



European Movement Ireland

Applying for Jobs and Internships in the EU: Top 10 Tips

- 1. Match your ideal EU job not only to your degree, but also to your personality.** There are job opportunities in every field within the EU so, in order to maximise your potential and enjoy your work, make sure that your career choice suits your personality, and vice-versa.
- 2. Make a good first impression.** Your CV is usually your first point of contact with a potential employer. Research the difference between a strong and weak CV and have a friend or colleague read over yours with an objective eye. Tailor your CV for each position you apply for, keep the information relevant, and above all, check for grammatical errors.
- 3. Strengthen your employability.** Look at the requirements for your ideal job and work at improving your skills in this area. Usually, top of the list of requirements for jobs in the EU is strong language skills. It's never too late to start working on your languages so now is the time to brush up on your Leaving Cert-level French!
- 4. Network.** Don't be afraid to make as many contacts as possible, and to use them in your job or internship hunt. Make sure to call or, better still, meet with anyone who can help you; including lecturers, current or past EU employees and officials.
- 5. Throw your hat in the ring.** As Woody Allen once said, 80% of success is showing up. Apply for everything that you can, even if you think that you don't meet all of the criteria; the nuggets of experience and information you have in your CV may be exactly what a potential employer is looking for.
- 6. Do an internship.** An internship can add invaluable experience to your CV and can help you to develop and maximise your skillset.
- 7. Volunteer.** Get involved in an area that is of interest to you; there are a wealth of volunteering opportunities out there so it shouldn't be difficult to find one that suits you. Donating your time to a voluntary cause will show that you are a proactive and determined person; qualities that are attractive to potential future employers in any field.
- 8. Pick up the phone.** Don't wait for a job opportunity to be advertised, take the lead and cold call your ideal organisation. Ask if you can meet with an appropriate person in the organisation through your own personal contacts or find out where to send your CV.
- 9. Broaden your horizons.** Don't limit your search to the EU Institutions. Positions in EU Agencies, NGOs or lobbying groups can be fantastic learning opportunities and can offer exciting and rewarding careers.
- 10. Keep learning.** Don't forget about further education. If you are set on a career in the EU, find out which courses are considered useful and valuable by employers and research the range of EU-related courses on offer in Ireland (the EM Ireland Third-Level Education Audit can help you with this!).



European Movement Ireland

The Grad Jobs in Europe Campaign

European Movement Ireland (EM Ireland) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that works to promote reasoned, robust and informed debate on European issues in Ireland.

EM Ireland's Grad Jobs in Europe campaign, which has been running since 2009, encourages Irish students and graduates to include Brussels in their post-college employment search to the same extent that their European counterparts do. The goal of the Grad Jobs Campaign is to make Irish graduates more aware of the opportunities available for them in the EU system and to encourage more Irish graduates to consider the EU as a place where they could fulfil their career ambitions. There are a number of elements to the campaign, including:

Career Talks

Each year, EM Ireland conducts a series of career talks in universities and ITs, and clubs and socs, around the country to highlight the job and internship opportunities available across the EU.

The Green Book and Brussels Connection Event

Updated annually, *The Green Book: A very handy book if you happen to be an Irish stagiaire in Brussels*, delivers highly practical and useful information on how to get an internship in Europe, including details of all the stage opportunities available within the European institutions; how to settle into life in Brussels; and how to find a job once your internship finishes.

European Movement Ireland Stagiaire Programme

EM Ireland accepts interns on a rolling basis depending on our project load and work requirements.

Jobs and Internship in Europe Information Service

EM Ireland publicises internship and employment opportunities in the EU as they arise via our Facebook page, Twitter and website. We also have a weekly email service that sends updated information directly to third-level careers advisors and students nationwide.

College of Europe Scholarship Programme

Each year, the Irish Government funds a number of students to study at Masters Level at the College of Europe. European Movement Ireland is currently in charge of the application and selection process for these College of Europe scholarships on behalf of the Dept. of Education and Skills.

Learn more about the Grad Jobs in Europe campaign at www.europeanmovement.ie

Get in Touch

To learn more about the work of European Movement Ireland and for more information on the benefits and services available to our members, please don't hesitate to contact the team:

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