

The Hindu/Delhi/ 09/03/2011

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-features/tp-opportunities/article1521548.ece>

Worry about job after doing well in finals

K. V. Rajasekher

It is that time of the year when every student has butterflies in the stomach. The exams are here. Even if one has climbed on to the much coveted campus placement list, there is the one big hurdle of clearing the finals.

For those who have secured a placement it becomes more imperative to clear the finals and for those who have been left out there is need to secure better marks and improve their percentage.

For those who were not selected through the campus there is no need to despair. Here is some advice to better your career prospects as you finish your exams and embark on a job search.

Improve score: Final exams are the last chance to improve overall scores. Go all out, concentrate on your subjects and aim to get the best possible score. This is like the last 10 overs in the one-day cricket match. This is where the batting side makes its last ditch effort to add maximum runs to its score. This becomes the turning point of a match.

So get ready to burn the midnight oil, stretch and use your brains and energy to the maximum possible extent.

Forget job: It will be better to not think of what will be your chances after you finish your degree in getting a job. Cross the bridge when you come to it. Worry will only disturb your concentration. There will be many opportunities that will come your way, but to make the best of them you need to have better score, understand that fact well. Even if you have to send a resume in response to an advertisement, make sure you have one made ready before hand, which you can email without having to rewrite it.

After exams: Once you finish the exams, you should analyze as to how you are going to build your career. That will help you know if you need any additional skills to brighten your chances in finding the right job. There are many short term courses offered by many reputed institutes in various fields right from cyber security, networking to dotnet, CAD/CAM or even communication and soft skills.

Find a course that will add value to your resume and show that you are a candidate who has serious professional intentions.

But before you start off on a course evaluate the institute, the recognition the course has in industry and the cost. Industry recognised courses will help you in getting a job

faster. Also look for an institute that has industry tie-ups and offers placement help, when you decide to do a course.

Job search: Once you have the necessary qualifications you must start your job search in earnest. Make a resume that is clear and simple. Do not overstate ambitions or boast about your personal qualities or family background. See that there are no spelling mistakes or factual errors in it. Also keep your references ready. Keep them informed that you have mentioned their names in the resume.

Respond to advertisements with care. Do not go for jobs that are not in line with your qualifications.

This is also the time to use your network. Get information on companies that are recruiting in your area of specialisation. Send the resume to your seniors to check if it sounds right. Ask them what are the usual questions posed to freshers. Find out what the right answers are.

Make up your mind set for meeting the challenges during and after the exams. Do the right thing at the right time. Like the great philosopher said "If you care at all, you'll get some results. If you care enough, you'll get incredible results".

Good luck for your exams and after.

K. V. Rajasekher

faqs@cnkonline.com