CAREER CENTER

Resume & Cover Letter Guide

HEALTH & FITNESS







CAREER CENTER



TYPES OF RESUMES

Think of a resume as a billboard and you have 30 seconds to deliver your message:

What do you want an employer to know about you? How will you market your experience and skills?

Demonstrate the scope of your current and past responsibilities and achievements. What do you want to emphasize? Use one of the two following formats to help get you started.

Chronological

A chronological (or reverse chronological) resume organizes information by jobs/positions/experiences in *reverse chronological* order, with the most recent experiences first. It is the most commonly used format and easiest to write.

This resume format works well when:

- Your job history shows growth and development
- You are staying in the same field or gaining your first entry level position
- You have a steady history of employment related to the position you are seeking
- You are applying in traditional fields of work such as accounting

Functional

A functional (or skills based) resume organizes information into *functional* groupings of skills or accomplishments. This format is commonly used for candidates with more experience who are changing careers.

This resume format works well when:

- You want to demonstrate a clear relationship between your skills listed and the position you are seeking more than your work history
- Your specific jobs or internships are not easily related to the position you are seeking
- You have gaps in your employment history
- You are changing career paths

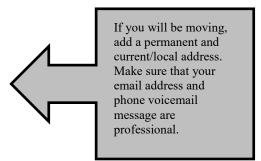
QUICK TIPS FOR RESUME BUILDING

- Recommended length is one page; two pages is acceptable if the content is related.
- Font type should be professional (Times New Roman, Calibri, Garamond, etc.). Keep font size at 11 or 12.
- Page margins should be a maximum of 1" all around or a minimum of .7".
- Avoid the use of pronouns and complete sentences (start each descriptive phrase with action verbs).
- Use past tense when describing past experiences and present tense for present experiences.
- Include skills and qualifications relevant to your career goals. Each resume should be tailored to the job for which you are applying. Generic resumes are not effective!
- Keep your resume organized, professional and consistent with font type, and format.
- Make sure the resume and the cover letter are free of errors. Proofread and have others proofread too.
- Give each reference a copy of your resume and be sure to ask them to serve as a reference before listing them on your reference page.
- Print your resume and cover letter on white or ivory resume paper (found at any office supply store).
- Continually update your resume to reflect new skills and experiences.
- Upload your resume into the Career Center's online job database, Handshake:
 https://westfield.joinhandshake.com. This will allow you to apply for jobs, on-campus interviews, and safely store your resume in our system.

RESUME TEMPLATE

Name

Street Address, City, State Zip Phone, E-Mail LinkedIn Profile



OBJECTIVE (optional)

Identifies the position/job that you are applying for and summarizes your main qualifications in 1-3 lines of text. You may **omit this section** and discuss your points in your cover letter, or you can prepare a separate objective for each resume.

EDUCATION

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

Degree (Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, etc.) in Major, Month, Year Minor/Concentration:

Overall GPA (if above 3.0/4.0) and Major GPA (if higher) Study Abroad (Name of Institution, Location, Semester)

List all additional degrees obtained from most recent to oldest. Do not include high school after sophomore year.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE(S)

List your relevant clinical rotations or field work. Be sure to include date or number of weeks you completed along with the name of the company and location.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Company/Organization, City, State

Dates of Employment

Joh Title

- Describe at least 3-4 major duties that will demonstrate your qualifications
- Tailor your resume to your audience and requirements of position
- Follow the same format for all positions and list in reverse chronological order
- Quantify when possible, use action verbs rather than sentences and avoid pronouns

EXPERIENCE

This section follows the same format as the Related Experience section. You do not need to include bullets if your responsibilities are not relevant for the position you are seeking.

SKILLS

List computer skills, lab techniques, language and office skills. List fluency/proficiency without overstating your competence.

HONORS

List Dean's List, Honor Societies and other Honors and Awards

ACTIVITIES

List organizations, presentations, leadership positions, significant projects, professional affiliations, and/or volunteer activities. You can format this section like the Related Experience section.

REFERENCES

<u>**Do not**</u> include "References Available Upon Request". List references on a separate document (See Reference Page Sample later in guide).

