Responses to CE Employment Questionnaire
Sent out original questionnaire on 8/15/11
The latest offers are at the end of this document

New resource: Who hires our graduates and links

The following are responses from former TAMU Civil Engineering students who were recently asked to let us know if their firm, or companies they knew, had job openings, and later just normal offerings that naturally come in. We have listed the results below. If you actually get a job through one of these listings, please let me know so I can tell the Department Head whether or not it’s worth the time and effort: Lowery@tamu.edu Job offers are posted in the order received, oldest at the top, most recent at bottom.

If you would like to pursue these leads, please observe the following protocol before replying:

1) Go to the website of the company and carefully see what they do. Ask yourself if you can really contribute to their bottom line. If their website is not listed, Google it. If you don’t see something you are fully capable of doing or learning how to do so in short order, don’t apply. I would also highly recommend that you go to http://www.aggienetwork.com, click on “Find an Aggie” and see if you can find information on the person making the offer.

2) Re-write your resume tailored to how you can indeed contribute to their bottom line.

3) Carefully note how they want you to apply. If they list their email address, but say you can enter your resume at a listed website, they expect you to go through the website.

4) If they say they will accept your resume by email, please use the following subject line: TAMU C.E. Job Resume, and your name. I have told many of them to expect this so they can sort out your request from their daily spam. Please include your name so they can keep track of which one is yours. See any requested variations on this in the offer itself.

5) Sometimes they ask me to act as an intermediary to look over your information, which I am happy to do. If it says send your information to me, please do so, using the following format: Resume from <your name>, for <company name>. For example: Resume from John Jacobs, for Johnston Walker Associates. That lets me easily find your request, who you are, and in what position you are interested.

6) In the following offers, there is some interest in registered professional engineers, previous graduates, recent graduates, new graduates, co-op and internships. So no matter who you are you may find something of interest.

7) In all cases, once your resume has been sent, there is no way to know if it is still being considered, if they tossed it, if they already hired someone but put yours on file for future consideration, or what. About all you can do is to keep on looking. Pester them with “How am I doing, did I get the job, are we there yet?” is probably the quickest way to be rejected. ALL offers come with the following implied statement: Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest. However, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

8) If the referrer specified a preferred point of contact, I have deleted their personal information.
If you have a valid reason to contact them directly, let me know and I will consider sending it to you.

9) You are welcome to list me as a reference. You might also look over http://lowery.tamu.edu/generalceinfo/ for possible hints on finding a job.

10) From a student: “I recently spoke with a recent TAMU CE graduate that gave me some advice on job searches and applying for postings. He informed me that for some positions, even though the requirements say 2-3yrs of industry experience is needed, you should still apply because for many entry level positions such as this, it is not that critical and they will train you. This was his approach, and he had a lot of positive offers, etc. from HR and managers. Is this good advice?”

L^3 response: I have heard the same thing from several top people in companies, that you should go ahead and apply even without the required experience. I told them most of my students would not do so, since they are trained to follow instructions and not waste people's time. Their reply was that most of the job offers are not kept up to date and at worst they will just throw the resume away if you don’t meet the stated requirements, which is no different than if they never got it. They said it would not impact your future resume submissions.

I say that's pretty strange, but yes, I would go ahead and reply. However, you should clearly state something like "I understand that I don't yet meet the 2 years' experience but would greatly appreciate the opportunity to be considered to train in this position, since I am particularly interested in this field."

NOTE THAT THE JOB OFFERS BELOW ARE LISTED IN THE ORDER RECEIVED.

THE MOST RECENTLY RECEIVED ARE LISTED AT THE BOTTOM.

Good luck.

L^3

Early on in your job search look over the Student Engineers Council – Engineering Career Fair

http://sec.tamu.edu/students/careerfair/

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