Industry 101

Nonprofit organizations work to improve the common good of society. Rather than earning a profit for owners or investors, they use all surplus revenue toward continuing their mission. Nonprofit work encompasses a broad field including organizations like private foundations, religious institutions, animal shelters, soup kitchens, advocacy groups, research based trade associations, typically through charitable, educational, scientific or other means.

their online profile is one of the many kinds of work one can do for non-profit organizations.

Jobs in nonprofits can often have more dimensions vs. jobs in the for-profit sector. You may find yourself dealing with clients, engaging in lobbying, organizing office affairs etc. This can add to your overall breadth of knowledge and capabilities.

Nonprofit organizations account for over 20% of the economic activity in the U.S. Many are expanding and planning for growth over the next decade.

There are numerous types of jobs ranging from social causes, helping causes and opportunities in museums, public health, the arts and religious organizations.

Employee transitions from the for-profit sector continue to increase as nonprofits become a favored environment to work in. Financial and public support for nonprofit institutions is at an all-time high.

Online philanthropy is increasingly important to nonprofits. Improving

FACTS & STATS

PNP Staffing Group reported these salary ranges for Nonprofits in the D.C. area with a budget size of $10.1-50 million:

- **Finance**: $60-80k
- **Fundraising**: $40-80k
- **Membership**: $50-75k
- **Programs & Education**: $40-70k
- **Human Resources**: $40-60k
- **Marketing & Communications**: $50-60k
- **Technology**: $60-80k
- **Administration**: $40-50k
What can you do in Nonprofits?

Resume & Skills Needed

Resume
Include all of paid and volunteer experience (leadership roles, participation in special events, board or committee memberships, event planning, and, assistance with fund-raising drives). An objective statement that describes your interest in this area and your passion for making a difference is encouraged. Cover letters can explain why you are pursuing this career path and demonstrate your enthusiasm.

Skills
• Interpersonal Skills
• Writing (Grants, Reports, press releases, flyers)
• Language skills
• Program Planning
• Ability to collaborate with diverse groups (internal and external)
• Technical skills - Computer, Data Analytics
• Influence and persuasion
• Creativity
• Initiative
• Business acumen

Hiring
Nonprofits do not follow a set hiring calendar, and they usually have a limited budget for job postings and recruitment. This means many job openings are never publicized, and is a reminder of the importance of becoming familiar with the local nonprofit community and get connected as early as possible.

Experience
In addition to entry-level positions, gain industry experience through volunteering, Public Service Programs (Americorps, Teach For America, City Year, and AVODAH) and Fellowships.

On Campus Resources

• Office of Leadership and Community Service Learning
• UMD School of Public Policy
• UMD Do Good Institute
• UMD Office of Community Engagement

Other Resources

• Guidestar
• Idealist Careers
• Nonprofit Times Career Match
• Maryland Nonprofits
• Center for Nonprofit Advancement
• The Chronicle of Philanthropy Jobs Page

Where Are Alums?