FREQUENTLY USED CATEGORY HEADINGS

ACHIEVEMENTS
ACTIVITIES
ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE
CAREER OBJECTIVE
CERTIFICATIONS
COACHING EXPERIENCE
COLLEGIATE ACTIVITIES
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
COMPUTER SKILLS
CONFERENCES ATTENDED
EDUCATION

EMPLOYMENT

EXPERIENCE
HONORS
INTERNSHIPS
LANGUAGE SKILLS
LICENSURE
MEMBERSHIPS
MILITARY SERVICE
OBJECTIVE
PRESENTATIONS
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

RELATED ACTIVITIES
RELATED COURSEWORK
RELATED EXPERIENCE
RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
SKILLS
SPECIAL TRAINING
SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS
TEACHING EXPERIENCE
VOLUNTEER WORK
WORK HISTORY

EFFECTIVE SENTENCE OPENERS

achieved	delivered	influenced	organized	served
acted	demonstrated	initiated	outlined	serviced
adapted	designed	inspected	overhauled	set up
added	determined	installed	oversaw	shipped
administered	developed	interviewed	patrolled	showed
advised	diagnosed	instituted	persuaded	sold
analyzed	directed	introduced	planned	solved
applied	discovered	instructed	prepared	sorted
approved	distributed	integrated	prescribed	staffed
arranged	edited	invested	presented	started
assembled	employed	investigated	processed	strengthened
assisted	encouraged	judged	produced	studied
attended	enlisted	launched	programmed	supervised
built	ensured	learned	published	supplied
changed	equipped	lectured	purchased	supported
clarified	established	led	received	tabulated
coached	evaluated	listed	recorded	tailored
collaborated	examined	located	recruited	taught
compared	experienced	lowered	reduced	tended
complied	expanded	managed	refined	tracked
completed	facilitated	measured	related	trained
composed	finalized	merged	reorganized	transferred
condensed	fostered	minimized	represented	translated
controlled	furnished	modernized	researched	transported
conveyed	handled	modified	responded	treated
coordinated	helped	motivated	restored	typed
corrected	hired	negotiated	retrieved	undertook
corresponded	identified	notified	restructured	updated
counseled	illustrated	observed	revamped	upgraded
created	implemented	obtained	reviewed	utilized
dealt with	improved	opened	revised	worked
decided	increased	operated	selected	wrote

Charles Hyde

65 Autumn Hill Road, Westfield, MA 01085 | (413) 572-5206 | charles.hyde@email.net

EDUCATION

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA Bachelor of Science in Movement Science

Minor: Gerontology

GPA: 3.3/4.0

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Occupational Therapy Center, Northampton, MA

Outpatient Occupational Therapy Intern

- Worked with patient to improve mobility and achievement of ADL's
- Assisted four disabled patients with best practices for movement exercises
- Determined activities and exercises to best suit client needs

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

September-December 2019

Expected: May 2021

Sept.-Dec. 2019

May-August 2019

Teaching Assistant-Therapeutic Modalities & Therapy Training

ATI Physical Therapy, Wilbraham, MA

Therapy and Fitness Intern

- Performed basic therapy exercise instruction
- Co-facilitated therapy appointments along with supervisor

Vantage Sports and Rehabilitation, Westfield, MA

Job Shadow

- Observed therapy sessions and therapist interactions
- Shadowed three different therapists focusing on different action sports activities

Adaptive Sports Foundation, Windham, NY

Summer 2015 & 2016

Dec. 2018-February 2019

Volunteer

CERTIFICATIONS

CPR & AED - American Heart Association First Aid - American Red Cross Expires: June 2020 Expires: November 2019

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Boston Marathon, Boston, MA

April 2017

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

President | Outing Club | 2019 - Present

Vice President | Movement Science, Sport and Leisure Studies Club | 2019 & 2020

Member | Athletic Training Club | 2017-Present Member | Christian Fellowship | 2017-Present

ALAN A. TRAINER

207 North Main Street | Westfield, MA 01085 (413) 572-5206 | athletic-trainer@email.net

ATHLETIC TRAINER

- Performed injury evaluations and determined appropriate treatment plan
- Developed rehabilitation plans with protocols established by physician
- Completed over 1,000 hours of hands on training with Division I athletics
- Collected, organized, and catalogued insurance information, injury evaluations and medical logs

CERTIFICATIONS:

• NATA-BOC Certification, National Athletic Trainers Association

June 2019

• BLS for HealthCare Providers, American Heart Association

Valid through August 12, 2019

EDUCATION:

