

LAND AN AIRLINE IOB WITH A PROVEN APPROACH

Summary: Follow this tried and true advice for finding a job in the airline industry.



Question: How can I get a job in the airline industry? I would love to work for a major carrier, but I never know how exactly to get in touch with human resources.

Answer: The hiring process at airlines shares an important variable with typical hiring practices at other employers: A personal referral is worth its weight in gold. If you know anyone who works for the carriers you are interested in, make contact and find out everything you can about the airlines. Determine the best person to approach about an interview, and ask to use your contact's name when approaching the hiring manager.

Nothing beats firsthand information. If you don't know someone who works for an airline, use in-flight travel time as an opportunity to casually conduct informational interviews with flight attendants. If you don't have any trips planned soon, hang out at the airport to converse with any of the employees who sell tickets or provide other services at airport entry before you hit the security barriers. Airline employees pride themselves on customer service and are likely to engage in friendly chit-chat about their work and the airline, as long as you don't become a pest or interfere with their ability to do their job.

For written information about current openings, career fairs, and resume submission, go directly to carriers' websites. An additional resource regarding employment in the airline industry, in general, is AEPS Online, which offers a free 10-day trial.

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