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## I Want To Become A Talent Agent?

I live in the LA/Hollywood area and im currently in 11th grade about to go into my senior year and I know for sure that I want to be a talent agent. Im willing to do anything to get there but my problem is im to anxious to get there so what can I do right now to help me have an advantage when im in college or working for an agency? and what are the best steps to take to get me an internship at an agency? Are there any colleges that have great Marketing programs? Thanks for you help.

- 7 months ago

by [Kristen](#)

Member since:

May 28, 2007

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454 (Level 2)

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Most agencies want you to have your bachelor's before you even start working in the mail room (the entry level position pretty much all agencies), so I would definitely go to a four year college, so start working on applying to colleges now. Also, start getting to know the industry. Not just actors - but writers, producers and directors. Read Variety, basically.

Major in business or communication field (some people even go the Film Studies route). I wouldn't go for a huge name school, especially if you want to have time to intern (classes at places like USC or UCLA or even Pepperdine can take a lot of time out of your day in terms of studying and homework - but if you think you can handle it, go for it). I know a lot of people who went on to work at agencies and got their undergrad from CSUN, CalState Fullerton. I've, in particular (though I didn't go there), heard good things about Fullerton's marketing program.

Get internships at entertainment studios (agencies don't really offer internships, per se) starting as early as you can. NBC Universal is great (it's where I started) but any big name studio will work. Getting an internship there means keeping your grades up and doing extracurricular - it's really competitive. Make friends/connections with the higher-ups wherever you work. In the entertainment industry, it's not what you do - it's who you know. Ask an exec for five minutes or so to chat about how they got where they are - and then get their business card so you can save them as a reference.

Senior year of college, apply to places like William Morris or CAA (or wherever you decide you want to work) - and make sure to get your references to call over when you send your resume in. There's two separate piles of applicants for these places - applicants that have connections in the industry and ones that don't. You'll have a much better shot at getting the job if so-and-so calls over from this-or-that studio, telling them to hire you.

If you get the job, you'll start in the mailroom for about 6 months (give or take a few) and then get promoted to being an assistant. Then you'll get rotated around for anywhere between 8 months to 2 years before you get placed as a lower level agent. The pay during this time sucks. Barely enough to live on. But if you really want it, it's worth it.

The good news is, agency experience looks great on your resume - so even if you decide you don't want to be an agent, it'll be ten times easier to get a job somewhere else in the industry.

It's a sucky road but for those who want to do it, it's totally worth it. Good luck!

- 7 months ago

**Source(s):**

been there done that :)

Asker's Rating:

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Asker's Comment:

Thanks its great to hear from someone that has experience in the business

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