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training

May 2019

• GPA: 3.7/4.0; Dean's List (six out of seven semesters)

CLINICAL ROTATIONS:

Westfield High School, Westfield, MA

Spring 2019

- Assisted with all spring sports under the guidance of one certified trainer
- Provided rehabilitation treatments, taping for practices, field preparation, assessing injuries and preparing all supplies

University of Massachusetts Amherst NCAA Football, Amherst, MA

Fall 2018

- Performed injury evaluations for 25 NCAA football players to determine a treatment plan
- Developed rehabilitation plans implementing streamlined filing system for insurance information, injury evaluations, and rehabilitation logs increasing office efficiency

Westfield State University Baseball Team, Westfield, MA

Holyoke High School Basketball Team, Holyoke, MA

Spring 2018

Fall 2017

Springfield College Cross Country, Springfield, MA

Spring 2017

RELATED EXPERIENCE:

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA

Summer 2018

Assistant to the Athletic Trainer

- Addressed specific needs for off-season sports such as increasing strength and speed, maintaining cardiovascular fitness, improving flexibility, and strengthening the core
- Developed relationships with lead Athletic Trainer and Athletic Director, submitting comprehensive injury reports

ACTIVITIES/PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

National Athletic Trainers Association, January 2017 – Present

MA Assn. for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (MAHPERD), October 2017 – Present New England Chapter of American College of Sports Medicine (NEACSM), September 2017 – Present Westfield State Student Athletic Advisory Board, Sept. 2017 – May 2019

Westfield State Cross Country, 2015 – 2019

• Captain, Fall 2018

JASMINE NUNEZ

774 First Street, Holyoke, MA 01013 (413) 572-5206 • jnunez@email.net

Compassionate and dedicated physician assistant student seeking a position within the healthcare system.

Education	
Westfield State University, Westfield, MA Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies	1/2020
Bachelor of Science in Biology Minor in Psychology Cumulative GPA 3.5/4.0	5/2016
Clinical Rotations	
 Emergency Care - UMass Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA Emergency Care - Saint Vincent Hospital, Worcester, MA General Surgery - Beverly Hospital, Beverly, MA Internal Medicine - Holyoke Medical Center, Holyoke, MA Rehabilitation Care - Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital, Worcester, MA OB/GYN - Baystate Northampton OB/GYN, Northampton, MA Pediatric Care - Shriner's Hospital for Children, Springfield, MA 	8 weeks 4 weeks 6 weeks 8 weeks 4 weeks 4 weeks 4 weeks
 Ambulatory Service - Baystate Noble Hospital, Westfield, MA Behavioral Medicine - Center for CBT, Worcester, MA 	6 weeks 4 weeks
Baystate Noble Hospital, Westfield, MA Patient Care Technician – 500 hours	2/2015 – 12/2015
Shriner's Hospital for Children, Springfield, MA Certified Nursing Assistant – 800 hours	5/2013 – 2/2014
Walgreens Pharmacy, Holyoke, MA Pharmacy Technician – 2,500 hours	6/2011 – 8/2013
Licenses and Certifications	
Massachusetts Board of Registration of Physician Assistants Massachusetts State Physician Assistant License National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) Physician Assistant, Certified, ID #12345 American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support – PALS	Pending Expires: 3/2019 Expires: 6/2019
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation – CPR Automated External Defibrillator – AED	Expires: 1/2020 Expires: 2/2020

Research Presentations

Poster Presentation, 2015 Wheelock Student Research Conference 4/2015 Jasmine Nunez and Jennifer Hanselman, Ph.D., Exercise and Mental Health in University Aged Students. Wheelock College, Boston, MA.

Oral Presentation, 2014 Massachusetts Undergraduate Research Conference 4/2014 Jasmine Nunez and Jennifer Hanselman, Ph.D., Indirect photodegradation of Naproxen in Simulated Natural Water Systems. UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA.

