

Pros and cons of having a part-time job

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Part-time jobs have become popular amongst the country's youth to such an extent that it is now considered a norm. There is a vast range of opportunities in the form of jobs such as tutoring, working as a teacher's assistant or barista-ing at a local coffee shop. Moreover, with the increasing use of technology, many jobs can now be done from home – be it as a social media manager, content creator or graphic designer. So for those of you taking part-time jobs into consideration, here is a pros and cons list to help:

PROS

Spice up your resume: Working part-time provides you with valuable work experience even before you start your first full-time job. Not only does this look good on paper, it provides you with the opportunity to well acquaint yourself with work environments especially if you're working in a field similar to your career goal.

Makes you more disciplined: This happens as you adjust to the job demands of meeting deadlines, managing time efficiently and being more punctual. Moreover, you automatically start developing schedules to juggle your academic and work life together, further providing yourself with a routined lifestyle.

Money: There's something about that sweet feeling of earning your first salary that makes all the efforts worthwhile. It also provides you with a sense of duty as you learn to start managing your finances in the form of saving up, and allocating where to spend efficiently.

Networking: Part-time jobs help you brush up your interpersonal skills as you socialise with more people and make connections. There's also the possibility of getting a boost to start up your career, be it in the form of glowing recommendations, as a reward of all that networking.

CONS

Hampering academic life: This may happen if you have more work load than you can take – either because the job is too demanding or because you have too many courses to study for. Whatever the reason may be, if you feel like your academics are getting affected, then it's best to not get associated with it.

Dislike towards work: Working part-time may sometimes leave a negative impression of work life on you. This often results from not having enough free-time or having too much to do. As a result, it is wiser to get a job in an area you love or are relatively interested in rather than something that you are indifferent towards.

Takes up time: Even though the jobs are "part-time", it still does take up a substantial amount of your day, be it in preparing for your job the night before or the com-



mute to and from your workplace. Even if you get a job online, the time you put into working also counts as time you could otherwise spend studying or even relaxing. On the whole, working part-time is feasible if you simply manage your time efficiently and take on just the right load of work that you can handle. Moreover, if it gets

problematic, you can always take up summer jobs or do school ECA's to gain experience elsewhere.

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