

Volunteer for Something You are Uniquely Qualified For

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A good way to get noticed on your first job (following graduation) is to volunteer for something that you are uniquely qualified for: like helping with a department's website, or being a project scheduler on a large project, or doing a simulation.

As a recent graduate, you may have some skills that are newer (and maybe better) than some of your co-workers. As the newest member of your work group, sometimes it can take a while to be accepted into the group. But by volunteering for something that you are good at, you can earn trust and respect quickly with the other members of the group (including your supervisor).

Pick a task that you think you can help out with, and something you would enjoy doing. Make an extra effort to do a great job, and show some of your creativity as well as your technical skills; so you will be seen as a valued member of the group, with useful skills and good ideas.

If you have successfully built websites, look over any website plans for the existing website utilized by the department, and see if you can help develop a better website. By volunteering for this activity, you will learn a lot about many parts of the work that the organization does, and it may give you an opportunity to work with several others outside your organization (like other webmasters).

If you have learned the Project Scheduling software used by the company (or organization), consider volunteering to help with the Project Schedule of a large project. This is a great way to get involved in an important project and also provide some useful technical skills. This also will let you be close to the Project Manager and pick up some useful Project Management tips, to use later on your own projects.

If you have learned the Simulation software used by the company (or organization), volunteer to help build and run the simulation on a complex project. This will get you directly involved in supporting a complex project or analysis.