIDER AS YOU REVIEW YOUR DOCUMENT