

Optimal Resume Survey

The survey was sent to students who had registered with OptimalResume in the Spring 2006 Semester. It was sent via email April 11, 2006. Surveys were sent to 819 students. 77 students responded for a response rate of 9.4%.

The survey used a 5-point Likert scale with 5 being Strongly Agree and 1 being Strongly Disagree.

Statement	Mean
1. OptimalResume was effective in helping me create a high quality resume.	4.5
2. The instructions on how to access OptimalResume were clear.	4.4
3. Once I logged into OptimalResume, the program was easy to navigate.	4.4
4. There is adequate on-line help provided for OptimalResume.	4.1
5. I would recommend OptimalResume to other students.	4.6

6. How did you hear about OptimalResume? (Check all that apply.)

Career Center Staff (n=47)
Career Center Website (n=22)
U101 (n=7)
Parents, Faculty, Friends (n=11)
Campus Organization (n=3)
Postcard (n=3)
College Listserv (n=2)
The Gamecock (n=0)
Parents (n=0)

7. What did you like most about Optimal Resume? (unedited responses)

How it formats the resume for me.

I like how professional it looks and how easy it is to use. It is really straight forward and tells you what you need to do and how to do it with examples.

It is set up so that all you have to provide is your information, and the technical setup is already taken care of. And the interactive website was pretty cool too.

I felt that the program was extremely easy to navigate and build a well developed resume.

I was able to build a great resume!!!

How it formats the sections for you.

It was very simple and the examples helped out tremendously.

The way it allows you to input information and then basically does the rest of work. It sets it up nicely. And your resume is basically posted online for any person to take a look at, if they dont' want a hard copy of your resume.

They gave ideas about what to write in the spots
How easy it is to put all my information into a nice and neat resume
the interactive online version of the resume
I like how Optimal Resume guides you through the process of writing a resume and then explains each step (e.g. what an objective should contain).
I gives a good idea of all the different parts of a resume and gives some decent format ideas.
Easy...the examples given were helpful
created a new look of professional resume
How easy it is to input additional information, as well as the neat formatting of the program. The choices for format are also a plus.
All the compliments I get from my resume. How easy it is to update.
It formats everything for you so all you have to do is enter the information.
Easy format for a resume, also the online web resume.
that it was easy to use.
It is so easy to use and I especially liked that you could go back and edit your resume.
When you put in your information on the internet, it automatically formats to a word document so you can print it.
Easy to fill in the blanks
It does all the work. I just typed in my information and did a little formatting, but the program did all of the important spacing and section dividers. I also like how you can choose multiple styles for the online version.
It made it easy to organize and format my resume. It produced a very professional looking final product.
It provided me with a way to include more into my resume than I would have been able too on my own
How it puts my information into a professional looking format. Very helpful.
It gives you an idea of what employers are looking for in an application in terms of content and format
It was easy to organize all of the information I wanted to put on my resume without worrying about style issues.
How easy it is to make a professional resume in various formats.
It helped me create a great resume and I didnt have to worry about the format when I was done putting my info into the computer.
It's a fantastic program.
How it also transfers it over to word.
It was simple to create a detailed resume.
Many options/suggestions as to a format to begin with. Easy to add categories.
Change fast the format of the resume
the convenience that it is available online. I have given many potential employers the web address prior to sending them a paper copy of my resume. That fits the time schedule they have and it also ensures that they don't forget about you as quickly.
Easy to fill in things like experience and education, etc.
I liked how it walked you through step-by-step in creating a resume and gave you examples to use as a guide.
how simple it is and how many useful tools you can find on it
Its easy
That I get an interactive online resume too.
It's an easy way to create a resume that you can make available online to potential employers or graduate programs. And you can make multiple resumes for different purposes.
I really do like the program overall. It was very easy to create a high-quality resume in a very short amount of time.
Ease of use. Turns such a hard task as building a resume into an easy one. I love the examples (which you can take and turn into your own of course).

The online version.

It's easy to edit and add without worrying about messing up the format.

the template

it is easy to use

Suggestion are provided.

was quick and easy to form a strong resume

It does it for you

It helps me have an idea of what exactly I need for my resume. Being a freshman, I was clueless before using OptimalResume.

The additional help that was available to edit my resume.

The examples for the objective and when you do the interactive you can create the little bubbles that only appear when you scroll over the statements.

You get to see the finished product before sending it out.

It was easy to use.

Easy way to set up resume with organization

It guided me through the process of creating a resume, explaining what I should include, and the format in which it should be prepared.

The helpful tips and professional layout

8. What change(s) would you recommend making to OptimalResume? (unedited responses)

none

I would include more layouts for the resume.

More format styles

It seems to be that the program itself is very user friendly.

It needs to help out with cover letter formats too. Or might have been so dumb that I didn't see it. allow for the same formatting used for the experience section to be applied to other sections to allow for a more uniform appearance

Do not any.

more help with the more professional resumes

Get the name of optimal resume out there

The only thing that was frustrating was that the resume was in a table and it made it difficult to make stylistic changes when I was done.

In many of the areas such as where to enter the dates employed, there are not enough character spaces. Also when you have the resume in Word it should be easier to edit at that stage rather than have to navigate through the whole site again. Especially when it comes to formatting.

Have it set up in Word.

Make it easier to create multiple resumes with the same information, without entering it multiple times. Make it more compatible with WORD.

I would not make any changes

An addition for a Resume sheet. Also, a sample Resume, so that people know what to make theirs look like as a whole. Also, a set of rules for resumes.

No changes.

I had a problem with trying to save it to my computer. Also I was a bit confused when trying to figure out the online stuff.

none

When you "x" out of the "ideas" section where you can find action verbs and examples, the program closes your whole section, and any work that you had done doesn't save. It has a "close" button that doesn't do that, but on numerous occasions I accidentally hit the "x" button and lost what I had added in that section.

