

Finding a Graduate Job in Birmingham

A high proportion of students and graduates of the University of Worcester live in the West Midlands. As the main city within the region, Birmingham offers some fantastic career opportunities, whether a student is seeking work experience during university, or is a graduate seeking that all important job after graduation.



Why consider a graduate career in Birmingham?

- According to recent research, graduates are more likely to start their career in Birmingham than in the Square Mile of the City of London. This shows how the labour market in Birmingham has grown in strength, and this is good news for graduates.
- It is possible to commute to Birmingham from a wide range of areas in the West Midlands e.g. Walsall, Dudley, Wolverhampton, Stourbridge, Kidderminster, Worcester, Coventry and areas within Staffordshire. As an example you may be surprised at the reasonable cost of a monthly train pass from Worcester to Birmingham. Check www.networkwestmidlands.com for more details.

Career opportunities in Birmingham

- **Arts/Media/Journalism:** The BBC has a central location in the city centre, as well as ITV Central. For radio stations there is also Heart FM and New Style Radio. For theatre there's The Hippodrome, the Birmingham Repertory Theatre and the Old Repertory Theatre. If the heritage sector interests you, the Jewellery Quarter has a range of museums and heritage sites that may offer work opportunities.

- **Charity/Third Sector:** Birmingham has a thriving charities sector, as does the surrounding Black Country area. You could start with the causes you are interested in and go from there e.g. social justice, equality, education and raising aspirations, sport, mental health etc. Typical employers could include The Princes' Trust, UpRising, British Heart Foundation, Macmillan Cancer Support, Friends of the Earth and Mind.
- **Consulting:** also known as 'management consulting'. Involves working in a project based way for clients to help them improve productivity or company processes. Typical graduate employers include PwC and EY.
- **Criminal Justice:** The West Midlands Police Force is the obvious choice for those wanting to become a police officer. There are also other opportunities within this sector for those who don't want to become a police officer. This could involve dispatch and investigation work, business analyst/IT roles, policy work or work supporting victims of crime. Typical employers may include West Midlands Police, West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner, Police Now, Criminal Cases Review Commission and NACRO.
- **Education:**

School-based teaching: for students interested in becoming a primary or secondary school teacher, in addition to the University of Worcester's initial teacher training courses, many of the West Midlands based universities offer a range of teacher training courses. For alternative routes into school based teaching, Teach First and Ark Teacher Training offer graduate programmes.

Non-teaching careers: There are a range of education based careers which may interest students if they don't want to teach. The region's universities offer a large range of higher education based roles which may include advice work, as do the further education colleges and education based charities. Typical employers may include universities and City Year.
- **Finance:** Birmingham has a thriving financial services sector, and opportunities typically exist within areas such as accountancy and audit, actuarial and tax. Typical graduate employers include PwC, KPMG, Ernst & Young (EY), Mazars, BDO and Grant Thornton.
- **IT/Technology:** graduate jobs within this sector are wide and varied and to name a few could include roles within IT consulting, software development, gaming, programming and cyber security. As well as Birmingham city itself, Solihull as an area, has been shown to have a concentration of IT companies. The gaming industry is centred in Leamington Spa, a short trip from Birmingham. Typical graduate employers include FDM, CapGemini, PwC, QA Consulting and Pinewood Technologies.
- **Politics/Policy Work:** Whilst much of the political world is focused on London, there may still be opportunities in Birmingham for graduates wanting to start building their career within politics. Working within policy related roles could be a good way to develop key skills for this area, as well as working directly for an MP and one of the political parties. Typical employers could include Birmingham City Council, National Graduate Development Programme, Case Worker or Policy Assistant roles with an MP
- **Public Sector:** This sector may offer a range of roles across a large range of areas e.g. health, transport, education, environment and conservation. Typical employers may include the NHS, Birmingham City Council and Highways England.

- **Science/Environment:** Typical employers may include The Binding Site, Severn Trent, Mondelez, The Environment Agency, Atkins, AECOM and WSP. There is also the Birmingham Research Park which is a base for a range of science based organisations.

Useful resources for searching for work in Birmingham

Graduate Schemes with typical large employers

- www.insidecareers.co.uk
- www.gradcracker.com
- www.milkround.com
- www.prospects.ac.uk
- www.targetjobs.co.uk

National jobs websites

- www.jobsite.co.uk
- www.totaljobs.com

West Midlands specific jobs websites

- www.indeed.co.uk
- www.lgjobs.com Local Government Jobs
- www.wmjobs.co.uk West Midlands Jobs (public sector)
- www.wm1jobs.com Jobs in the West Midlands

Sector-specific jobs websites

- www.charityjob.co.uk Charity Jobs
- <https://jobs.theguardian.com/> Guardian Jobs (heritage, charities, education, government & politics related jobs)
- <https://jobs.thirdsector.co.uk/> Third Sector Jobs
- www.w4mp.org Work for an MP

Networking Groups/Events in Birmingham

- Event Brite: www.eventbrite.co.uk (may advertise a range of business related events across different sectors in different regions)
- Brummies Networking: <https://brummies-networking.co.uk/>

You may wish to pick up a copy of our **[“Quick Guide to Finding a Graduate Job”](#)** from **firstpoint** or you can access it via our website. This guide provides a range of resources to help students search for graduate jobs across the UK, including within the West Midlands.

If you would like to book a careers appointment please visit:

<https://worchester.targetconnect.net>

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