Tufts Career Center FAQ of the Week

How many internships or jobs should I apply to?

How many internship or job applications you submit depends on a number of factors, but here are some of the important ones.

- Your available time: You've probably heard the phrase 'quality over quantity,' and it's something that applies to internship and job applications. Sure, it would be easier to create one resume and one cover letter and send the same documents to numerous employers. However, this is not a strategy that we recommend. It takes time and effort to tailor your documents to individual listings, but it's more likely to pay off in the long run.
- Availability of jobs: Given the current health crisis, some fields may be hiring more workers, others less. Research options using employer websites and talk with a career advisor about your strategies.
- Competitiveness of the internship/job pool: Similar to applying to colleges, some employers have a more competitive applicant pool because of the volume of applications they receive. If you're applying to internships or jobs that seem to be more competitive, you may want to increase the number of applications you submit.
- Your interest level: Does the internship or job description spark your interest? Are you excited about the prospect of working for the employer? You don't have to be equally excited about all positions, but make sure each meets your minimum threshold of interest -- otherwise, your time could be better spent elsewhere. If you're having trouble finding opportunities that interest you, speak to a Career Advisor and we'll help you brainstorm.

