

Graduate Careers in the Public and Voluntary Sector

The public and voluntary sector offers a vast number of exciting graduate job opportunities. The sector encompasses the civil service, regional government agencies, national assemblies, local authorities, health services, education and charities to name but a few.

You'll also find the BBC, the NHS, housing associations, the police, the army, teaching and higher education in the public sector. The voluntary sector includes a diverse range of charities such as Cancer Research UK and Barnardo's, many of whom offer graduate schemes or internships as well as volunteering opportunities.

The public sector is one of the country's biggest recruiters. The civil service, the NHS and the BBC all feature in The Times list of the top 100 graduate employers.

The sector attracts a lot of graduates and many graduate jobs are almost exclusive to the public sector, as the majority of teachers, librarians, and public safety professionals work in government agencies. However, there are also graduate careers for lawyers, IT professionals, policy makers and many others.

Why work in the public sector?

Many public sector employees cite making a positive difference to society as the primary reason for choosing to work in the sector. The public sector is renowned for its flexible working practices and emphasis on creating a harmonious work-life balance. Working from home, part-time opportunities and job shares mean for many people it's the ideal fit.

And, then there is the wide range of careers available, from accountants to zoologists. Given the size of the sector, there are plenty of opportunities to move within different departments and quickly progress your career. Career progression - particularly on the graduate 'fast-track' schemes - can be swift, but competition for these roles is fierce.

Salaries above the national average, excellent benefits packages and job satisfaction combine to make the public and voluntary sector an increasingly attractive employer for graduates.

Find out more at the:

University of Leicester Public and Voluntary Sector Fair
10th February 2010 (11am-3pm)
Charles Wilson Sports Hall (ground floor Charles Wilson Building).

Further information about working in the Public and Voluntary Sector is available at the following websites:

- www.realworldmagazine.com/public-sector
- www.prospects.ac.uk/p/sectors/4647.jsp
- www.get.hobsons.co.uk/advice/non-profit