

PUBLISHING | EDITING | AUTHORSHIP

CAREER RESOURCES

Career Community Summary

This career community focuses on the production, design, and distribution of literary and digital publications. Positions in this field value the creative exchange of ideas and information. Professionals write, edit, create content, and develop communications for a variety of platforms.

Work in this career community includes traditional book editing and publishing, magazines, e-zines, communications, self publishing, creative writing, and screenwriting. Employers include independent, regional, university, and nonprofit presses, imprint, and the audiobook industry. Roles can be as practicing writers, administrators, and those that promote writers via agents, editors, book sellers, and designers. Successful professionals must be detail-oriented, self-directed, and ambitious to function within this competitive industry and field.

Skills Needed

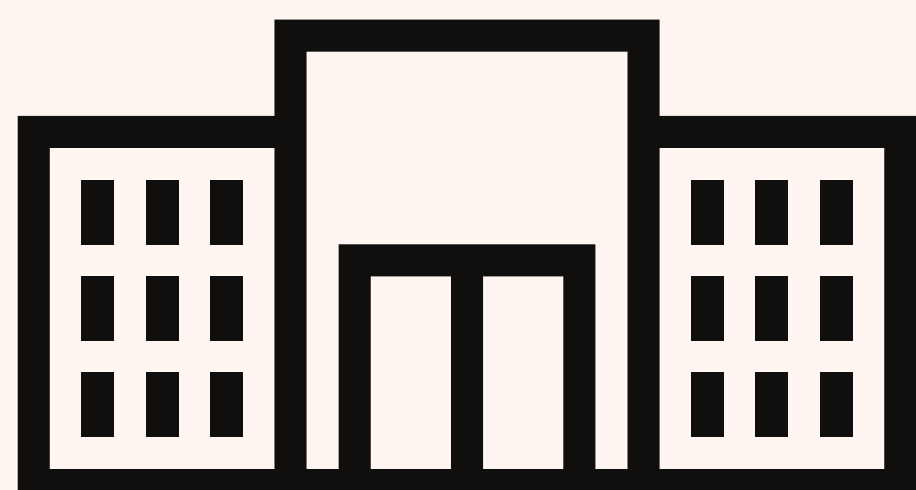
- Writing
- Editing/proofreading
- Copywriting
- Copyediting
- Social media management
- Creativity
- Strong literary voice
- Ability to accept critique
- Self direction



Sample Job Search Terms

- Copy editing
- Acquisitions editing
- Literary representation
- Communications
- Journalism
- Public relations
- Screenwriting
- Technical writing
- Book buying/selling
- Transcribing
- Grant writing/administration
- Content creation
- Literary agent
- Book production & design
- Library science
- Freelance writing & editing
- Digital archives
- Speech writing
- Social media coordinator/manager

Work Locations



- Publishing Houses
- Magazines and Publications
- Nonprofits
- For Profit Companies
- Libraries
- Higher Education
- PR & Communications Firms
- Freelance
- Booksellers

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Get Involved on Campus

- MSU Libraries
- The State News
- The Red Cedar Review
- Ing Magazine
- VIM Magazine
- The Writing Center
- Impact 89FM
- PR Student Society of America



Professional Organizations

- ACES- The Society for Editing
- American Marketing Association
- Association of American Publishers
- Association of American University Presses
- Editorial Freelancers Association
- Public Relations Society of America
- Social Media Association

Research, Info, & Job Search Sites

- Bookjobs.com
- ed2010.com
- MediaBistro.com/jobs
- Publishers Marketplace
- Publishers Weekly
- Young to Publishing Group

Tips

- This is a highly competitive field. The more experience you have and the more you are able to network, the better prepared you will be to be considered for jobs in this area.
- The Big Five publishers all have headquarters in New York City. While small presses exist elsewhere, it may be helpful to target getting experience in New York City.
- Explore summer publishing institutes.
- Write as much as you can! Start your own blog.
- Create a website for yourself and your work.
- Get a job on campus using communications or writing. Many departments hire communications assistants or interns who help write, edit, and produce print and digital materials.
- Look into opportunities with libraries at universities. Many have a digital publishing focus.