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Jobs That Matter

Jobs That Matter

Find a Stable, Fulfilling
Career in Public Service



Discover secure and
meaningful jobs in
• Local, state, and
federal government
• Nonprofits
• Education
• Corporations

With a foreword by
Max Stier, CEO and president of
Partnership for Public Service

Heather Krasna

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Just Works
American Social Publishers



Synopsis

Empowers students, job seekers, and career changers to pinpoint the right public service careers for their interests and abilities. Readers will learn how to find great jobs in the local, state, and federal government, as well as in nonprofit or corporate organizations serving the public good.

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Customer Reviews

Heather Krasna's book literally changed my life. I spent months after graduating from university trying to figure out how to work in the non-profit sector with no luck. I randomly found her book at a store and thought "why not" and I've never regretted it. Not only does she give you great resources and information on different non-profit jobs, their functions, and other opportunities you might never have considered, but great resume and cover letter insights and absolutely fantastic interviewing questions. After reading her book, I found an amazing job at a well-known foundation and I credit her book. It was because I asked one of the interview questions she recommended that made me stand out to my previous manager and I got the job! I relocated recently and am re-using her wise advice all over with experience now. I highly recommend for students, recent graduates, and industry changers who are considering to work for the better good.

I pretty much read career books for a living and this one just rose to the top of my recommend list. Krasna has surveyed the entire field of jobs that make a difference and distilled it into a user-friendly guide that answers all the questions a job-seeker would have --from how to break in, to what might be a good fit for your skills and personality, to what various jobs pay. Best of all, she includes vivid Q&As with people in some unusual roles and brings to life some kinds of work you may have never realized exist, like the superintendent of the NYC Transit Authority. This book should be in every career planning library and on the shelf of every person wondering how to make a difference in the world.

Heather Krasna has a great deal of experience in offering advice on finding public sector jobs, and is now the Director of Career Services at the University of Washington's Evans School of Public Affairs in Seattle. The book is a lively read, because of the large number of personal profiles, based upon Krasna's interviews. But most important for job seekers it has a great deal of practical advice with a lot of specific information.

Heather Krasna has packed an amazing amount of useful information and sound advice on a wide range of career topics between these two covers. Her broad definition of careers in public service will help individuals expand their horizons, and it is particularly helpful to find evolving fields of interest such as environmental protection, managing infrastructure, accountability and evaluation, advocacy, corporate social responsibility, security and emergency preparedness. There are solid sections on applying for federal government jobs and the organization, delivery, and competitiveness of international development work. Her rÃ©sumÃ© and job search preparation tools are excellent: the Anatomy of a Bullet Point on page 202-203 is worth the price of the book all by itself.

This book is a must-read for anyone interested in entering public service. The first couple of chapters were especially helpful for me in identifying what I'm good at and what I like to do. Writing the problem-action-result stories gave me a ready-made answer to the inevitable "tell me about a time when you..." interview question. Reading this book and doing the exercises really gave my job search a lot more focus. As a result, I was able to land a full-time job working with a nonprofit on an issue I'm passionate about. I highly recommend Ms. Krasna's book to any and all public service job seekers!

When I picked up Krasna's book, I thought it would be a simple how-to guide on where to send my resume. I'm happy to say that this book is so much more than that. *Jobs That Matter* is a stellar book, not only because it provides information but also because it changed the way I look at government jobs. Gone is the idea that government jobs are pure drudgery for the sake of a paycheck (although there is administrative work in every profession). It was replaced by the fact that these jobs, well, matter. That you can do good. That you can use creative thinking and strategizing to forward your plans. And you can get paid while doing it. This concept is backed by interviews from people in public service jobs who have a passion for the work they do. They describe their accomplishments, as well as their challenges. For example, one woman said she helps people with disabilities live better lives, yet she worked for low pay for years. Krasna's interviewees also give readers insider information on how to enter that particular field. Thank you, Krasna, for opening up a world of opportunity in a field I would never have considered before.

As founder of Young Gov't Leaders (young professional group for federal employees) and founder of GovLoop (social network connecting 30,000+ gov't leaders), people ask me every day how to get a government job. Heather's book "Jobs That Matter" is a great guide for those interested in public service and its advice is dead-on. Particularly great are the case studies from the book and real advice from real people working in the government (vs hypothetical advice). If you are a graduating from college or graduate school and interested in public service, this is a must buy. Steve Ressler (President, GovLoop.com)

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