

What about Job Hunting and Interviews?

After college, the 'real-world', and the prospect of sending out job applications, can seem vast and overwhelming. As a starting point, it is worth taking the time to analyze your *skills, passions and driving forces*. Some people know what they want to do and who they want to be from a young age. For the rest of us, the hardest part of job hunting is deciding what role you want to play, what life you want to create and what skills you bring to the table.

It might seem impossible, but think of your capabilities **without** putting stuttering into the equation. You can do anything you truly want to do, regardless of your stuttering. If there is an element to a career you want that is made very difficult by stuttering (such as answering the phone), know that there are ways to overcome this hurdle because stuttering, in any situation, is ok. The more you believe that, the less your stuttering will fight back.

Apply for whichever job you want. Be courageous, don't limit yourself. Remember that there are people who stutter in almost every career you can imagine - doctors, CEOs, writers, pilots, public speakers, therapists - people who believe that what they **do** and what they **say**, is more important than **how quickly they say it**.

When you make it to the interview stage don't feel like you need to hide your stuttering. Instead, address it with confidence and honesty. Emphasize all the ways that it has positively shaped your work and your personality. Use it as an asset rather than a hindrance. Remember that your stutter is just one part of you; it is something to be addressed and put in its place amongst all your unique traits and skills. Your stutter will make you stand out and it will make you memorable and human. Harness that.

And if you don't get the job, don't fret. Don't point fingers and blame your stuttering. Apply elsewhere, improve yourself, and have confidence in the fact that you are incredibly capable.

Please see "Being Your Own Best Advocate" for more information on effectively advertising your stuttering in any situation.