

A Warm Tip Sheet for Today's Job Seeker

David Bolz, Career Coach of the Outer Harbor

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Begin With Hope

Finding a job is not just a search for work — it's a search for where you belong next. Remember, you are not starting from scratch. You are starting from experience. “You are a person, not a résumé,” and your journey deserves patience and kindness.

BEGIN WITH HOPE

You are starting from experience.



“You are a person, not a résumé.”

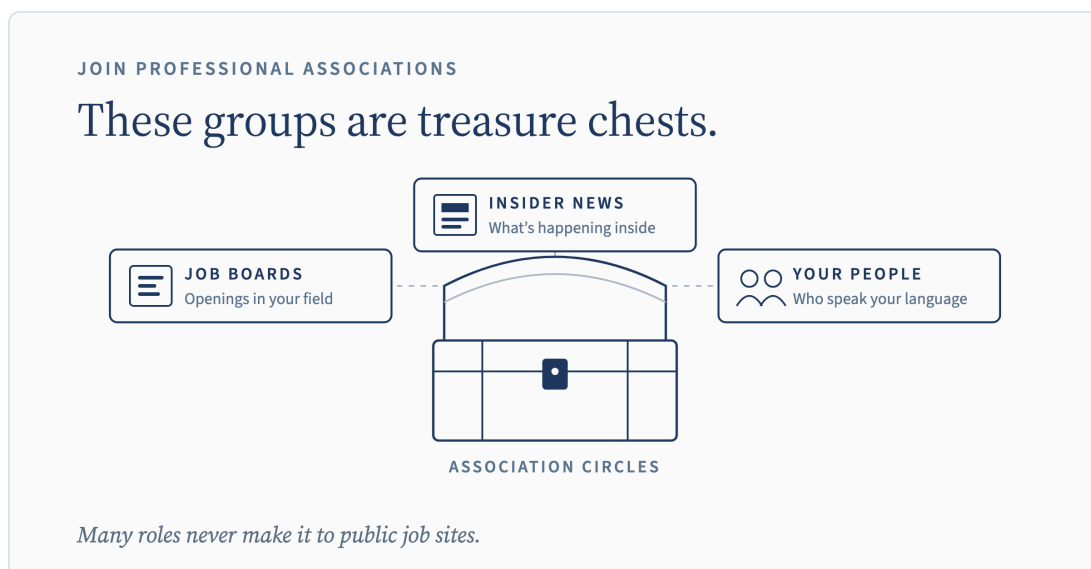
Let Networking Be Your Secret Garden

Hidden opportunities often grow where conversations happen. Attend industry meetups, conferences, or even small community gatherings. Reach out on LinkedIn. A simple message—warm, curious, human—can open doors you didn’t know existed. Building relationships can lead to hidden job opportunities.



Join Professional Associations

These groups are treasure chests: job boards, insider news, and people who speak your professional language. Many roles never make it to public job sites, but they do make it to association circles.



Try Direct Outreach—A Bold, Human Gesture

Identify organizations that spark your interest. Write to hiring managers or recruiters with a note that says, “Here’s who I am, here’s what I admire about your work, and here’s how I might contribute.” Not every message will get a reply, but the ones that do can change everything.

TRY DIRECT OUTREACH

A bold, human gesture.

YOUR NOTE

- 1 Here’s who I am.
- 2 Here’s what I admire about your work.
- 3 Here’s how I might contribute.



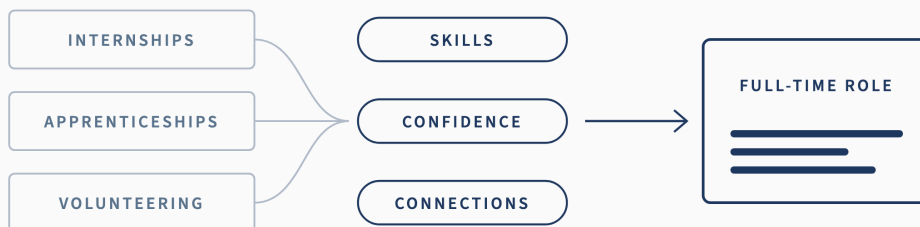
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Learn by Doing: Internships, Apprenticeships, Volunteering

Sometimes the best way forward is through hands-on experience. These paths help you build skills, confidence, and connections—and often lead to full-time roles.