Related Experience

Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA

2016 - Present

Physician Liaison Associate

- Compile all referral data from the various Baystate sources
- Assist with developing, and extracting information from the CRM utilized by Liaison team using Salesforce & Crimson
- Supports the Director and liaisons in maintenance of data and any electronic files
- Develop relationships with internal network to further support the Physician Liaisons team
- In coordination with team initiatives, maintain stock and organize marketing material for team to distribute in the field. Items such as posters, fact sheets, order forms, and various brochures
- Under the direction of the Liaison team coordinate all customer outreach events Samaritan Inn, Westfield, MA 2014

Health Aide Volunteer

- Assisted with basic medical needs and first aid
- Facilitated health information sessions

Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Springfield, MA

2012 - 2014

- Volunteer
 - Supervised a group of six to ten children during both on and off-site activities
 - Assisted with planning and implementing activities

American Red Cross Blood Donation Center, Springfield, MA

Blood Drive Volunteer

2011 - 2014

- Registered blood drive donors and maintained high confidentiality concerning medical information
- Directed donors to their appropriate station

Nadine Hess

123 Peach Court, Marshfield, MA 02050 | (413) 572-5206 | nhess@email.net

STUDENT NURSE

Hospital Settings | Medical Assisting | In-Home Care

- Versatile and compassionate nursing student with a desire to help those in need
- Seeking to provide care that allows the patient to feel like a priority
- Recognizes the importance of ensuring patient confidentiality

EDUCATION:

B.S.N. Westfield State University, Westfield, MA May 2020
A.S. Medical Assisting, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA January 2015

INTERNATIONAL NURSING EXPERIENCE:

Guatemala Nursing Mission Trip, Antigua, Guatemala

March 2019

- Worked directly with the Iglesia Del Camino in order to help families in need
- Assisted malnutrition center in providing food and support to malnourished children
- Provided meals, medical supplies and health check-ups to over 250 people

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:

Emergency Room	Holyoke Medical Center, Holyoke, MA	Spring 2020
Pediatric Care	Shriner's Hospital for Children, Springfield, MA	Fall 2019
Behavioral Medicine	Holyoke Medical Center, Holyoke, MA	Fall 2019
General Surgery	UMass Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA	Spring 2018
Maternity	Family Medical and Maternity, Leicester, MA	Spring 2018
Community Health	Life Care Center, Auburn, MA	Fall 2018
General Surgery	Mercy Medical Center, Springfield, MA	Spring 2017
Fundamentals	Harrington Hospital, Southbridge, MA	Fall 2017

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:

Mercy Medical Center, Springfield, MA

January 2015-Present

Medical Assistant I

- Collect and record patient medical history per HIPAA guidelines
- Prep and sanitize examination rooms
- Perform tasks such as administering immunizations and medication when necessary

Lowell General Hospital - Emergency Room, Lowell, MA

Summer 2017

Student Nursing Shadowing Program

Gained understanding of medical reporting and paperwork

Excel Nursing Services, Springfield, MA

March 2015-December 2016

Home Health Aide

- Assisted up to eight clients with activities of daily living
- Ensured medications were administered properly

VINCENT ELLIS

145 Hastings Road, Westfield, MA 01085 • (413) 572-5206 • vellis15@email.net

EDUCATION:

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

Bachelor of Science in Biology Cumulative GPA 3.54/4.0 May 2020

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:

Baystate Noble Hospital, Westfield, MA

February 2019 – Present

Nurse Assistant – 500 hours

- Manage check-in and transfer of patients
- Report to head nurse about patient conditions daily
- Perform medical tasks such as taking vitals, prepping for surgery, among others

Life Science Nation, Boston, MA

June – August 2019

Lab and Research Assistant

- Processed bacterial specimens for analysis by technicians
- Assisted in collecting and analyzing data for research purposes

Banacos Academic Center, Westfield State University, Westfield, MA September 2018 – May 2019 *Peer Tutor*

- Tutored students in biology and chemistry courses
- Helped students develop their scientific writing techniques

Minute Clinic, West Springfield, MA

Winter 2018

Clinic Aide

- Aided in providing low cost health care to low income individuals
- Maintained organization of office and medical materials in order to promote efficient operations

Operation Smile, Assiut, Egypt

Summers 2017 & 2018

Medical Intern – 1000 hours

- Assisted nurses in prepping children for surgery
- Sanitized work stations before and after operations

VOLUNTEER WORK:

New Beginnings Child Care Center, Springfield, MA

Activities Supervisor

June 2014 – April 2017

CERTIFICATIONS:

- Automated External Defibrillator (expires in May 2021)
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (expires in December 2020)

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS:

Oral Presentation, 24th Massachusetts Statewide Undergraduate Research Conference April 2019

• Vincent Ellis and Jennifer Hanselman, Ph.D., <u>Indirect photodegradation of Naproxen in Simulated Natural Water Systems</u>. UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA.

