

The Top 5 Things That Can Kill Your Candidacy

Are you going to stay another year in a job that does not fulfill you? Have you been thinking about making a job change but have been unmotivated because the task of taking on a search or complete career transition is just so daunting to you?

Perhaps these tips will trigger you from “thinking about it” to “taking action”.

1. Not being up to date with technology

Not being up to date with current technologies has been a key factor I have found that has hurt many candidates from getting called into interviews. If your skills are outdated look into the many available classes, buy a book, or take a course on line. Get up to date!

2. Staying with the same company for too long

Yes I will be bold enough to say it because I see it all the time! This is not a myth; being with the same company beyond 15 years even if you have moved up the ranks can hurt your personal brand. The concern often is that the person is stalled in his/her career and isn't expanding their skills aggressively enough and can be considered stale. Other times the fear is that no matter how qualified the candidate is, he/she won't be able to adapt to a new company very easily.

3. Applying for positions you are over qualified for

Some say it's a numbers game but sending your resume to just any job especially if you are over or under qualified doesn't make a good impression.

4. Sending a generic cover letter

The more you can target your cover letter to the specific skill-set the prospective employer described in the job description, the better response you'll receive. Think about the objections the prospective employer might have when reviewing your resume. And as a side note, address any gaps in your resume, in the cover letter as well.

5. Sharing your salary history

Online forms and filling out applications can be tedious, however if you fail to leave the salary section blank, employers can view you as unwilling to comply with guidelines, somewhat difficult, or unable to follow instructions. You never want to write in a specific number, or give a range; instead write or respond with one of the following: would be happy to discuss in the interview, open or negotiable. Do your research on where the salary for the position should be. Get the employer to speak first about the range of the position and ask for a job description.

Hopefully these tips will motivate you to start your job search now! Take advantage of my “no obligation” offer and get a jump start on your search by calling me for a free job search strategy session at 508-520-9933, or email me the best time to reach you - CoachDQ@CareerLifeBalance.net.