



Session 2: How to apply for a job

What are you looking for?

When applying for a job, the first thing you need to do is decide what **type of job** you want! You should make notes on this and it will help your search if you can make these notes as detailed as possible. For example, you should think about:

- How much time are you willing to spend travelling to work?
- Would you be willing to relocate?
- What salary do you expect to earn?
- Would you work unsociable hours?

By answering key questions like this, you can start to **focus** your activities on finding a job that you really want.

Sources of information

Once you have decided what job you want (or will want in the future) you are ready to start thinking about where you can find **information** about jobs you want to apply for. You can find this type of information in many different places, such as:

- Company websites
- Personnel / Human Resources departments
- Job search websites
- Recruitment agencies
- Specialist job publications
- Local and national media (newspapers, etc).

Making contact

Once you know what **type of job** you want to apply for and where you can find **information** about job applications, your next step is to either:

- Make contact with the organisation
- Make an application for a particular job.

In both cases, you are simply letting the organisation know that you are **interested** in a job and that you would like to be considered for it.

There are several different **methods** of making an application. The main ones are:

- Application forms
- Online applications
- CVs
- Covering letters
- Telephone enquiries
- Applying in person.

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