Poster Presentation, Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity December 2018

• Vincent Ellis and Jennifer Hanselman, Ph.D., <u>Exercise and Mental Health in University Aged</u> Students. Westfield State University, Westfield, MA.

Jessica Danbury

145 Basil Road Paxton, MA 01612 (413) 572-5206 Jess.Danbury@email.net

Education:

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

Bachelor of Science, Movement Science Concentration in Sports Medicine GPA: 3.7/4.0; Dean's List

Relevant Experience:

Boynton Therapy Practices, Holden, MA

Physical Therapy Intern

- Assisted supervisor in basic therapy practices
- Gained greater understanding of kinesiology practices
- Aided patients in scheduling appointments

Roxbury Outpatient Care, Leicester, MA

Job Shadow

- Observed therapist practices and interactions with patients
- Worked with the physical fitness therapy coordinator to plan workout regimens

Relevant Coursework:

- Kinesiology/Gerokinesiology
- Therapeutic Exercise
- Orthopedic Therapy Training
- Therapeutic Modalities

Basic EKG and Stress Testing

Expected: May 2020

May-August 2019

May-August 2018

- Women and Sport
- Physiology of Exercise
- Functional Anatomy

Academic Research:

Presented Effects of Kinesiology Tape on Sitting Posture in College-Age Males at UMass Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2017

Certifications:

CPR and First Aid Certification (Valid through 2/2020)

Volunteer Work:

CARE Mission Trip, Tanzania Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Boston, MA PETA Telethon, Boston, MA

July 2019 April 2018 March 2018

Employment:

The Sole Proprietor, Worcester, MA Server **Dippin' Donuts**, Worcester, MA Cashier

Summers 2016-2019

February 2014-August 2015

Judy G. Robertson

808 Hart Avenue, Westfield, MA 01086 (413) 572-5206 • Judith.Robertson@email.net

EDUCATION:

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

Bachelor of Science in Movement Science, Concentration: Exercise Science

Anticipated: May 2020

RELATED EXPERIENCE:

Anytime Fitness, Westfield, MA

Aug. 2018 - Current

Fitness Assistant

- Instruct clients on how to properly and effectively use exercise equipment
- Assist clients in setting and achieving fitness goals
- Teach basic cardio and aerobic exercise courses for up to 15 adults

Westfield State University-Ely Fitness Center, Westfield, MA

Jan. - May 2019

Personal Training Intern

- Assisted and educated students in proper usage of equipment
- Sanitized gym equipment and locker room areas
- Co-facilitated group exercise classes with up to 22 participants

Planet Fitness, Westfield, MA

Sept. - Dec. 2018

Job Shadow

- Observed fitness consultations with clients
- Shadowed instructor of fitness classes (yoga, Pilates, Zumba, aerobics, etc.)
- Learned best practices for dealing with clients with different fitness needs

CLINICAL ROTATIONS:

<u>Planet Fitness</u> , Westfield, MA	Mar May 2019
Westfield State University Women's Basketball Team, Westfield, MA	Nov. 2017 - Mar. 2019
Expert Fitness, Westfield, MA	Oct Dec. 2018
<u>Planet Fitness</u> , Holyoke, MA	Aug Oct. 2018
Springfield Rehabilitation Center Physical Therapy, Springfield, MA	May - July 2018

CERTIFICATIONS:

ASFA Cycling Instruction Certification	Expires: May 2021
ASFA Water Aerobics Instruction Certification	Expires: May 2021
ASFA Yoga Certification	Expires: Dec. 2020
AHA First Aid and CPR	Expires: July 2020
American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification	Expires: Jan. 2020

HONORS AND ACTIVITIES:

Sports Medicine Club	2016 - Current
Westfield State University Dean's List	2016 - Current
Multicultural Student Association	2017 & 2018

JANE O'CONNOR

21 Main Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 (413) 572-5206 ● joconnor1234@westfield.ma.edu

EDUCATION

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minor in Chemistry GPA: 3.34/4.0; Dean's List (three out of four semesters)

