



GRADUATE COACH

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Recruitment help for record number of 250,000 graduates chasing 35,000 jobs — the highest number of unemployed graduates ever

Research shows that up to 250,000 graduates could be chasing just 35,000¹ graduate entry level jobs this year as they face their toughest recruitment season ever.

Signs of growth in graduate recruitment is promising but with fewer positions available than there were in 2008, and the highest ever recorded number of graduates out of work, competition for graduate jobs is likely to heighten between those who graduated in 2009 but were unable to find a job, and those who graduated this year.

At the same time surveys also show that 50% of employers still have graduate vacancies fill and 45% fear they will be unable to attract the right level of graduate due to the poor level of applications they receive.

With graduates being advised to trade gap years and bar work for internships and voluntary work in order to increase their employability chances, Graduate Coach has launched a new free graduate recruitment job pack to help those willing to put in the effort find a job.

Traditional recruitment support tends to focus on one aspect of the skills or abilities needed to land a job, such as CV writing and interview skills. The Graduate Coach “Get a Job” Pack takes a different approach. It helps jobseekers develop the rounded set of skills and abilities needed to make themselves employable so they can successfully compete for the job they really want.

The Graduate Coach “Get a Job” Pack includes over £40 worth of high quality downloadable guides covering not only traditional CV writing, interviewing and presenting skills, but also support to help jobseekers develop skills in areas such as problem solving, resilience and self awareness – the type of employability skills cited as most desirable by over 81% of employers³.

Says Chris Davies, founder of the Graduate Coach, “Graduates are feeling really lost right now. Reports paint such a bleak picture it is no wonder students’ confidence in the graduate job market is at a fifteen-year low with 45% of university-leavers describing prospects for new graduates as ‘very limited’, according to research from High Fliers².”

“Graduates have resorted to accepting just any job or applying to employers they aren’t really interested in. We want to help restore some confidence for graduates looking for jobs by showing them that there is plenty they can do to make themselves more employable and plenty of the right type of jobs out there for those willing to put in a bit of effort.”

Graduate Coach, which provides coaching support to graduates to help them develop the skills, abilities and confidence they need to find the job they want, hopes the pack will assist graduates through what seems like the ‘best of times, and worst of times’ in graduate recruitment.

On one side there are fewer jobs with record numbers unemployed. Graduate vacancies this year stand at the same level to roughly where it was in 2005². This year an estimated 60,000 additional graduates left university compared with the numbers who completed first degrees in 2005.

On the other side employers can’t seem to attract the right level of candidate. According to the CBI survey³ two months ago over half of employers are worried that they will not be able to fill graduate level or higher skills posts in the coming years. Forty-five per cent say they are already having difficulty recruiting staff with skills in science, technology, engineering and maths and 59% expect to have difficulty finding like-skilled people in the next three years.

This month totaljobs.co.uk released survey results showing that 50% of employers still have graduate positions to fill.

Clearly there is a disparity in the picture for graduate recruitment – there are jobs but employers are not getting the right standard of applicant.

The Graduate Coach “Get a Job” Pack offers support to help graduates become more employable. It is free to all those who want help to develop all aspects of the skills and abilities needed to land the job they want, and to overcome the bleak predictions for graduate recruitment 2010.

Graduates can download their jobs pack from www.graduatecoach.co.uk

Notes for editors

The Graduate Coach provides support to help students all around the country improve their chances of landing their job they really want by focusing on the rounded set of skills needed to become more employable.

The Graduate Coach approach ties in with the key outcome from the CBI-EDI report and summed up in the following quote taken from the survey:

“Problem solving, team-working and time management skills are a necessary part of employment, and business will often consider these qualities to be as important as exam results and formal qualifications. Improving these skills was employers’ top priority for the education system.”

Richard Lambert, Director-general, CBI

1. *The 35,000 includes the 19,247 graduate entry level vacancies at top companies and 15,753 graduate entry level positions available across SMEs*
2. *2. The UK Graduate Careers Survey 2010, High Fliers*
3. *3. CBI EDI report Education and Skills Survey 2010: Ready to grow: Business Priorities for Education and Skills (2010)*

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