

Job Searching

7. **Use social media websites**, including LinkedIn and X to build your professional identity and search for open positions at companies.
8. **Have an internship completed before you start job searching.** With a very competitive job market, more employers are expecting graduates to have some sort of experiential learning in their profession completed before a student graduates. So, while it is not necessary, internships can only increase your chances of securing a job.
9. **Practice your interviewing skills** before you start interviewing for jobs. Schedule a mock interview with our office to make sure you are presenting your skills and experiences in an appropriate manner. Utilize BIG INTERVIEW, a web-based interview assistance tool. It is free to all WIU students and can offer exceptional assistance with forming the appropriate responses to common interview questions.
10. **Determine WHO will be your three professional references.** Contact these individuals immediately to politely ask them if they are willing to serve as a reference for you.
11. **If you get a job offer, be sure to check out our guidelines for salary negotiation and information about benefit packages.** You do not want to miss out on a great offer, just because you have not looked into regional salary information and benefits. What may seem like a low paying job, may in fact have great health insurance. So be sure to analyze the entire job offer before making your final decision.

Once again, these tips and suggestions WILL NOT guarantee that you will find a job or discover your dream career. But you will be at a greater advantage than those people who do not implement these strategies. If you would like further assistance with job searching, please log on to your Handshake profile to schedule an appointment with a staff member.