

RELOCATING TO A NEW COMMUNITY



As you prepare for life after graduation or a summer internship, you may have considered relocating to another city or region of the country. After all, what could be more exciting than a fresh start in New York or Seattle? While relocating can be a rewarding experience, it can be challenging. Launching a job search from hundreds of miles away requires a bit more effort, but when you are finally settled in to your new place, it can be worth it! To ease your search, keep the following tips in mind:

DO YOUR RESEARCH ON THE CITY

Sure, San Francisco sounds like an exciting city, but did you know a 1-bedroom apartment could cost you upwards of \$3000+ per month or more in the city? Before you make any decisions, do some research on the city you plan to call home.



While some of these questions won't be as important if you are only planning to spend a summer, it's still a good idea to research. Check the Internet or travel section of the local bookstore or library. There are many websites that can help you find all the details of any city. Some websites to check are:

- www.bestplaces.net
- www.livability.com

...THEN RESEARCH THE JOB MARKET

Different parts of the country may be known for different types of industries and/or employers. Having an idea of the employment scene will not only help you find a job or internship, but may also help you decide if this city is a good fit for you.

- Utilize GoinGlobal's array of info on 40+ cities/40+ countries (on XPD's website)
- Check online newspapers from other cities to get a feel for what is available in other cities/states. Check out websites that allow you to search by city and keyword (e.g. wwwIndeed.com)
- Look at websites located by topic area on the "Job/Internship Opportunities" section of the XPD website (www.csbsju.edu/xpd)

If there is a college or university in the area, check their website to see what information you can find.

CHOOSE THE ORGANIZATIONS YOU WANT TO WORK FOR

Now that you know what is out there, make a list of the organizations that sound most interesting to you and the key people you will need to contact. Do extra research on these particular organizations and contact them. Don't rely on just sending a cover letter and resume to these people. You will need to follow-up with a phone call so you are more than just a piece of paper.

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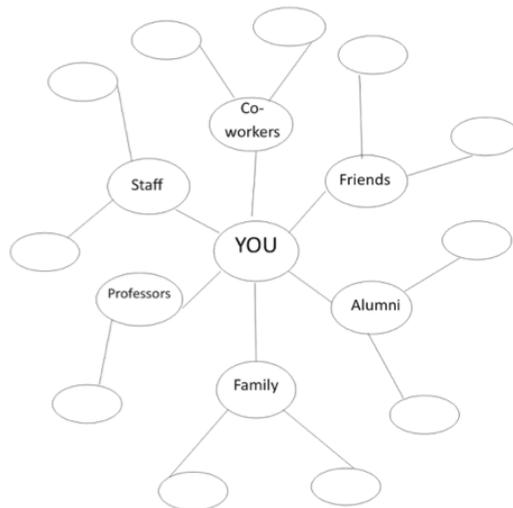
www.csbsju.edu/xpd
Open Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SJU OFFICE

Mary Hall 10 and 25
320-363-3236

NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK!

This is a little trickier when you are trying to network from 1,000 miles away, but it can still be done. How do you get started? Check out the CANE database in the Career Resource Centers (alums can register to use “BenniesConnect/JohnniesConnect”). Start sorting by ZIP CODE and see which Bennies and Johnnies have relocated to your city of choice. Even if they do not work in the field you are interested in, they may know someone who does. That is what networking is all about! Establish a LinkedIn account to network with other professionals (join groups such as the CSB/SJU Career Connections) to identify individuals to contact. In addition, talk to everyone you know, friends, parents, relatives, faculty and staff members, friends of friends, friends of parents ... the list is endless. Every time you talk to someone, mention your desire to move to Fairbanks, AK or Miami, FL. You'll be surprised at the connections you may find! To help you keep track of your networking contacts, use the map below. Also, utilize MANGO Connects on XPD's website to help you with your professional networking.



HAVE A RELOCATION PLAN

Once you know where you want to go, you'll need a plan to get there. Packing up all your worldly possessions and hitting the road may work for a few people, but it's not the best way to make a major life change. Your plan should include:

CHECKLIST

- A relocation budget.
- A timeline for your move.
- Some trips to the city before you start to call it home.
- Identify possible contacts.

Try to make two trips: one to conduct informational interviews, scout out the location and housing opportunities, and to get a feel for the city. Your second visit could consist of actual interviews and finalizing any details.

Being able to make one or two trips can make a big difference in the success of your search.

Even if you are only moving for a summer internship, being able to visit the city and meet with prospective employers will give you an edge over just being a voice on the telephone.