



Government & Nonprofit
CAREER FAIR

Government and Non-Profit Career Fair FAQ

This fair uses chat. What do I need to know about this?

If you choose to interact with employers, you will first do so by chat. Some employers may then send you a link to connect via video conference. Some employers will stick to chat only. To make a strong first impression when using chat, do your best to type formal responses -- use complete sentences and punctuation. This might feel awkward but will help employers see your professionalism.

What if I just want to browse employers?

Once your account is open with Premier Virtual, you can browse employers and other information until 2pm Friday, October 30. We encourage you to make notes of important information (like open positions, contact info, etc.) so you can access it after the fair closes.

Can I video chat with employers?

All chats will begin as text-based, and employers may choose to initiate a video chat, if they wish. Some of these organizations are not able to do video chats for legal reasons, and others may choose not to. You may politely ask if they'd like to talk with you that way, but do not feel badly if they decline.

If you are unable to video chat, and an employer asks you to, you should politely decline and let them know you'd be interested in setting up a meeting at a different time.

Should I dress up? Use a special background?

If you plan to interact with employers via video chat, dressing up is recommended. You may want to position yourself so that your employer sees only a blank wall (or other uncluttered space) in the background, if possible, as virtual backgrounds may not be available for this event.

How do I start a chat with an employer?

You will see an option in each booth that says CHAT NOW. Click there to start a conversation. If the employer is busy, they might send you a message indicating they'll be with you in a bit. A good starting message might be something like --

- Hello, I'm Ralph Jones and I'm a biology major from (insert college/university). I'm graduating in 2022 and looking for internships right now. I noticed that you are hiring for a habitat research assistant for Summer 2021. Can you tell me what lab skills might be needed for this role?
- Good morning. My name is Sally Jenkins and I will graduate in May with a major in (insert major) from (insert college/university name). I'm really interested in your Production Assistant role because I have direct experience in event management, and I am planning to apply online soon. Is this a role you need to fill immediately, or are you open to May graduates?

Can I chat with more than one employer at a time?

Yes, you can. If an employer is busy when you message them, you may move on to another booth to chat. When the first employer is ready to chat, you'll get a notification that you have a new message. Chats do not have a time limit, but candidates and employers alike should be mindful of the amount of time spent in one conversation.

Can I upload a new resume?

Yes, in your Premier Virtual profile, there is an option to upload a resume. Once you do so and click Save, your old resume will be replaced.

For more information:

Check out [this video](#) about Premier Virtual. You may also visit the Help Desk booth on the day of the fair for quick troubleshooting and career advice!