

Getting Your Foot On The Career Ladder

Having graduated from my degree almost five years ago, I know firsthand how difficult it is to get onto that coveted career ladder. This is the most frightening experience of any graduates life, as this is the next step to take to make it in the world of work. How you go about finding a job and how quickly you make the move determines the kind of job you choose for your future. Many people neglect the importance of being patient and taking your time before diving in and searching for a job. In the past I have felt duped into applying for a graduate position, with the idea that my position will be a junior executive or something similar, however I have often been disappointed with the outcome of this when I find myself selling and telemarketing. To get an executive position, your best move would be to approach an executive recruitment agency. Those like me who felt very confused in the real world and do not have a real game plan, will need to seek professional advice. Recruitment agencies are good for finding a job quickly, but you will have to accept that some agencies may not find something tailored to your needs. There are specialised agencies, such as accountancy, medical, teaching, legal, business and executive recruitment agencies. These are aimed towards people looking for a specific role and holding the relevant qualifications. Executive recruitment agencies normally take on experienced consultants, or people who have had experience in an executive position (possibly working in the government sector). However, they can be approached for their advice and services. Executive recruiters will always look for the more confident and ambitious of all graduates, therefore you will need to make a good impression and prepare for the interview. Other recruitment agencies such as legal, medical and accountancy will almost certainly interview those who have studied for the specific qualifications. These may also require candidates to provide proof of previous experience and proof of your degree certificate. The career world is more cut throat than ever, so if you have the opportunity try to gain some unpaid work experience in order to get ahead. There are external agencies that specifically offer advice on writing your own CV and how to write a good covering letter. Take as much advice as you can as this information will prove valuable to you, when it comes to actually applying for a job. You will expect to send out as many CVs and application forms as you can, this is the easy part of your search. When it comes to landing an interview, this is when you will have to practise your communication skills and learn how to sell yourself. The key is to be persistent, maintain your patience and research the companies that you are applying for. I once made the mistake of never noting down the places I had applied for, so when I finally did receive a phone call from the companies I had forgotten all about it and felt rather embarrassed as I had forgotten who the company were. You will need to keep a record of this as when it comes to call back, this will not look good for you. Finally do not be disheartened. Approaching recruitment agencies will help you find a job, and sometimes this will direct you into the career path you require. However, if you taking the route of handing out CVs yourself, then you will need help on them well enough for potential employers to consider you for an interview.

About the Author

Anna Stenning is an expert on executive recruitment and other recruitment agencies having worked from agencies before finding her chosen career path. For more on recruitment agency work visit <http://www.prismrec.co.uk/>

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