

Finding Employment in Williston, ND.

We appreciate your interest in seeking employment in Williston, ND. With an unemployment rate of 1.5%, high paying wages, and an attractive quality of life atmosphere, Williston is growing at a rate that far exceeds anything you may imagine.

Although the opportunity is great, there are some challenges you may face when seeking employment in the area. The below helpful tips and resources are quick references to help you avoid some of the pitfalls we have seen affect job seekers in the past.

Seeking Out Employers Who Are Hiring

- People cannot do your job search for you. It is your responsibility to utilize the resources provided to you through our websites, classifieds, and state workforce entities to secure employment. Sending an e-mail simply stating “I need a job” does not work.
- If you know someone that is currently working in this area, this can be your best chance at getting an “in” with an employer. Work through them.
- Do not blindly call employers looking for work. Take the time to search employers who have advertised for services. All are extremely busy and blind phone calls usually will not receive a response.
- Set-up interviews BEFORE coming to the area. Showing up at their door trying to speak with someone that day usually will not work. Book a hotel room prior to arriving in the area.
- There are more options than just “Oil Jobs” in the area. The influx of residents has created demand in just about every area of employment. You may find a career in other areas that match your experience and it may pay just as well.
- Yes, the oil industry pays very well, but it may not be as well as the stories you may have heard. The average annual wage in the industry is 81K. This figure includes overtime wages, bonuses, etc. Do not assume you will start at this wage. Most will begin below this figure. As you gain experience you will move up. The industry is demanding. You will work a lot of overtime and in all kinds of weather.
- If you have a past criminal history that includes a felony, DUI, or owe past due child support payments, will more than likely be a waste of your time and more difficult to find work in the area. Most companies do extensive background checks and drug testing.

- For job seekers who feel they can hide behind employers that are operating illegally and not conforming to state tax/labor laws, the state has formed a code compliance task force that conducts random sweeps in the area. Eventually they are caught.

Independent Truck Drivers Looking For Work:

- Independent CDL Drivers that are successful in the area are the ones who have created a physical presence here and have forged relationships with the companies. Blindly calling companies offering your service will be of little success. Network with your peers to get the work.

Searching For Housing

- Housing will be the daunting task when relocating to the area. Apartment rentals are almost non-existent. Hotel's rooms are available if booked far in advance, but long term stays can become a challenge. Temporary workforce housing (Man-Camps) usually run around \$120.00 per night. If there is availability.
- DO NOT plan to sleep in your car or bring a tent/RV to the area and expect to live in it. Winters are harsh and a tent will not be sufficient in the winter, regardless of its thermal rating. RV's are not allowed in city limits. If you choose to park your RV on city streets/worksites, you will eventually be ticketed and/or towed. Most RV parks in the area are full. The purchase of a home is an option that is still feasible. Also, living with family/friends that are in the area is another option.
- Most employers who do not offer some form of housing option will want to know that you have secured housing BEFORE they will hire you.

Learning About The Community

- Take the time to research and "Understand" the area you are moving to, its economics, quality of life, etc.
- Expect a higher cost of living in the area due to increased demand.
- Expect a strain on city services, traffic, schools, hospitals, retail and restaurant offerings as the city adjusts to the massive influx of growth.

Resource Websites:

- www.jobsnd.com This is your #1 resource with the most comprehensive list of jobs in the area. Visit the website, get registered within their system and see over 1,200 jobs available in the area.
- www.willistonlife.com A posting site of current career fairs, job postings and relocation resources.
- www.willistonnd.com Your all in one best resource for links regarding the City of Williston.
- www.rockinthebakken.com Understand the Bakken oil shale and the reason our economy is doing so well.

- www.willistonwire.com This is an economic newsletter posted weekly. Will give you great insight to what is happening in Williston, ND.

Williston Herald Classified Ads

<http://www.willistonherald.com/classifieds/>

The Shopper – Classified Ads

www.theshopperinc.net