

A black and white photograph of four young professionals (three women and one man) sitting around a table in a modern office setting. They are looking at laptops and documents, appearing to be in a collaborative meeting. The image is partially overlaid with large, semi-transparent red circles on the left and right sides.

TIPS FOR NEW GRADS ENTERING THE WORKFORCE

As many new graduates begin to enter the workforce for the first time, we know that it's common for the job search process to feel overwhelming, especially with having little professional experience. That said, there are many ways a new graduate can improve their candidacy and ultimately, increase the likelihood of quickly landing a role. Our recruiters are sharing a few of their professional tips to help you do so below.

EXPAND YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE

A large part of networking is now leveraging your online presence, such as on LinkedIn. This will help you to make connections you might not make on your own or in-person. LinkedIn can also help you become more visible to those in your industry, as well as help you be more in tune with trends in your profession.

SIGN UP FOR JOB ALERTS

Often when job openings arise, there are hundreds of applicants within days, which is why it's important to stay on top of when new opportunities become available. One way to do that is with job alerts, LRO Staffing offers industry-specific weekly job alert emails that you can **sign up** for, in addition to the position notification you can opt-in to on Indeed and LinkedIn.

PERSONALIZE YOUR APPLICATION

By highlighting a few personal attributes in your resume, you'll make your application stand out against others. Try communicating your best soft skills, sharing your vision for your careers, and try to create a connection between your life experience that correlates to the job you're applying for in your cover letter. Read our blog for **9 Resume Tips to Help you Land a Job**.



BE OPEN TO CONTRACT WORK

Many individuals start their careers as temporary employees, which then gives them access to a breadth of internal job postings with permanent opportunities to apply to afterwards. By being open to contract or temporary work, you are increasing the chance of quickly landing lucrative job opportunities. Read our blog for **5 Reasons You Should Consider Contract Employment**.

PREPARE FOR INTERVIEWS

While traditional interview questions that ask you to describe previous roles and qualifications are quite straightforward, behavioural questions can be more complicated to answer due to their subjective nature which is why preparation is important. Read our blog for **6 Ways to Prepare for Behavioural Interview Questions**.

CULTIVATE NEW SKILLS

While you've just completed your education, it's still important to prioritize continuous learning as it will make you a more attractive candidate and indispensable to any workplace. Some of the most highly desired traits are technical and digital skills, as well as bilingualism. Read our blog to learn **How to Upskill for the Current Job Market**.

KNOW YOUR WORTH

Knowledge is power going into an interview, so researching the market value for your positions in your industry to know your worth and answer any salary-related questions is key. LRO Staffing offers free industry-specific salary data and insights for roles ranging from junior to senior level in the Ottawa region. Download our **Salary Guides**.

STAY PERSISTENT

While it's easy to get discouraged when you don't make it to the next round of interviews or land the role you were hoping for, staying persistent is key as it can often take months to successfully find employment. That said, there are steps you can take to propel you forward. Read our blog, **How to Handle a Job Rejection With Actionable Steps**, to learn more.