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## **WORKING PART-TIME WHILE GAINING A UNIVERSITY DEGREE: BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES**

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### **Анотація:**

*У статті розглядаються причини та мотивація участі студентів у роботі з частковою зайнятістю під час навчання в університеті, аналізуються переваги та недоліки поєднання роботи та навчання.*

**Ключові слова:** *неповний робочий день, досвід роботи, роботодавець, розумний розподіл часу, мережеві зв'язки, безпека роботи.*

### **Abstract:**

*The article considers the reasons and motivation of students' involvement in part-time work during their university study. The advantages and disadvantages of combining work and study are analyzed.*

**Keywords:** *part-time work, work experience, employer, time management, networking, job security.*

### **Introduction**

Today the majority of students enrolled in university study work part-time. Although the benefits of working have been noted for years, institutions of higher education tend to operate under the assumption that students should prioritize their academic careers over their employment. The part-time job has many associated advantages and disadvantages. One should consider both before making the decision of combining a part-time job with university study.

### **Basics**

It is necessary to define the following advantages of students's part-time employment:

1. **Work experience.** The part-time job gives the real life work experience. Having work experience, especially in a field related to student's studies, can help them become much more competitive once they're ready to enter the full-time job market after institute. Even job experience that's not directly related to students's field may qualify them for a position that someone without their experience could not get. Employers look for employees who understand the work environment and work well as part of a team. Having a part-time job shows that the student is at least somewhat accustomed to the professional world, which will make the transition that much easier.

2. **Money management.** Money is the factor that leads students toward a part-time job. Students can pay their bills, tuition fee, buy the required things and that'll reduce the burden of their study expenses over students's parents. Nobody does budgeting with the pocket money they got from parents, but when students start earning and they spend their hard earned money, then, they start thinking about it and plan how and where they'll spend their money and how much they spend and how much they save.

3. **Time management.** Doing the job with study left students with less time and a busy schedule, so they have to manage their time in the way that both their study and work won't get affected.

4. **Develop useful skills.** Students who work during their college careers may develop better time-management skills than their counterparts because they have to apply it to their daily lives. Working teaches students about responsibility and can also reinforce what they are learning in institute. During students's part-time job they'll develop many useful skills that'll help them in the professional life like team work, organizational skills, multi-tasking, time management and work initiative skills.

5. **Networking opportunities.** During part-time job students will meet many people from the professional

world and this is an opportunity to grow their network.

It is worth mentioning the disadvantages of part-time employment:

1. Effect on the study. While doing part-time job, students'll have a busy schedule and they'll get less time for study. They'll not have time to rest, so they feel tired and exhausted and their study will be effected in the negative way.

2. No extra benefits. Part-time employees usually do not receive the benefits like health insurance, sick leave, holiday pay, etc. If one falls ill and takes leave then he won't get paid for that.

3. No job security. There is less job security for part-timers. In bad times, usually company laid them off before the full-timers.

4. Health. As students'll have a busy schedule and have less time for themselves, it'll affect their health too.

5. Distraction from the study. Sometimes, part-time students get good earning and that can distract them from the study. The more money they have the more they think about it.

Taking on a part-time job while obtaining a degree is hard work, but the benefits are typically greater than the amount of a paycheck.

### Conclusions

The experience offers many educational opportunities as students can undertake project and assignment work to enhance their understanding of the university while working part-time. It also enables them to increase their learning about the world of work, gain useful insights into employers' requirements and to develop their personal and social skills. By operating a business, young people learn responsibility, the importance of quality workmanship, a variety of sales and interpersonal skills and the value of careful record keeping. Many of them get their first taste of the excitement of operating a business.

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