I would have it somehow show you a message recommending that you use the format in the examples and that you look at the examples before writing your resume.

I would make it so that you can alter font and bullet styles in the program as opposed to having to

use Word.

Allow students to customize their Word formatted resumes.

none

None.

None.

None

More clear information about different features

the margins aren't printer friendly. we all hear the "one page rule" about resumes and the margins on the rtf document are SO FAR indented that a resume which could be easily a page and 1/4 is a page and 3/4. It should be set up so that the employer doesn't have to print so much paper, making the student look like they carelessly set their margins.

somehow get rid of the lines/boxes that come up with the resume

it all works

none

none

However, there are some serious flaws when it comes to editing the resume. It is very difficult to create bulleted lists in Optimalresume. I was fortunate that the examples provided in the program were able to work for me. If they hadn't, I honestly don't know how I would have created the resume. The text editor needs to be completely redone to facilitate editing within the program. It was so difficult for me to alter my resume for different jobs that I had to do it in Microsoft Word.

None at all. Maybe letting alumni use it longer than 6 months...

Add more options to what you can add on the resume.

more suggestions on what to put

The resume formats look like they could be the same as a Wicrosoft Word template, and those resumes usually don't seem to do very well. would it be possible to have students be able to post a word document and insert floating boxes over certain areas to elaborate?

None, it's a great program.

nothing really

easier to figure out

No changes come to mind.

the uploading process is a little difficult

When creating the resume if you accidently close the program its hard to get back to the spot you were working on.

None

None

Because most fields like education and experiece do not change, it would be convenient to transfer that info from one resume to another when creating multiple resumes.

maybe add a few more tools in which you can alter the way your resume appears

None

Scrapping it.

9. What feedback have you received from employers/faculty/others about OptimalResume? your (unedited responses)

They say it looks extremely professional.

I have received very strong feedback about my resume, people tell it is very strong, professional,

I have not actually used the OptiamIResume to send to employers as of the current time.

none

People have said that it looked really good and was very presentable.

they think it is great

N/A

none, i gave up on optimal resume becaause i got tired of having to navigate everywhere and not positive feedback

POSITIVE!!!

Employers LOVE my resume.

None

Nothing yet.

None.

I used Optimal Resume for my HRSM 301 class to do a resume and the teacher loved my

none--haven't actually used it yet

I haven't used it for any specific purposes, but both the career center and members of Global

As of right now I have not received any feedback

I need to change a lot of the format and some of the content.

I used the internship resume and was told to rearrange it so that my experience came above my activities and awards, instead of last. Apparently it was more important to the employers than it had been suggested when I had my resume approved.

I received an internship at the Charleston Post and Courier and my RA class professor said my resume looked clean and professional.

none

I have not gotten to this point yet.

I have sent this out to future employers. Haven't received any feedback but it was an easy way to send out the resume.

People have commented that my resume was neatly structured.

Neutral

The quick access is the most common thing I hear of

I have received negative feedback concerning the lines/boxes from employers. They have told me that I need to keep resubmitting the resume because the lines/boxes make it difficult to send the resume electronically when there are lines/boxes

NA

that my resume looked really good

I've gotten called back for 4 interviews since I started using it.

none

They said the resume looked great.

My journalism teacher gave us a resume and said there was a specific look for broadcast resumes. The career center should look into different fields liking different formats.

My resume looks professional and easy to scan and read.

I have had many new job opportunities

none

N/A

I got a good grade in Speech, I have gotten good responses on my resume when going in for a job interview

Very happy with it

No comments really. I haven't had a chance to use it other than for Univ 101 which I didn't receive feedback on.

I haven't received any feedback yet concerning my resume.

I was told that it was an improvement from my previous resume. Everyone liked the interactive resume. The new resume better showcased my strong points.

None

nice except for a few changes, a few grammar errors.

Good resume, nice set-up

"It looks great." -internship coordinator

That it looks great

None.

10. Please provide us any additional comments/suggestions. (unedited responses)

So far I think the program is very helpful, and I am really glad that I have access to this resource. OptimalResume is great!

None

great program i have told a lot of friends about it

I have found that using Microsoft Word and using a template is better in functionality than OptimalResume. Optimal Resume is good for online postings but many people still prefer the tried and true mailing of hard copies, it's more traditional and it makes it so that not everyone has to be experinced in all the difference job websites out there. OptimalResume needs to be better in functionality for creating hard copy resumes.

I think this is a great resource for students, and I have reccommended it to others...thanks for the great resources you offer at the Career Center.

Keep providing this service. Having a website for my resume is awesome. Allow alumni to use it. It would be cool if we could send in our resumes to the career center, and have them checked for problems.

I think that there should be a similar program to help with cover letters, if possible. I know that is an area that I struggle with and probably many other students as well.

You could possibly add a section on the Optimal Resume website that includes tips on presenting your resume.

It would be nice if you could give more insight into the flow....a list of what should follow what like the experience 1st or the courses 1st...this was where i got a bit confused..

keep up the good work!

it was very easy to set up and make a resume. But as said before something needs to be done about the lines/boxes, because it made the process very difficult when sending it to employers I love the guides and examples. But I think there could be more examples of completed resumes with different ideas. The full range of resumes needs to be out there for students to see on this website. The more examples the better!

none, it is an absolutely great program.

I thank the career center for allowing such a useful web-site for that of college students. Its was quick and easy to form a strong resume.

Glad the service is available.

I think it is a very good tool for students. It should be "advertised" more to students.

I got a summer internship!

Thanks!

I think optimalresume is a great way to help students get started with their resume