



## Filling out an Application

hen looking for a job, you will have to fill out many different job applications. Most applications ask for basic information about you, such as a list of all the places where you've worked (your work history), a list of people who can vouch for your character and work habits (references), the date you can start work and what job you want.

You may be asked to fill out the application in the office, or you may be able to take it home and return it later. If possible, take it home so you can take your time and have someone check it. If so, return the application to the employer within 24 hours.

One quick way to fill out an application is to make your own personal data sheet. Like a job resume, a personal data sheet contains all the important information that most applications require.

Here are some examples of information to include in your personal data sheet:

- Your name as it is spelled on your birth certificate or your married name
- Social Security number
- Permanent address

- Phone number where you can be reached during the day and evening
- Names of three people who know you and how well you work and who can be listed as references
- Jobs you have had, your supervisors' names and the companies' addresses
- Driver's License number

Fill out the Personal Data Sheet on page 2.

You can take this sheet with you when you are looking for a job. It will help you fill out applications easily. Make your personal data sheet before you begin your job hunt so that you can find correct spellings, the addresses of your references, your Social Security number and other vital information you may not have memorized.

Most employers look closely at your job application form. It is their first introduction to you. This is why the application process is very important. In most cases, the way you fill out your application will help you get an interview or a job.

## Edited by **Rosemarie Hoffman**

Assistant Professor and Extension Individual and Family Development Specialist, The Texas A&M University System Here are some basic suggestions for filling out an application:

- Always use a ballpoint pen, not a pencil.
- Be sure to type or print clearly.
- Spell all words correctly.

- Write sentences that the employer can understand.
- Make sure it is not messy with smudges.
- Make sure all information is the truth.

The way you fill out your application will help you get an interview or a job.

Personal Data Sheet			
Name			
Social Security numb	er		
Address			
City	State _	ZIP Code	·
Phone: Day			
Night			
	Schools	s Attended	
Name		Dates	Dates
of School		Attended	Graduated
1.			
2			
3			
	Job Ex	xperience	
Name of Company	Address	Job You Held	Dates Job Held
1			
2			
3			
4			
	Refe	erences	
Name	Address		Job Title
1			
2			
3			

- Avoid using the word "no" when you need to leave something blank. For example, for the question, "Have you ever been convicted of a crime?" Use n/a, which means not applicable or does not apply.
- If you do not have a phone, do not write "no phone" on the application.
  Put a close relative's or friend's phone number where you can be reached. Remember to tell that person you are using his or her phone number.
- Include phone numbers where you can be reached during the day and at night.
- Avoid using the word "fired."
- When questions about salary are asked, write: "Wish to discuss in person."

Some job application forms can be confusing, especially those that abbreviate words or phrases. Here is a list of common abbreviations:

**BD or DOB** Birth Date or Date of Birth (including Month,

Day and Year)

SS or SS# or

**Soc. Sec.** Social Security number

wt. Weight

ht. Height

**Tel.** Telephone number

**M: F:** Male or Female

**M: S: Div:** Married, Single or

Divorced

Yr. Year

**Mo.** Month

**Exp.** Experience

**Edu.** Education

No. or # Number

Below are explanations of words you may see on application forms:

**Applicant:** This means YOU, the person who is applying for the job.

**Marital status:** Are you married, or single?

**Spouse:** Your wife or husband's name.

**Dependents:** The number of people in your household that you are responsible for (children or other relatives).

**Relationship:** Is the person mentioned your cousin, child, father, mother, friend or former employer?

**Maiden name:** A woman's last name before she was married.

**Occupation:** Another word for job.

**For office use only:** Leave this space blank. This is for the company to fill out.

**Permanent address:** The address you consider home and where you can be reached by mail at all times.

**Present address:** Where you are living now (For example, if you are living with a relative while you are looking for a job, use that address).

**References:** People who know you very well and can be contacted by the employer to find out about you (and will give you a good recommendation).

**Full-time:** A job that requires you to work at least 36 to 40 hours a week.

**Part-time:** A job that requires you to work at least 16 to 20 hours a week.

**EEO Employer:** Equal Employment Opportunity Employer, which means

Be sure to type or print clearly on the application form. that the company does not discriminate against people because of their race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or handicap, or against disabled or Vietnam-era veterans.

If you do not understand what an application is requesting, ask a friend or the person who gave you the application to help. Here is an example of a job application form. Practice filling it out.

	Jiffy Supermarket	
	<b>Employment Application</b>	
Personal information		
Name		
Last	First	Middle
Driver's License Number		
State		
Social Security Number		
Address		
City		
State		
Zip		
Age		
Date of Birth		
Have you ever worked for Jiffy S	upermarket before? Yes	No
If yes, give dates and locations.		
Do you have any physical illness	es or injuries which may limit you	ur ability to perform the job for
which you are applying? Yes	No	
If yes, what can be done to accon	nmodate your limitation?	
Have you been convicted of a crir	minal offense within the past 5 ye	ears? Yes No
If yes, give details.		
Education		
School	Location	
Last Grade or Level Completed		
Circle one Diploma GED D		
Date Received : Co	ourse or Major:	
	-	

<b>Employment Interests</b>	
Position for which you are applying:	
Salary expected:	
Total hours available each week:	
Date available for work:	
Work schedule preferred: Full-time Regular	Day Part-time Temporary Night
Hours available: M Tu W Th	F Sa Su
FROM	
то	
Do you have transportation to and from work?	/es No
Requirements for Managers	
A Store Manager or Assistant Manager's position to use on the job.	may require that you have a car or other vehicle
A. Do you have, or can you get, a valid driver's	s license? Yes No
B. Do you have access to a car or truck? Yes	No
C. If you will be driving your own car to and fo	rom work, please provide proof of insurance.
Company	Policy #
D. Do you have, or can you get a telephone?	Yes, I have a phone
	Yes, I will get a phone
Is it available day and night? Yes No	
Employment History	
Please list all jobs you have had in the past 10 ye er. Account for all time periods, including unempice.	
1. Company	Location
Phone	Job
Supervisor	Dates Worked: From To
Salary	Reason for Leaving
2. Company	Location
Phone	Job
Supervisor	Dates Worked: From To
Salary	Reason For Leaving
3. Company	Location
Phone	Job
Supervisor	Dates Worked: From To
Salary	Reason for Leaving

Applicant's signature		Date
For Office	Use Only	
_		available
Not qualified	Employment offer	red Date
	Hired	Date
Check your work		Correct Social Security number
	Now you can check to make sure yo	u did Did not use the word "no"
	not make these common mistakes filling out an application.	when Remember: You should have answered "yes" to all of the above. The application
	Neat, clean and readable writin	is very important because it allows the employer to see how much experience
	Correct spelling	you have had and how you handle paper
	No blank lines	work. Neatness, knowledge and experience pay off.
	Correct phone numbers (day an night)	d ence pay on.
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-		,
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