Returning to work? Get back faster with a SEEK Profile

Some people think the biggest challenge returning to work is finding a place at childcare.

But it can be bewildering making your move back into the workforce after time away. Perhaps you feel like job titles have changed, or that there are new skills and software you might not know, salary guidelines, or even that sneaking suspicion all the jobs are for people with more experience.

These are all common fears to have, especially when you feel like you're not as immersed in work like others. But it's easy to get back into the flow, especially with SEEK in your corner.

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SEEK can direct you to more than just jobs - a SEEK profile gives you all the information you need to feel confident in what you do and what you want for your career, before you've even looked at job ads.

It takes only minutes to set up your profile, but it can have a huge impact on your return to work. You can get information on salaries, advice for your career, tips on interviews and resumes and all the industry news you can use to dazzle recruiters.

- Use your SEEK profile to set out your career plans. What kind of job are you looking for, are you after part-time or full-time work, and what are your salary expectations? Define what you want for yourself by completing the *Current status* and *Role preferences* section of your SEEK profile. If you're an Administration and Office Support expert specialising in Client and Sales Administration, but you need to work part-time in Melbourne, then say so! Completing this section of your profile helps you articulate your career needs so employers can contact you with work that meets your goals.
- Your SEEK profile needs a great resume. Ensuring an up-to-date resume is attached to your profile is a major part of attracting the right employers for that next job. It needs to be succinct, reflect only relevant experience, and call out the companies you've worked for. And the benefits of adding a resumes are two-fold the strongest parts of or resume can be added to the *Career history* section of your SEEK profile. If it's relevant to where you're headed, note down what you've achieved, and how you've learned and helped companies with your work.

• Skills & Qualifications are key in your SEEK profile. Time away from work is also time that can be used to reflect on your *Skills & Qualifications*. What are the ones that matter most to you? And which are likely to be important to employers? Think about this list, and don't limit yourself to the practical – think about all the soft and transferable skills you employ every day too. For example, if you're emotional intelligence has led you to succeed professionally and personally, include this as a key skill in the section. Consider globally recognised terms, like "organisation" "time management" and "Microsoft Office", as opposed to something obscure and unsearchable, like "extraordinary technological program aptitude."

When you set up a SEEK profile, it's your first step back into the game with someone who knows the score.

So get in the game now. It's time.