LABORATORY SKILLS

Electrophoresis Amino Acid Analysis Distillation

Spectrophotometry DNA/Extraction/Quantification Reagent Preparation

Computer Data Analysis Microscopy Titration

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Divergence in microRNAs in a Hybrid Zone

Westfield State University Biology Department, Westfield, MA

• Presented at the UMASS Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2019

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Westfield State University Chemistry Department, Westfield, MA

January - May 2019

May 2020

Teacher's Assistant - Instrumental Analysis

- Managed chemistry lab supplies and materials, sanitized equipment, prepared lab for classroom use
- Assisted students with experiments, prepared test samples, interpreted data and results, and review abnormal lab results
- Explained lab procedures and encouraged critical thinking when reviewing lab results

Westfield State University Banacos Center, Westfield, MA

February 2017 – May 2019

Biochemistry & Chemistry Tutor

- Chosen by faculty to cover biochemistry and general chemistry topics including stoichiometry, atom structures, enzymatic pathways and laboratory procedures to students
- Took complex biology and chemistry terminology and information and simplify it for students

Springfield College Cadaver Lab, Springfield, MA

November 2018

• Examined organs, muscles, the brain and heart of four cadavers

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Biology Club

September 2016 – Present

• Secretary, Sept. 2017 – Present

Intramural Basketball

September 2016 – Present

EMPLOYMENT

Hostess/Busser, Applebee's Restaurant, Worcester & Westfield, MA Reference Assistant, Westfield State University Ely Library, Westfield, MA Bank Teller, Freedom Credit Union, Sturbridge, MA

May 2016 – Present September 2016 – May 2018 June 2014 – August 2015

SKILLS

Computer: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access and OneNote

Language: Fluent in both English and Spanish

Reference Page Sample (Separate Document from Resume)

Monica C. Verducci

902 Main Street ● Fall River, MA 02723 (413) 572-5206 ● mverducci@email.net

REFERENCES

Herbert Winchester, PA-C

Saint Vincent Hospital, Emergency Department 123 Summer Street Worcester, MA 01608 (413) 572-5206 hwinchester@email.com

Yolanda Kramer, PA-C

Holyoke Medical Center, Internal Medicine 15 Hospital Drive Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) 572-5206 yolandakramer@email.com

Melissa Physician, PA-C, MHS

Westfield State University, PA Program Director of Physician Assistant Studies 577 Western Avenue Westfield, MA 01086 (413) 572-5206 mphysician@email.com

- 3-5 professional references is standard.
- Make sure to ask your references for permission before listing them and keep them informed about your job search, especially if you have interviewed for a position.
- Provide references with a copy of your resume. If you ask a professor to serve as a reference, be sure to ask for their cell phone number. Most professors do not check their office voicemail during the summer.

COVER LETTERS

A cover letter...

- Serves as your introduction to the employer
- Expresses your interest in being considered for a position
- Provides you with the opportunity to highlight how your skills and qualifications match those necessary to perform the position
- Captures the employer's attention and interest in reading your enclosed resume

An effective cover letter does not repeat or summarize your resume, but makes the reader want to learn more about you. **Every resume** should be accompanied with a cover letter, <u>even if it's not listed as a required component of your application</u>.

BASIC LETTER WRITING RULES

Address the letter to a specific person

- ✓ If you do not have a name, search the company website or LinkedIn for a Human Resources contact.
- ✓ <u>Avoid the title</u> "To Whom It May Concern". As a last resort, use the recipient's title or address the entire search committee (i.e., "Dear Hiring Manager, Search Committee or Human Resources Director").

*In the case of a <u>preceptorship cover letter</u>, the use of "To Whom It May Concern," is appropriate.

Research the organization carefully

- ✓ Demonstrate that you appreciate and understand the organization's mission and goals.
- ✓ Be sure to include why you want to work for this particular employer.

Do not simply restate what is on your resume

- ✓ Think about the skills necessary to do the job for which you are applying and highlight an example or two best demonstrating how your skills and background directly match the specific job requirements.
- ✓ Confidently express what you can offer to the company, not what the company will offer you.

Tailor each cover letter to each employer

- ✓ Make each letter unique. Utilize the job description to identify the necessary qualifications and main responsibilities for this particular role to incorporate into your letter.
- ✓ What do you know about this particular company and how do your skills and qualifications match the specific needs of the position?

