




the collective voice of graduate recruiters



Tough time for graduates?

TIME TO GET MOVING

With a degree under your belt, you're in a great position to get ahead and secure a bright future. You might even be on the way already with your chosen career.

But if you're still thinking over your options, AGR, which represents over 800 organisations that recruit graduates, and AGCAS, which represents university careers services, say that, despite what you might be led to believe, there are opportunities for graduates. Here are some ideas to get you started.



Land the right job

If you're raring to enter the job market, then good news: there are always graduate and entry level vacancies available for the right candidates, and you can find advice and guidance on how to find and secure them here. For more information go to www.direct.gov.uk/graduatejobs



Find an internship

The Graduate Talent Pool is a new way to secure an internship. It's your chance to get real work experience and try out a career you're interested in. There's a wide range of positions available and many are paid. For more information go to www.direct.gov.uk/graduatetalentpool



Get on course for success: postgraduate study

A postgraduate qualification can make you more employable, increase your earning power, or even set you on track for a new career – with around 14,000 extra post-grad places available at UK universities this autumn. And you could fund it with a professional and career development loan of up to ten thousand pounds. For more information go to www.direct.gov.uk/postgraduatestudy



Start your own business

If you have a great idea, plus drive and determination, then now is a good time to consider starting up your own business or move into self employment. It's easier than you think and there's plenty of support. 5,000 free places are now available to graduates on the Flying Start – Make it Happen programme, providing you with all you need to know about self employment and starting a business – and then helping you Make It Happen! Check out the website to register for a Flying Start Day near you. For more information go to www.flyingstartonline.com/makeithappen



Short Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs)

A bit like internships, short KTPs are typically 10-40 week placements within small to medium businesses, to work on delivering specific projects. For more information go to www.ktponline.org.uk



Teach First

Teach First is an independent charity offering employment-based training for top graduates who might not normally consider a teaching career. The programme involves two years working in challenging secondary schools, plus valuable leadership training with employers. For more information go to www.teachfirst.org.uk



Be a volunteer

A great way to develop skills and boost your CV while also helping a good cause – and there are opportunities aplenty both here and overseas. For more information go to www.direct.gov.uk/volunteering



Take a gap year

Aside from volunteering, there are lots of things you can do with a gap year, like taking the chance to travel the world, taking time to really think about your future, even working at temporary jobs to build up a bit of cash. For more information go to www.direct.gov.uk/gapyears