

# Students learn commitment on the job

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addition to cash, Steele said.

While that trend continues, she said more and more older high school students are also looking for jobs that will add to their future employment skills.

The student centre offers many free services, including advice on preparing a resume and a cover letter.

"They will leave here with a couple of copies of the letter and resume on nice paper and we save all the resumes on disk so they have something on file, too," said Steele.

Students can also book a time for a mock-job interview, to introduce them to the process and get some pointers on how to get through the interview successfully.

The applicants are reminded to dress one step above how they will be dressing on the job, and arrive 10 minutes before the appointment.

"We also tell them to greet the receptionist. This is a very important person and the first one you will meet at the company. Very often, the interviewer will ask that person how you conducted yourself," said Steele.

Students should also do a bit of research on the company they are visiting, and try to ask at least a couple of questions about the company, not the job, during the course of the interview.

"The worst thing to do is ask about the hours and the pay at the initial interview," she said.

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Tami Steele  
Supervisor,

northern York Region's Human Resources centre for students

"Save that for when they offer you the job."

And although parents can help students with the initial stages of networking, Steele stressed they shouldn't be calling the employer themselves.

"It's great if you want to let people know your kids are looking for a job, but it is the kids' responsibility to call the contacts," she said.

Kristen is now hoping to get a job as a junior counselor at a residential summer camp.

She has gone through the interview process and is waiting to hear from the camp directors.

If it works out, she plans to quit working at the restaurant for the summer, but hopes to return in the fall.

Although the extra pocket money is nice, Kristen admits she has also found great satisfaction in earning it.

"The thing about having a job is that you have to be committed to it, it is not just something you do to earn money," she said. "That's the benefit of working. Sure, there's the money, but you also

learn about commitment.

"Don't get a job if you aren't going to commit to it.

"I don't feel pressured about working, I like it and I enjoy going to work."

The Hire a Student Centre is located on the second floor of the Tannery in Newmarket on Davis Drive. The phone number is (905) 953-7595.



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