Quick Tips: Career Fair Success

BASIC TIPS:

• Career fairs offer a perfect opportunity to let people know what kind of a position you are looking for within their organization.

• They also allow you to find out more about companies, what kinds of positions they are hiring for, what opportunities may exist, what the culture is like, etc.

• They provide you with terrific practice meeting potential employers and answering some initial questions.

APPEARANCE TIPS:

• First impressions are critical. You never get a second chance to make a first impression.

• Dress the part. Wear professional, conservative business attire to the career fair to make a great first impression.

• SEE OUR CAREERSPOTS VIDEOS “Interview Dress for Men” and “Interview Dress for Women” on interview dress.

RESUME TIPS:

• Bring a very solid resume that is free of mistakes, typos, incorrect dates.

• Make sure that your resume is clear, accurate, distinct, and easy to read.

RESEARCH/PREPARATION TIPS:

• Know why you are at the career fair and what companies you want to speak with ahead of time if possible.

• Do not randomly go booth to booth, directionless since it will be apparent that you have done little to prepare for the event.

• Research the companies a bit BEFORE the career fair. Do your homework, so you know something about the companies, their products, and their line of work.
• Avoid questions like “what does your company do?” and comments like “I really don’t know about your company.”

• Employers like to meet with savvy job candidates who have taken the time to learn a little bit about the organization ahead of time.

**TYPES OF DISCUSSIONS/QUESTIONS:**

• Ask questions like “where do you see me with the company?” or “what’s the company’s vision?”

• Avoid questions about vacation, salary, and “when do I get my first paycheck?”

**REMEMBER:**

• Employers gravitate to individuals that prepare for the career fair. This initiative shows an employer that you are serious about seeking a position with her company.

• If you take the time to take care of yourself, then it signals an employer that you will likely take care of his/her business