

Staffordshire University

Employability Statement

We're so good at employability that we're officially endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce (www.britishchambers.org.uk). We give you the best chance of getting a job when you graduate by working closely with employers to design our courses and to equip you with the skills and information you need.

Here's what we do to prepare students for work:

Make employability part of your course:

learn how to increase your chances of career success. The Careers Centre and many courses offer their own accredited career management skills modules. Other courses build employability-related learning into existing content, and in particular all courses teach employability skills. Employers are often involved as guest lecturers.

Work while you study:

earn cash and learn skills. We publish lots of part-time local job vacancies for students. We offer individual help to get these jobs, workshops and job fairs. All jobs are published online at www.staffs.ac.uk/jobzone. Part-time work such as being a Student Ambassador or Welcome week rep. can help you get a wealth of skills to add to your CV. In addition the Students' Union recruits over 200 students each year for part-time jobs. The Students' Union also operates a volunteering bureau called inVOLved that helps students find community-based volunteer opportunities that give them a taste of work, is fun and is a way of helping others.

Get work experience related to your course:

understand how theory relates to practice. Some of our courses arrange placements as accredited parts of study over twelve months, supported by an excellent team of Placement Officers. Others arrange or encourage shorter experience or part-time work, employer visits, project briefs set by employers or community organisations and employer-based mentoring.

Get expert advice and up-to-date information:

get knowledge and develop a career plan. Our excellent Careers Centre offers face-to-face careers guidance supported by information, runs drop-in CV clinics and quick query sessions and works with professional bodies to run business networking events to bring employers and students together. They lead the field in their innovative approach and have an extensive Web provision – www.staffs.ac.uk/careers. For those who can't or don't want to visit in person they offer e-guidance, guidance over video conferencing, Web 2.0 services and

narrated online presentations (www.staffs.ac.uk/careers/careers_talks_online). All this isn't just available while you're a student – they'd be delighted to see you after you graduate: www.staffs.ac.uk/careers/new_graduates

Take part in Personal Development Planning (PDP):

learn how to plan your learning and describe your skills to employers. PDP allows you to take an active role in your own personal and professional development with specific and structured support.

Become enterprising:

whether you want to start a business or be an enterprising employee, you can get support. All students who are interested have support to develop their management skills and knowledge to help them develop an enterprising approach and start and grow successful businesses or become enterprising as an employee.

Get a graduate job when you've finished your course:

make it all worthwhile. We publish thousands of graduate jobs each year on JobZone (see above), plus we run virtual graduate recruitment fairs at www.gradfairz.com, run paid graduate internship schemes and offer lots more help. We work in partnership with Remploy (www.remploy.co.uk) to support the transition to work of disabled students and those with health-related issues.