

Looking for work in South Africa



This handy guide from Expertise in Labour Mobility includes how to write a CV, application procedures, and South African interview dos and don'ts.

Looking for work in another country requires more than just the obvious CV translation. You will be confronted with issues that probably didn't even cross your mind when you decided to go for an international career, but don't underestimate the big impact they can have on the outcome of your adventure! Think, for example, about the different rules and habits regarding immigration, job application procedures, the selection procedures and the management culture.

Expertise in Labour Mobility has prepared a series of practical articles based on their international best-selling career guides to support you in your job hunting abroad. A thorough preparation will give you a head start in the country of your choice. Here is some info on South Africa:

The application procedure in South Africa

- Selection procedures usually consist of more than two interviews.
- Usually it is a mixture of both panel interviews and one-to-one interviews.
- The delay you should expect is up to a month.
- Career fairs and exhibitions are a useful method to locate job opportunities.

Writing a CV in South Africa

- The key focus of your CV should be to persuade the employer to invite you for an interview. Therefore, your CV is a marketing tool, which should be adapted to the market in which you intend to use it.
- The term resume and CV are used both.
- Resumes are usually longer than in other countries.
- Five pages is not uncommon, but shortening your resume is becoming more fashionable nowadays.

The application letter in South Africa

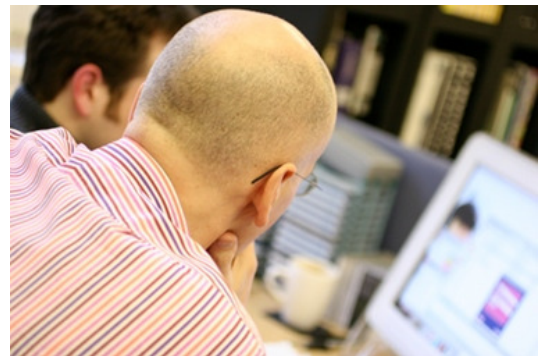
- Demonstrate your knowledge of your prospective employer and its market.
- Show your qualifications and experience meet the job requirements.
- Limit yourself to one page max.
- Don't hesitate to follow up by phone after a week or two.

Do:

- Be early for the interview!
- Bring letters of reference to a job interview.
- Do use all the contacts you have in locating a job opening.
- Be prepared for questions about your professional skills.

Don't:

- Use first names until invited to do so.
- Interrupt the interviewer.
- Criticise former employers.
- Go over the top – stay calm and stick to the facts.



This information is based on the Looking for work in South Africa guide (ISBN 978-90-5896-082-5), written by Expertise in Labour Mobility. This article is one step to making your international career aspirations become reality. The full Looking for work in South Africa guide tells you everything you need to know. If you want to order a copy or find out more information about our services, have a look at www.labourmobility.com.

