



International | Canadore Pathways to Success

Why Searching for a Job May Feel Different in Canada

Job Market Overview for International Students



Why Job Searching May Feel Unfamiliar

No matter where you are coming from, job searching in Canada may work differently than you expect. The Canadian job market is peculiar.

This video will help you understand:

- How Canadian employers may think about hiring
- Why communication and professionalism matter
- Why local experience and references are important
- Why applying for jobs may require a different strategy
- How networking and confidence can affect your job search

Key point:

Your experience matters, but learning how the Canadian job market works can help you show employers your value.



Communication and Professionalism

Evaluation does not just begin during your interview; it can happen any time you interact with a potential employer

Employers may be paying attention to:

- How clearly you can communicate and write
 - How you speak about your skills and experience
 - Whether you follow instructions in the job posting
 - How you write emails
- How you behave socially; when you apply, interview, or if they know you outside of work
 - Whether you show confidence without being disrespectful
- How you follow up after applying or interviewing
 - Learn more in Module 2: Applications, Resumes, and Interviews

Key point:

In Canada, employers often pay attention not only to how you communicate in formal applications, but how you communicate professionally with them in other settings.



What is Professional Communication?

Professional communication means helping others understand you clearly, respectfully, and with the right level of detail

Good professional communication follows a few basic principles:

- Be clear about why you are communicating
- Be respectful, even when asking questions or raising concerns
- Be complete enough that the other person can help you
- Be direct, but not rude or demanding
- Be timely when responding to messages or requests
- Be accurate with names, dates, documents, and details
- Be aware that your communication can affect how others judge your professionalism



Key point:

Professional communication is not just about being polite. It shows that you are organized, reliable, and ready to work with others.



Example: Professional Communication

Why Communication Matters During Your Job Search

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Hello,

When you are looking for work in Canada, employers may pay attention to how you communicate before they ever meet you.

This can include how clearly you write emails, how quickly you respond, whether you follow instructions, and whether your message sounds respectful and professional.

For example, a strong message usually has:

- a clear subject line
- a polite greeting
- a direct reason for writing
- complete but simple information
- a respectful closing

These details may seem small, but they help an employer understand that you are organized, reliable, and ready for the workplace.

Key point:

Professional communication is not only about being polite. It is one way you show an employer how you may act at work.

Best regards,
Canadore Pathways to Success

Tailored Applications and Employer Expectations



Employers usually expect your application to connect clearly to the job you are applying for.

This means students need to:

- Read the job posting carefully
- Identify the skills and experience the employer wants
- Adjust their resume for the specific job
- Use examples that match the role
- Follow the employer's application instructions
- Show that they understand what the job requires
- Keep resume honest and use verifiable experience!

Key point:

A strong application is not only about listing your experience. It is about showing the employer why your experience fits that specific job.



Local Experience, References, and Trust

Employers may look for signs that you understand the local workplace.

This can include:

- Canadian work, volunteer, placement, or campus experience
- Someone local who can confirm you are reliable
- Understanding workplace expectations and schedules
- Knowing how to communicate with supervisors and coworkers
- Showing that you can adjust to a Canadian work environment

Key point:

Local experience is not only about where you worked. It helps employers build trust that you are ready for the workplace.



Networking and Confidence

Networking can help students learn about opportunities and build professional connections.

Steps to take:

- Talk to classmates, instructors, staff, and employers
- Attend career events, volunteering, workshops, or job fairs
- Ask questions about industries, roles, and workplaces
- Use LinkedIn or email professionally
- Practice how to speak about your skills and goals
- Follow up respectfully after meeting someone



Key point:

Networking is not only asking for a job. It is building relationships, learning from others, and helping employers understand who you are.



What to do Next:

Before the next video, think about which parts of job searching in Canada feel most unfamiliar to you and what support could help you adjust your approach.

Next Video: Common Barriers for International Students & How to Overcome them

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