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Are you on the Autism spectrum or do you have a similar neurodiverse profile? Are you concerned about employment after graduating college or are you a graduate in search of a job? Do you want help learning how to network, conduct a job search, and/or socialize in professional settings? **If so, this may be the program and the opportunity for you.**

Join Integrate this spring and meet select employers who are eager to share with you their best practices for finding a job and navigating the job search process. Learn about corporate culture, how to create impactful "elevator pitches," utilize LinkedIn to create a professional network, and meet with staff from various companies such as JPMorgan Chase, Fifth Third Bank, Paylocity and more.

Integrate is currently seeking college students and graduates with an Autism Spectrum (ASD) profile to participate in its Employer Connect program in the Midwest. Below you will find information on the program, eligibility, and instructions on how to apply.

About Integrate's Employer Connect:

Employer Connect will be connecting a group of participants to meet virtually with representatives from select companies in the Midwest. Participants will be given an exclusive view into the corporate world and the opportunity to interact with senior executives, hiring managers, and recruiting professionals from various industries. The program provides participants with the opportunity to learn about corporate culture, refine job search skills, effectively present themselves as job candidates, and improve their networking skills while expanding their networks.

To date, over 270 participants in New York City, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Antonio, Salt Lake City, and New England have completed this program.

A typical event schedule will be as follows:

1. Introductions
2. Company Overview
3. Interactive Job Search Activity (e.g., mock interviews, small groups, etc.)
4. Open Networking

Eligibility:

• Individuals who have completed at least one year as an undergraduate OR graduates (college and masters level) who have received their degrees

- All areas of study are welcome
- Must have an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnosis
- Should be interested in learning about different corporate work environments and improving job search skills

Program Requirements:

To participate, you must:

- Attend a **minimum of 7 sessions:** orientation session, training session, post-program debrief meeting (all mandatory), and four (of five) company sessions. *(Participants are encouraged to attend all sessions, however.)*
- Follow directions regarding dress code and behavior.
- Come prepared to sessions by conducting research on the host company and by preparing questions to ask company representatives (addressed at orientation).
- Have a profile on LinkedIn or set one up prior to participating in the Employer Connect program.
- Attend virtual sessions independently unless an accommodation has been requested in advance.
- Be on time for each session or notify Integrate if there is an unavoidable delay.
- In accordance with what is safe and appropriate in light of the COVID-19 outbreak, sessions will take place virtually.
- There are 5 company sessions (*participants must attend at least 4 of these).*
- Sessions generally take place once a week on a weekday (Monday through Thursday) in April,May and June. They will usually take place from 3:00-5:00 PM Eastern Time. **(The exact schedule will be provided to you before Orientation.)**
- Examples of topics that will be discussed include: understanding and creating your own personal brand; developing your 30 second elevator pitch; deciphering corporate culture; how to research a company and prepare for an interview; writing a compelling resume and cover letter; dressing appropriately for the workplace; how to handle behavioral interview questions; career planning; interviewing; and business etiquette.
- Integrate staff will be present at each session.

To Apply:

- **Please follow all instructions carefully, as it is an important criterion to indicate work readiness.**
- The priority deadline for completed applications will be Friday, March 19, 2021. The final deadline for completed applications will be Monday, March 29, 2021. Please note that there is a 2-step process to complete an application.
    - **o Step 1** : Candidates should submit their resume to the Midwest Employer Connect posting on Integrated website (www.integrateadvisors.org/recruitment).
    - **o Step 2:** Candidates will then receive a follow up email with an application form. Please submit

the application form by the specified deadline in the email. Only applications that have submitted the application form will be considered complete.

- Candidates who apply by the priority deadline will be given first consideration. Applications considered on a first come, first served basis so applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Integrate is a non-profit that helps employers identify, recruit and retain professionals on the autism spectrum. Contactjanet@integrateadvisors.org for application questions & additional information.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How much does it cost to participate in the Employer Connect program?

A: Due to generous sponsorship, there is no program fee for participants.

Q: Which companies will participate in the Employer Connect program?

A: An official announcement of this year's companies will come out in April 2021.

Q: Will the companies consider students for entry-level jobs or internships?

A: The hosting company is not obligated to offer positions or interviews to the participants in the program. However, participants will get the chance to share their resumes with company employees and may apply for open positions with the company. Integrate will facilitate this process, if the company requests.

Q: How many employees will be present for the session?

A: The companies' human resources staff, including their recruiting managers, along with managers from several departments, will be present. Employer Connect is meant to be interactive, so several employees will be present for each networking event.

Q: Who is Integrate Autism Employment Advisors?

A: Integrate Autism Employment Advisors ("Integrate") is a non-profit organizationfounded in 2010 that helps organizations identify, recruit, and retain professionals on the autism spectrum.   Our goal is to increase inclusive, competitive employment for college graduates with autism. Visit www.integrateadvisors.org or call 212-839-0030