Building a Strong LinkedIn Summary

Your LinkedIn summary is a brief, text version of your Professional Introduction. Begin with your Present (who you are), followed by your Past (what you've done/skills you've gained), and conclude with your Future (professional goals).

Below are questions to ask yourself, to build a strong summary, or improve your existing one:

1. **What is your dream job?** Where are you headed?
2. What are your key **skills / strengths / talents**?
3. What do you want to be most **known for**?
4. What are some of your **interests, values & personal traits**?
5. What makes you **unique**? Differentiate yourself from others. This could be a trait, interest or value.
6. How would some of your **coworkers describe you**?

Once creating a draft based on the above questions, see if your summary has these characteristics:

1. Engaging and **original**
2. Written in **the first person**
3. **Angled** toward the specific people you care about the most
4. **Clear** on what you want the reader to do next

LinkedIn Sample Profile Summaries

Jessica Yan

Research Scientist | Ph.D. Candidate | Data Analytics, Biotech, Pharma

I am a research scientist seeking to better understand how neural activity motivates and shapes human behavior. My expertise includes project design and management, data analysis and interpretation, and the development and implementation of research tools. I love to generate new ideas and devise feasible solutions to broadly relevant problems. My supervisors and colleagues would describe me as a driven, resourceful individual who maintains a positive, proactive attitude when faced with adversity. Currently, I am seeking employment opportunities that will allow me to use my diverse skill set to develop and promote technologies that benefit human health. Specific fields of interest include data analytics, biotechnology, and pharmaceuticals.

Vanessa Weller

Management Consultant | Public-Private Partnerships

Multi-faceted professional with ten years of experience living, studying and working in international environments (Europe, US, Africa). Particular industry experience in strategy and business development across consulting, consumer goods marketing, and nonprofit sectors.

Pursuing Master's degree in Management, while conducting research on cross-sector collaboration in international development, new hybrid business models, and multi-stakeholder sustainability programs that deliver significant commercial and stakeholder value.

Professional objective of joining a values-driven organization, with potential to thrive and have maximum impact. Specific industries of interest: FMCG, Technology, Pharmaceuticals, Management Consulting -- as well as International Organizations working at the nexus of the sectors.

Specialties: Building bridges between people and organizations, shared value strategies, public-private partnerships, project management, negotiation, corporate social responsibility, emerging markets, business development, marketing.

William Smith

Aspiring Marine Ecologist | Doctoral Researcher

I am a 5th-year doctoral researcher working in Dr. Jonathan Grabowski's Coastal Biological Oceanography laboratory at Northeastern University's Marine Science Center. Broadly, my interests include marine community ecology and conservation. More specifically, I am interested in the connectivity of marine ecosystems and populations, complex tropic interactions, and impacts of anthropocentric modifications to marine systems. My current research is focused on quantifying the effects of an invasive species, the Asian Shore Crab, on ecological and economically important native species as well as overall community characteristics.

Justin Olsen

Victim Witness Advocate

Passion and diligence are two traits that I believe most reflect me as an individual. They are qualities that have driven me in my quest to advocate for and support those in need. Throughout my tenure as a Victim Witness Advocate and my time as a Criminal Justice major at Northeastern University, I've been faced with many challenges. Although both experiences are unique, I've found that the responsibilities I held could only be managed by an individual with resolve. This dedication and attentiveness are essential principles needed to improve not just a single community, but society as a whole. Without enthusiasm, patience and some degree of positivity, we cannot bring about the change that is needed to better the lives of those who seek our aid.

While traveling to countries such as El Salvador, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, I found that our Criminal Justice system is one that should be commended on its equality and service. I want to continue to be that beacon of service not only to victims of crime but to the legal system in its entirety.

Carol Jones

Experienced Structural Engineer | Teacher | Focus on Earthquake-Resistant Design

Having grown up in an earthquake-prone country, I became curious from an early age about designing and building structures to resist natural hazards. As a lecturer at the University of Science and Culture in Tehran, I found myself teaching a class on earthquake engineering the day after a 6.3 magnitude earthquake had struck our region. My students and I, in the literal and conceptual aftershock of this event,

powerfully felt the critical importance of designing earthquake-resistant structures that provide sufficient ductility and strength in anticipation of very likely seismic events. During my doctoral studies at Northeastern University, I developed a “Methodology for Performance-Based Analysis and Design of Reinforced Concrete Structural Wall Systems” to help structural engineers to design buildings that better resist earthquakes.

With extensive experience as a structural engineer, and a record of successfully performing analysis and design of a building, transportation, industrial, and environmental structures, my experience includes:

- Analysis and design of reinforced concrete, steel, masonry, and timber structural systems
- Progressive collapse evaluation of structures subjected to extreme loading conditions
- Utilizing state-of-the-art structural computer software
- Drafting and reviewing design reports and project documents
- Teaching, mentoring, and team leading