**Skills & Qualities Employers Consider Important**

Decide it. Experience it. Live it.

**Top Six Skills/Qualities Employers Look for in New Hires:**

Based on a 5 point scale, where:
1 = not at all important, 2 = not very important; 3 = somewhat important; 4 = Very important; 5 = extremely important

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills/Qualities</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to work in a team structure</td>
<td>4.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to make decisions and solve problems</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to plan, organize and prioritize work</td>
<td>4.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization</td>
<td>4.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to obtain and process information</td>
<td>4.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to analyze quantitative data</td>
<td>4.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** *Job Outlook 2014*, National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)

**Did You Know?:**

- 74.1% of employers prefer to hire new college graduates who have gained relevant work experience
- 67.1% of employers screen job candidates on their grade point average (GPA); almost 60% use a 3.0 GPA as a cutoff.

**Source:** *Job Outlook 2014*, National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)

**Employers are seeking entry-level candidates who can:**

- Develop professional relationships
- Analyze data
- Pursue continuous learning
- Communicate persuasively
- Manage projects
- Create new knowledge
- Seek global understanding

**Source:** Garner, Phil. (2009) *Collegiate Employment Research Institute Report*