

# Getting a job start

*“Most are not fortunate enough to step out of university and into their dream job”*

**S**o you have finished your degree and now need to find the right job. But no matter how many interviews you attend, the good ones always pass you by. You've studied long and hard for this career. It's what you really want, so what can you do?

Most people are not fortunate enough to step out of university and into their dream job, but have to compromise what they want or take a different path.

Jobs with the perfect location, salary, hours and other desired options are scarce. You usually have to be top of your field with much experience to have their job wants catered to. Realistically, you may need to adjust your expectations

and go out of your way, possibly even sacrifice other things, to establish your career. This may mean moving, commuting, waiting to have children and it is useful to work out where you will prioritize your career at this point in your life.

A willingness to perform lesser tasks than you are qualified for within your field shows dedication to that discipline. Any work experience gained in your chosen field, however far beneath your abilities, will outshine those without any experience or who have been embarking on another route entirely.

One way to gain experience in your chosen field is to do volunteer work. Whilst you won't get paid and it will eat into your free time, the

experience you gain will benefit you in gaining work and experience and working towards the goal of your dream job.

Depending on your chosen field, starting your own business might be an alternative option. Many small businesses operate from home or out of a van. Some charities such as The Good Shepard and St Vincents have loans available to low income earners which can be used for business start-up.

Whatever your career expectations and hopes, remember that your long term persistence will pay off for you in your career just as your persistence at university was paid off by earning your degree.

**Lauretta Davies**



Elliot Luke, JD Student  
*Bachelor of Arts  
(French and Spanish, Honours)  
Master of Science  
(Development Studies)*

I recognised that a professional qualification in law would enable me to make a real impact in human rights and international development, enriching my career.

I chose  
Melbourne Law School.

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