

## “NEEDS HELP” SAMPLE

Sam Martinez  
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**Objective:** My goal is to find a job that will allow me to mix my loves of sports and writing, either at a newspaper or a magazine.

**Education:** Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY  
I will earn my undergraduate degree in May 2026.

Relevant coursework includes: Introduction to Magazine, News Writing, News Reporting, Introduction to Graphic Arts, Critical Writing, Magazine Editing and Writing.

Port Washington High School, Port Washington, NY  
I graduated with honors in June 2022.

**Employment:** Waiter, Applebee’s Restaurant 2019  
-I took orders and cleared tables. I helped ensure a pleasant dining experience for guests.

Syracuse University Library  
-Work part-time at the front desk. I help check out borrowed materials.

Intern, Lacrosse Weekly  
-Here, I assisted the editorial staff. I also contributed ideas for stories and shadowed reporters on game days. On occasion, I fact-checked articles.

**Honors:** -Presidential Scholar -National Honor Society -Student Government Award -SU Dean’s List -SU Chancellor’s Scholarship winner -Port Washington Student of the Month Award –Key Bank High School Essay Award winner –Italian American Collegiate Legacy Award

**Activities:** -Habitat for Humanity -National Society of Collegiate Scholars -Daily Orange

## “NOW THAT’S MORE LIKE IT” SAMPLE

# Sam Martinez

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## Experience

**Editorial Intern, Lacrosse Weekly** Bethesda, MD | Remote Summer 2024  
Conducted research and attended press events for senior editors • Brainstormed and pitched story ideas in weekly meetings • Shadowed reports on game days • Collected data for reports • Fact-checked articles for accuracy ; proofed information with sources

**Sports Writer, The Daily Orange** Syracuse, NY Fall 2023-Present  
Cover women's tennis and men's hockey team Attend home and regional away games • Write two to four stories per week • Regularly interview coaches, players, and NCAA officials

**Sports Reporter, News Writing Course** Syracuse, NY Fall 2023  
Interviewed local professional and collegiate athletes and coaches • Filed one item and feature-length article per week • Conducted background research via Lexis-Nexis and the Internet

**Desk Assistant, Syracuse University Library** Syracuse, NY Fall 2024-Present  
Assist students with reference and research queries • Instructed visitors in use of database • Checked out patrons' materials and processed late fees

**Waiter, Applebee's Restaurant** Port Washington, NY Summer 2019

## Skills

- Associated Press writing style, conversational Spanish
- Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator
- Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel (certified)
- Instagram, TikTok, X

## Education

Syracuse University: S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications  
• Bachelor of Science: Magazine, News, and Digital Journalism, May 2026  
• Dean's List, Chancellor's Scholar

## Activities

- Habitat for Humanity, volunteer
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars

# Reasons Why the Second Résumé “Works”

## HEADER

- Uses modern-looking sans serif font that is different than body copy (creates more striking visual presence)
- Font is the same as what is used in writer’s cover letter.
- Runs contact information across the page, saving space
- Includes a more professional email address

## FORMAT

- Orders sections in terms of what an employer will likely be concerned with first (hands-on experience over degree, for example)
- Bolds and caps draw attention to entries, allowing even a reader who’s just scanning to get a snapshot of the individual’s qualifications
- Uses bullet points to create visual breaks and highlight each detail
- Runs bullet points across the page to save space
- Headers are consistent from entry to entry (organization/company, title, location, stint)
- Uses contrasting font to help reader navigate page

## EXPERIENCE ENTRIES

- Orders entries in terms of relevance to employer instead of chronology
- Gives details about those experiences that are most relevant to the employer; gives less detail to those experiences that might be less relevant
- Digs out experiences, such as The D.O., that are buried on version one and adds much needed detail
- Adds the most relevant course project as an “experience” entry instead of listing relevant courses taken
- Cuts the objective, which will be made obvious in the cover letter
- Cuts high school material completely (high school content in the experience section is ok as “filler” – a.k.a. until you need the space for something more current/relevant)

## EXPERIENCE DETAILS

- Uses fragments and an active voice, instead of narrative
- Qualifies and quantifies experiences explains tasks and responsibilities clearly so there is no room for interpretation
- Organizes order of details by relevance to employer
- Explains facets of experiences that are either of value to employer or that show sense of character/ethic (Applebee’s entry, for example, displays trustworthiness and leadership skills)

## EDUCATION / HONORS / SKILLS

- Lists education clearly and concisely
- Included relevant academic honors under “education” and cuts non-collegiate awards to save from having to include an “honors” section
- Adds a “skills” section to clearly outline other selling points that may be of interest/relevance to the employer’s needs
- Groups skills by skill type and uses commas to make “skim friendly”