

GET THE JOB

Do You Need a Résumé Writer?

Maybe you've struggled to get a call back, or have simply grown bored with your own life story. Maybe you got a peek at some of other candidate submissions on a potential employer's desk, and found your résumé lacking.

If so, hiring a professional writer might help energize your job search. It's easy to let hours spent staring at a blank page turn into days. Or maybe you've started writing and can't seem to edit everything down into a digestible document that sells your candidacy to its fullest potential. In either case, a new collaborator can have a huge impact. Here's how to decide whether you need a résumé writer:

WHAT THEY DO

Professional writers can create a customized résumé that fits any new job search. You can secure their services via for-profit companies, but you may also find that your local junior college or university offers résumé writing for current students or alumni. If



you hire someone, ask about their Certified Professional Résumé Writer designation. CPRW-certified professionals

have undergone an extensive training program that focuses on new trends in hiring, document formatting, personal

brand management and technical writing — all key elements in creating a successful résumé for a competitive

job market.

RESEARCH YOUR OPTIONS

Beyond those credentials, seek out recommendations from other satisfied clients — in particular those who work in your job sector. Check a potential writer's LinkedIn page for positive reviews and endorsements. If you have someone in mind already, request this material from them directly — and be specific. You're looking for concrete information on how this potential search partner helped position others for success. Those details provide peace of mind, and that might also spark a few ideas of your own.

LET'S GET STARTED

Remember to talk price early on. Arrive with a budget number in mind, since only you know what you're comfortable with allocating for this part of your search. As with any service, be wary of anyone who doesn't offer a money-back guarantee should you be dissatisfied with the results. Next discuss your work history and personal goals, and how they fit in with the current market. A professional résumé writer may also be able to improve on any specific opinions you have about formatting or style.

© ADOBE STOCK