

Tufts Career Center FAQ of the Week

Should I only include paid work experience on my resume? What about my high school clubs and activities?

Your resume is a great place for all sorts of experiences, both paid and unpaid. You can list things like internships, summer jobs, research, volunteering, independent projects, campus activities, shadowing, and more. It's a common misconception that experiences only "count" if they're paid. Often, you'll develop [valuable career competencies](#) through unpaid experiences like campus leadership positions or volunteer roles. Check out the resume samples in our [Career Guide \(PDF\)](#) to see the variety of ways that fellow Jumbos have organized their experiences and highlighted skills they've gained.

As for high school clubs and activities, we generally tell students to remove these items by the end of sophomore year (and often sooner) to stick to the one-page resume expectation for undergrads. It can be tough to acknowledge that it's time to trim some items from your resume. After all, does that mean that all those great experiences didn't happen?? (Don't worry; we know they happened!)

Remember that you're making room for all the more recent and relevant things you need to say to a potential employer. [Consider asking a Career Advisor](#) or close friend to review your document and give objective feedback about what does/doesn't fit with your future goals.



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