Limit the letter to one page and avoid spelling and grammatical errors

- ✓ Avoid excessive use of "I" when starting sentences.
- ✓ Print on high quality paper to match your resume.
- ✓ Be sure to sign your name on each cover letter, unless submitting electronically.

Professional Communication

✓ Use this opportunity to ensure that your voicemail message and email address are professional! Clearly state your name in your message. Your email address should include your name@domain.com.

COVER LETTER FORMAT

Your Street Address City, State Zip Code Your Phone Number E-mail (optional)

Date (2 lines)

You could also copy/paste your contact information header from your resume to create a consistent look across both documents.

Contact Person's Name Title Company Name Street Address City, State Zip Code (1 line)

Dear Mr./Ms./Dr. Last Name: (Use Title if name is not available) (1 line)

Paragraph 1: State why you are writing and identify the position in which you are applying. Include why you are interested in this particular position and working for that specific employer. If relevant, address how you learned of the opportunity. (If you are writing at the suggestion of someone who knows the addressee, this is a good place to say so).

Paragraph 2: Briefly state the specific work that interests you and detail the relevant qualifications you offer. Spell out exactly how your experiences, skills, and education fit the position and can benefit the company.

Paragraph 3: Close the letter by thanking the reader for their attention or consideration and stating the next course of action. Indicate that you will follow up (and then do it!). Refer the reader to any documents you have enclosed (resume, references, writing samples, etc.). Provide the employer with your phone number so that they can reach you.

(1 line) Sincerely,

(1 line) - Type Your Name

Cover Letter Sample 1 – Applying for a professional healthcare position

Jasmine Nunez

774 First Street, Holyoke, MA 01013 • (413) 572-5206 • jnunez@email.net

March 5, 2020

Ms. Mary Beth Washington Human Resources Director Holyoke Family Care Center 365 Circle Drive Holyoke, MA 01013

Dear Ms. Washington:

Please consider me as an applicant for the Physician's Assistant position with the Holyoke Family Care Center. As a recent graduate from the Westfield State University Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program, I have developed and crafted my skills in the field in a way that I believe has allowed me to grow into a well-rounded medical professional. Between my rigorous coursework and extensive field trainings I feel that I am a qualified candidate for this position.

Currently, I am certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants and am awaiting certification through the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Physician Assistants. I am well-versed in many different medical practice environments from high intensity emergency settings to the personalized care of behavioral health. Each training opportunity has solidified my desire to work in the medical field and work as part of a skilled team to provide exceptional medical care.

As requested, I have enclosed my resume and a copy of my NCCPA certification. If you need any additional information or should you have any questions, please contact me at (413) 572-5206 or by email at jnunez@email.net. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Nunez

Cover Letter Sample 2 – Applying for a preceptorship

78 Yorktown Lane Westfield, MA 01086 (413) 572-5206 dmerch@email.net

September 29, 2019

To Whom It May Concern: (Required by Department)

Please consider me for the preceptorship position within your hospital's pediatric care unit for the Spring of 2020. Currently, I am a senior pursuing a bachelor's in Nursing from Westfield State University, with my main focus being pediatric care. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to learn more about pediatric services from the nurses at your facility, while also being a helpful addition to your team.

As stated on my resume, I am interested in working with children and infants and have expanded my knowledge and abilities in this area of medicine. I have interacted with children my entire life, and with that have honed my ability to communicate effectively with this population. My clinical and nonclinical experiences have afforded me the opportunity to work with children and infants in a variety of settings, however my career goal has always been to enter the nursing field. As a nursing student, I was given the opportunity to do one of my clinical rotations with the Shriner's Hospital for Children; this experience undoubtedly solidified my desire to help children and infants in a hospital setting.

Enclosed you will find a copy of my resume which will highlight my education, certifications, qualifications and skills. Please contact me with any questions or additional information you may need, by phone at (413) 572-5206 or email at dmerch@email.net. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Diana G. Merchant

Cover Letter Sample 3 – Including a Referral

145 Basil Road Paxton, MA 01612 (413) 572-5206 Jess.danbury@email.net

January 29, 2020

Mr. John Green Physical Therapist Healing Hands Therapy Group 121 Hyatt Street Leicester, MA 01524

Dear Mr. Green:

I am writing to express my interest in the physical therapy aide position at Healing Hands Therapy Center. I learned about this position through Dan Tremont at Boynton Therapy Practices. Throughout my time as a student at Westfield State University, my career interest has been focused on working with elderly patients in pain management, after reviewing your company's mission, I see that your practice focuses solely on this population, and I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to your company's goal of helping older patients better manage their pain.