LEARN BY DOING

The best way forward is hands-on.



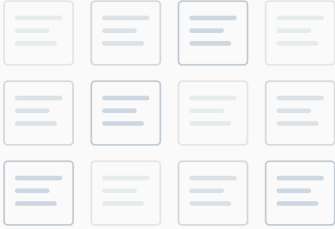
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Show Up Where Employers Gather

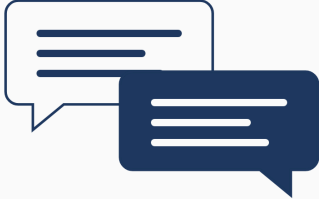
Job fairs and career events — virtual or in-person — let you meet hiring managers face-to-face. Bring your résumé, your story, and your curiosity. A good conversation can be more powerful than a dozen online applications.

SHOW UP WHERE EMPLOYERS GATHER

Bring your résumé, your story, your curiosity.



A DOZEN ONLINE APPLICATIONS



ONE GOOD CONVERSATION

A good conversation can be more powerful than a dozen online applications.

Shape Your Personal Brand

Your online presence is your modern-day calling card. Keep LinkedIn fresh. Share ideas. Engage with your field. Consider a simple portfolio or website. This helps you establish yourself as a knowledgeable professional.

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Your modern-day calling card.

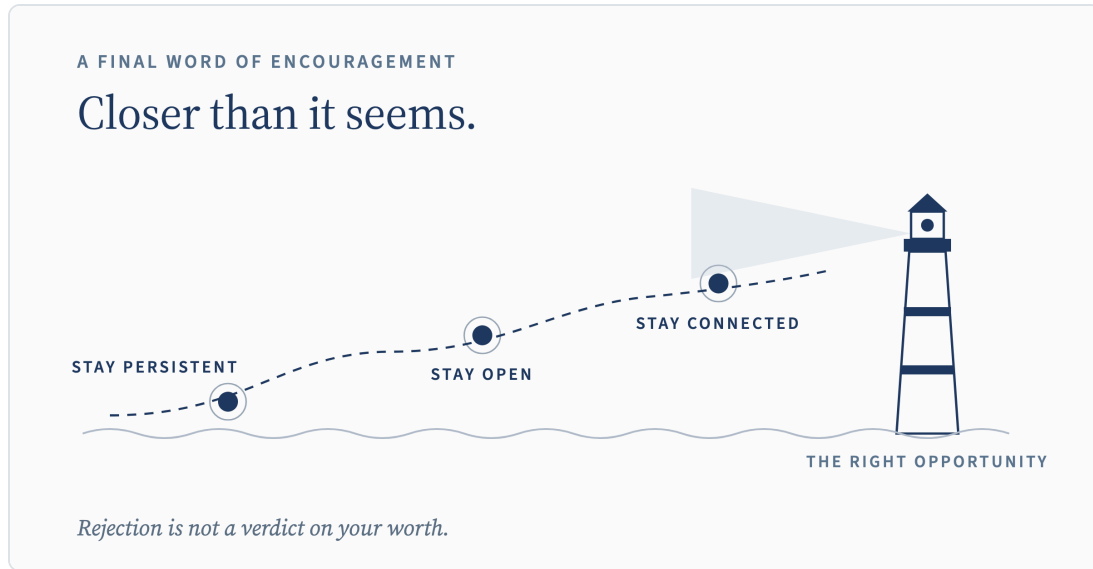


- ✓ Keep LinkedIn fresh.
- ✓ Share ideas.
- ✓ Engage with your field.
- ✓ A simple portfolio or website.

Establish yourself as a knowledgeable professional.

A Final Word of Encouragement

Job searching takes courage. Rejection is not a verdict on your worth. It's simply part of the process. Stay persistent. Stay open. Stay connected. The right opportunity is often closer than it seems.



"Your mission in life is where your deep gladness meets the world's deep need."

RICHARD BOLLES

You've got this. And you're not walking alone!