Change is possible: Navigating your career during uncertain times

If you’ve decided it’s time for a change, or your career has hit a road bump forcing a change, here’s some good news: Career opportunities are out there. It’s a welcome fact, because nearly 70% of PwC alumni shared with us that they are considering a job or career change right now.

Here are key takeaways and advice shared on a recent webcast about the state of the job market and how job seekers can get a leg up on the competition:

• There is a need for new skills, with growing emphasis on advanced strategic and creative skills.

• The tech sector will add an estimated 150 million jobs over the next five years (LinkedIn).

• Applicants are nearly three times more likely to get a job at a company where they have connections and four times more likely to get hired through their network (LinkedIn).

Growth opportunities

While there remains a lot of economic uncertainty related to the COVID-19 pandemic, PwC economist Zain Siddiqui notes that while the pace of job growth has slowed recently, there are still jobs out there. However, most of these new jobs are concentrated in high-wage sectors such as information, finance, and technology.

Technology advancements are helping drive much of the workplace change. Employers in these sectors are often more flexible about where employees are located and how jobs are performed—helpful, as LinkedIn data shows notably higher job growth in some cities.
Network, network, network

Also important is the old adage: It's not what you know but who you know that counts. According to LinkedIn data, job applicants are nearly three times more likely to get a job at a company where they have connections and applicants are four times more likely to get hired through their network.

Take advantage of networks like our PwC US Alumni group to continue to build and maintain your relationships. Keep your contact information updated with us so you don’t miss out on opportunities to connect.

Fast facts

84%
LinkedIn survey respondents who said they would be willing to help someone in their network who has lost their job due to COVID-19

40%
Increase in likelihood that a LinkedIn user will receive InMail from a recruiter if they turn on the #OpenToWork photo frame

14 million plus
Number of active job listings on LinkedIn

4x
Increase in likelihood of hearing back about a job if an application is submitted within the first 10 minutes of receiving a notification about it

150 million
New jobs projected to be added by the technology sector over the next five years

Source: LinkedIn

Put your best digital foot forward

Increased reliance on technology during the pandemic is bringing the focus of business leaders—and recruiters—to a growing labor skills gap. There’s a desire for employees to have new skills, with a growing emphasis on advanced strategic and creative expertise such as resilience and agility, collaboration and digital skills, and technical and trade abilities. Here are some resources to help you:

- **LinkedIn**: Get the job that’s right for you, plus profile tips.
- **Digital Fitness**: Download this app for personalized content and boost your knowledge in 60 emerging digital trend categories.
- **CPE opportunities**: Our PwC tax webcast page connects you to our tax specialists as they dive into the regulatory, data, people, technology and process demands impacting your business strategy.
- **Highlight your skills**: Call out specific skills on your LinkedIn profile or resume. On LinkedIn, taking a skills assessment and earning a certification badge will be picked up by the site’s algorithm, making you more visible in recruiter searches.
- **Consider new possibilities**: LinkedIn’s Career Explorer tool can help you uncover roles to transition into that you may not have considered by mapping the skills you have to thousands of job titles.