In-Person Job Fair Prep Tips

General Preparation:
- Draft a one-page resume using the recommended resume template on Job Grid and the EOC website
- Get your resume critiqued by a Peer Career Advisor in the EOC at least once before the Fair
- Pre-register in the EOC to avoid long lines at the Fair (see the Job Fair Event on Job Grid for details)

How to Establish a Game Plan:
- Track which employers are attending via the Employer Tab of the Job Fair Event on Job Grid
- Note which companies are hiring your major and desired position type (full-time or intern/co-op)
- Make a list of companies that you specifically want to visit during the Fair
  - The exact number is flexible, but you should plan to make a lengthy list and work through as many as possible throughout the day
- Research each company and how your skills and interests might be a fit
- Write down a couple talking points for each company and why you want to work for them
- When the layout is released, find where your companies will be and decide in what order to visit them
  - Try not to visit your top company first if possible – give yourself a chance to warm up
- Be prepared to be flexible – some lines might be long and you’ll need to reorder, or you might see another company that you decide to visit

How to Talk to Recruiters:
- Know what you will say in advance by preparing and practicing your elevator pitch for recruiters
  - See Elevator Pitch handout here
- Practice answering standard questions:
  - Tell me about yourself?
    - Know your elevator pitch
  - Tell me about X on your resume?
    - Know your resume. Anything on your resume is fair game for recruiters to ask about!
  - What are your career goals?
  - What do you know about us? Why are you interested in us?
- Prepare 1-2 questions for each company
- Ask for their contact info and more detail on their application process (write it down so you don’t forget)
- End on a positive note by thanking them for their time and indicating your continued interest
- Remember and practice non-verbals
  - Relaxed, open stance
  - Smile and make eye contact

What to Bring:
- Several copies of your resume (more than you think you need)
- A portfolio or dark-colored folder
- A notepad and pen for taking notes
- If you pre-register, bring your lanyard with you. If not, bring your student ID to register at the Fair
• **Tip:** Remember that any giveaways you take, you will have to carry for the remainder of the event. Always make sure that you can still interact with recruiters professionally while carrying your giveaways.

**What to Wear:**

- **Dress code is Business Professional,** meaning all students must wear a suit **OR:**
  - If you don’t have a suit, dress pants and a nice shirt are great for men and women. Professional dresses or skirts with a blouse/cardigan are also appropriate for women.
  - This doesn’t have to be expensive! The University Career Center has a clothes closet with free professional clothing, and you can also visit thrift or discount stores as well.
  - Dress code is enforced. Students wearing unprofessional attire such as denim, hats, tennis shoes, low-cut tops, sandals, short skirts, or stilettos will not be allowed in the Fair.
- You will be doing a lot of walking and standing, so be sure to wear professional but comfortable shoes that have been broken in.
- Practice good personal hygiene (shower, brush your teeth, use deodorant, etc.).

**Other Tips:**

- **Attend a Job Fair Prep Workshop for additional tips** (schedule on Job Grid).
- Pre-register and plan to arrive as early as your schedule allows to avoid lines.
- Follow up with recruiters and thank them for their time via email or LinkedIn.
- Be confident – recruiters are there to meet with you.
- Don’t get discouraged if a company doesn’t have something for you, just keep going! Each recruiter you speak with is a new beginning.

Contact Career Services at coe.careers@ttu.edu with any questions.