I am attracted to the field of physical therapy because of the fact that I could incorporate my interest in the area of health and movement sciences coupled with helping others. My internship with the Boynton Therapy Practices group has afforded me the opportunity to work directly with patients in instruction and practice of therapy exercises, but also develop a specialized knowledge of the use of kinesiology science with the elderly population. My compassion and desire to help others in need of pain management would allow me to be a successful physical therapy aide within your practice. I am confident in the knowledge gained both in and outside of the classroom and believe I would apply these skills to best suit the patients.

My enclosed resume will further detail my knowledge and experience in the field of physical therapy. I welcome the opportunity to discuss this position with you in greater detail. If you have any questions, please contact me at (413) 572-5206 or by email at jess.danbury@email.net. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Danbury

LETTERS OF INQUIRY

A letter of inquiry (or letter of interest)...

- Expresses your interest in an employer and/or employment opportunity without referencing a job posting (typically because there are no positions currently posted or immediately available)
- Includes similar qualities and template to a cover letter, but without addressing a specific position or posting

LETTER OF INQUIRY FORMAT

Your Name
Street Address
City, State, Zip Code
Phone Number
E-Mail (optional)
(1 line)
Today's Date
(2 lines)

Contact Name
Title
Company/Organization
Street Address
City, State Zip Code
(1 line)

Dear Mr./Ms./Dr. Last Name: (Use Title if name is not available)

State your hope to be considered for any positions that may become available at the organization and why you are interested in working for the company. If you are writing at the suggestion of someone who knows the addressee, this is a good place to say so.

Tell them what your status is now and why you feel you would be especially well qualified for any anticipated openings in this field. This paragraph should include one or two brief sentences that emphasize your strengths as they relate to the field in which you are interested. If possible, it is always nice to personalize your letter by saying something positive about the reputation of the organization, its accomplishments, and how you fit with their company.

Refer the reader to any enclosed documents (resume, writing samples, etc.) and inform them of the manners in which you can be contacted (email, phone). If you plan to follow up, indicate your plan of action here. Close the paragraph by thanking the reader for their time and consideration.

(1 line) Sincerely,

Silicelely,

(1 line) - Type Your Name

Sample Letter of Inquiry

123 College Street Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) 572-5206 kraymond@email.net

January 25, 2020

Mr. James Ivy Head of Human Resources ATI Physical Therapy 70 Post #7008 Wilbraham, MA 01095

Dear Mr. lvy:

I am writing to learn of any future opportunities as an occupational therapist to join the ATI Physical Therapy team. With strong analytical skills and a sound work ethic, I am passionate about the field and your practice in particular. As a dedicated occupational therapist, I can bring my knowledge from my coursework coupled with clinical experiences to contribute to ATI Physical Therapy's mission of compassion and healing.

A few of the qualifications I can offer your company are:

- Solid knowledge of occupational therapy practices gained while earning a bachelors in movement science and a master's degree in occupational therapy at Westfield State University, where I obtained a cumulative GPA of 3.7/4.0.
- Over two years of experience and 450 hours working directly with patients in different therapy practices producing exceptional reviews from supervisors.
- Excellent attention to detail and communication skills, written and oral, demonstrated by effective communication with patients and detailed file notes.

Attached you will find my resume which further expands on my experiences. I would be honored to bring my strengths as an occupational therapist to ATI Physical Therapy and am confident in my ability to help achieve your goals. After relocating to Eastern Massachusetts this month, I can be ready to start a new position quickly. Should an opportunity arise in the near future, please contact me at any time. I sincerely thank you in advance for your time and consideration of my potential candidacy.

Sincerely,

Kayleigh Raymond

COVER LETTER TIP:

A great way to organize your thoughts before writing a cover letter is to make a list of the job requirements the company is asking for and then list your skills.

JOB REQUIREMENTS	MY SKILLS

Westfield State University