



Applying to the Right Workplace for You; How To Read a Job Ad as an RVT

Job searching can seem overwhelming. It can be difficult to find a workplace that meets all your needs. Do you feel like you are settling, when you would rather be excelling with your RVT career? There are many employers out there. How do you find the one that is right for you? Finding the right fit begins at the very start of the job search with the job ad.

Job ads can tell you a lot about the company and the job in question. There are many things to pay attention to in a job ad and sometimes they require reading between the lines:

1. Pay attention to what is listed at the very top of the job description. Typically, whatever is mentioned first in the ad is the most important to the employer.
2. Look beyond the job title. Carefully read the description of the employer's expectations of the RVT. The duties and responsibilities will often be listed in descending order of relevance to the job. Weigh this against your skills, qualifications, and likes and dislikes. Will the job be using all of your RVT skills and talents? Is there something near the top of the list you dislike? Try to find a balance that works for you.
3. Does the ad mention how you will be compensated? Compensation can include wages and other forms of compensation, like benefits and professional RVT dues. If compensation is listed, make sure it is in-line with your needs and living requirements. Never accept a compensation package that is lower than the value you bring to a workplace as an RVT.
4. The tone of the ad can also give some insight into what it might be like to work there. Is it formal or informal? What kind of language does it use? Are they recognizing the value and importance of the profession by specifically seeking RVTs? Or are they saying "assistant" or "tech"? Is it all about the workplace and their needs or does the ad also include information about what the employer can provide you with? Pay attention to the tone and keywords used in the ad to determine if your priorities line up.
5. Investigate the website and social media presence of any workplace that you are interested in. This will help you gauge whether or not this is a workplace you would thrive in. Also, seek references and feedback from other RVTs about their past experiences with the prospective employer.

6. Ask yourself what is missing from the job ad and write down any questions. You can look for answers to these questions on their website or ask them in an interview. Unless the job description says otherwise, you can always contact the workplace before applying and ask any important questions you may have. Confirm that the employer is intending to utilize your knowledge and talent as an RVT. Asking questions shows initiative, illustrates that you are serious about the position, and that you are confident in your abilities as an RVT.
7. Make sure to pay attention to any special instructions listed for applying. Not following the instructions when applying to an ad is a sure-fire way to not move on to the next round of the hiring process.
8. Lastly, don't convince yourself to apply for a job. This is an early sign that the job might not be right for you. The right job for you will make you want to apply!

Taking a little extra time to find the perfect fit is well worth it. In the long run, a little bit of extra effort will save you from time wasted with employers that aren't right for you.



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