



# FINDING PLACEMENTS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Undertaking work experience not only gives you the edge and looks great on your CV, but graduate employers ask for it. Placements can deliver that experience, along with the chance to apply your knowledge and skills in the real world.

63% of employers believe that graduates who have undertaken work experience were work ready (Rate My Placement 2018).

Finding a placement will build insight and knowledge to add to assignments and also give you a range of new contacts.



## 10 WAYS TO FIND PLACEMENTS

Here is some advice from the University's Solent Futures team:

- 1. Most Solent degree courses include work placement modules** – take a look at Solent Online Learning to find out more, and attend the module preparation sessions.
- 2. Use Solent Futures Online** – We have our own job search facility on Solent Futures Online which you can use to find opportunities. It shows:
  - Jobs where employers have contacted us to say they would love to work with our students.
  - Campus Jobs
  - Various roles sourced from Indeed to add some options to your search.
- 3. Use specialist work placement sites** such as Gradcracker, RateMyPlacement, The Big Choice, Milkround, Targetjobs and Student Ladder.
- 4. Sign up to email alerts on Solent Futures Online** for the latest placement opportunities and work on campus.
- 5. Be proactive and use social media**, especially LinkedIn, to make connections with companies, friends, teaching staff and relatives. Share your CV and let them know you are looking for a placement or work experience.
- 6. Explore the potential for relevant experience** through Solent Creatives, Solent Productions, Solent Works, Re:So, Solent Sport, and the University's other business-focused services.
- 7. Speculative application** – You can also speculatively approach businesses to see if they would consider hiring you for your work placement. You can find businesses to approach through yell.com or you may already have an idea of who you would like to work for. The best thing to do is check out the company's website to see if they have any information on work placements. If they don't, you could send a speculative email with your CV. If you have never done this before we can help you at our Solent Futures drop in desk.
- 8. Use jobs boards to search for roles that are relevant to your course and placement requirements** – Use general online job boards like Indeed, Reed, Daily Echo and Prospects. When using any or all of these websites, you need to be creative with your search terms. The website can only do so much, for example; sometimes employers call their work placements, internships. This would not come up unless you searched for it!
- 9. Sign up with recruitment agencies to search for roles that are relevant to your course and placement requirements** – They advertise a range of temporary roles that might be suitable for your placement. Local agencies include, Hays, Office Angels and Tate.
- 10. Visit us at the Library Advice Desk** or book a virtual appointment at 'Solent Futures Appointments' on SOL for one-to-one advice, and help with finding and applying for placements, or any other placement queries.