

Sample Resume for High School Students

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Contact Information: should be at the top of your resume—include name, city/state, phone number, and e-mail (if you have it). Separate it out by centering it and making it bold. Pronouns are optional.

Education: include graduation date and GPA if it is 3.0 or higher.

Education Highland Park Senior High, class of 2008 (3.8 GPA)

Experience

Formatting Experiences: (2 options)

1. Heading line (include title and dates) followed by bulleted list—see Work Experience as example.
2. Heading line (include title and date) followed by narrative list—see Volunteer Experience as example.

St. Paul Public Library—University Branch (June 2005-present)

- Maintained library database on checked-out materials.
- Coordinated volunteer program for Story Time.
- Organized card catalog to incorporate new materials.

Writing About Experiences

Regardless of style, begin each phrase/sentence/ bullet with an *active verb*. See the examples to the left: maintained, coordinated, organized, participated...see back of page for more examples.

National Honor Society (2003-present)

Participated in several volunteer activities, including: building a house for Habitat for Humanity (50 hours), collecting food for the St. Paul Food Shelf (80 hours), and organizing the Honor Society Induction Ceremony.

Headings The expected headings would be: education, experience (work or volunteer), but the others are up to you. Use the ones that work best. Other possibilities: skills, additional experience, related experience, leadership experience, research experience, writing experience, computer experience, objectives, leadership, related coursework, work experience, volunteer experience, anything that fits your particular qualities.

Activities

- National Honor Society (2003-present)
- French Club (2002-present)
- Cross Country (2002-present)
- Piano lessons (10 years)

Awards

- A Honor Roll, 8 quarters
- Outstanding French Student, 2004
- Volunteer of the Year, 2005

Skills

Communication
Organization
Collaboration
Creativity

General Formatting You should have 1 inch margins, major headings (like 'Education') on the left, then indent with additional information below—for example, notice how National Honor Society is lined up below St. Paul Public Library. Use a traditional font (New York, Arial, just not cursive...) at 12 point size. It should all fit on one page. Remember, it needs to be easy to read—keep it simple and organized!

Other things to remember:

- proofread, proofread, proofread!
- Check for punctuation and spelling.
- Check for format and style consistency.
- Show your resume to a friend.
- Use resume weight paper (available in copy centers).
- Pick a light, neutral color, like white or ivory.
- Laser print it or have it done at the copy center.
- Get matching envelopes and paper for cover letters.

Action Verbs: Read the list of action verbs below, checking those skills you have demonstrated through internships, part-time or summer jobs, coursework, leadership experience, or community service. Try to incorporate some of these action verbs in the descriptions of your experiences on your resume. This is by no means an exhaustive list.

Management Skills

administered
analyzed
assigned
chaired
consolidated
contracted
coordinated
developed
directed
evaluated
executed
improved
increased
organized
oversaw
planned
prioritized
produced
recommended
reviewed
scheduled
strengthened
supervised.

Communication Skills

arranged
authored
collaborated
convinced
developed
directed
drafted/edited
formulated
interpreted
mediated
moderated
negotiated
persuaded
promoted
publicized
reconciled
recruited
translated
wrote

Research Skills

clarified
collected
critiqued
diagnosed
evaluated
examined
extracted
identified
inspected
interpreted
interviewed
investigated
organized
reviewed
summarized
surveyed

Technical Skills

assembled
built/calculated
computed
designed
devised
engineered
fabricated
maintained
operated
overhauled
programmed
remodeled
repaired
solved
upgraded

Teaching Skills

adapted
advised
clarified
coached
communicated
coordinated
demystified
developed

enabled
encouraged
evaluated
explained
facilitated
guided
informed
instructed
persuaded
set goals
stimulated
trained

Financial Skills

allocated
analyzed
appraised
audited
balanced
budgeted
calculated
computed
developed
forecasted
managed
marketed
planned
projected
researched

Creative Skills

acted
created
customized
designed
developed
directed
established
founded
illustrated
initiated
instituted
integrated
introduced
invented

originated
performed
planned
revitalized
shaped

Helping Skills

assessed
assisted
clarified
coached
counseled
demonstrated
diagnosed
educated
expedited
facilitated
familiarized
guided
motivated
referred
rehabilitated
represented

Clerical or Detail Skills

approved
arranged
catalogued
classified
collected
compiled
dispatched
executed
generated
implemented
inspected
monitored
operated
organized
prepared
processes
purchased
recorded