

Relocation Tips

Relocation can open up job search options, but navigating a search in a new community can be difficult. Since many USF business students choose to remain Florida after graduation, most companies that recruit on campus are from the region. Fortunately, many national firms have regional offices in the Tampa Bay area, which might help you identify contacts at the firm's headquarters or other regional locations.

- Narrow your search to a certain type of company or geographic area. The more you focus your efforts, the easier it will be to identify potential jobs.
- Use Career Beam's organizational database to identify companies in your desired location. <http://www.careerbeam.com/USFReg.asp>
- Many USF alumni are willing to help students with relocation and the USF Alumni Association has chapters in many major cities. Visit the Alumni Association's web site for a roster of chapters and societies. <http://www.usfalumni.net/ng>
- Identify large universities in the metropolitan area where you aim to live. Visit the career center websites for those universities to get a sense of companies that hire the institution's graduates.
- Scan websites for chambers of commerce in your desired location. Most have business directories categorized by industry and some may even include member names and contact information.
- Create a target list of companies then contact the USF Career Center to determine which firm recruit at USF. As many national organizations have regional offices that recruit at USF, attend the campus career fair or use USF's Career Center to search for a local contact so that you might reach out to that person to seek a contact at another location.
- Most large cities have location-specific job search sites. Read local newspapers online to learn about employment trends and new companies in the area. Business journals are often a good source for such information.
- Search the web for executive recruiters (also called third party recruiters and headhunters) in your chosen location.
- If possible, visit your chosen location and, several weeks ahead of time, contact your target companies to ask for an informal meeting. Conduct an informational interview to learn about the company and its hiring practices. Seek out networking opportunities (such as young professional groups and industry-specific associations). Try to time your visit so that you might also participate in local job fairs.
- Don't state in your cover letter that you will relocate at your own expense. Negotiate relocation assistance later; moving expenses should not be discussed until after an offer is made.
- Be sure your cover letter indicates that you are available for a phone interview.
- Record a Virtual Video Interview at the USF Career Center. You can email your interview to employers to give them an idea of your communication skills. <http://www.career.usf.edu/students/vvi.htm>



Web Resources

www.Careerbeam.com/USFReg.asp

www.career.usf.edu/students/vvi.htm

www.usfalumni.net/ng

www.bizjournals.com

www.cityguide.lycos.com

www.localbusiness.com

www.newspapers.com

www.quintcareers.com/relocation_resources.html

hotjobs.yahoo.com/relocation