

UEA Graduate Career Profile: Pricing Consultant

What did you do after leaving university?

After completing my masters I secured a role at Aviva as a Pricing Analyst which started straight after the completion of my course. I joined the company at a trainee level and after six months was promoted to Consultant level, I am still in that role.

Why did you choose your first/current graduate employer?

I applied for a role at Aviva because I liked the area, the job sounded interesting and fitted my degree well, and the pay was good!

What does your job entail?

My job varies quite a bit from day to day, as a high level summary the role involves maintaining and developing insurance pricing methods whilst focussing on Sales, Claims, and Overall Profitability. The key skills required for the role are: Collecting and Analysing large data sets, producing analysis, working with other business areas to agree aims and assumptions, presenting analysis and results to gain sign off from the exec, working as a team on large projects and managing your time effectively etc.

I like my job a lot. I work in a small team and get on well with everyone, the work is interesting and makes a big impact on the overall strategy and direction of the company, the pay is good and the role allows for flexible working hours which is good.

What opportunities for progression are there in your role?

There are many opportunities for development in my role including undertaking professional qualifications though these require meeting entry requirements. The company also provides training courses to help develop technical and personal skills required for the role.

Name: James Hutchins

Employer: Aviva

Location: Norwich

Degree: BSc Economics (2:1)
MSc Finance & Economics (Pass-69%)

Year of Graduation: 2009 (BSc), 2011 (MSc)

Employer Careers Website:

<http://graduates.aviva.co.uk/personalisation.aspx>



James' tips for gaining graduate employment

- Apply for jobs as early as possible
- Try to stand out from other applicants
- Show employers that you are keen to learn and are committed to a career with the company
- Practice numerical, and verbal reasoning tests these will be required for most graduate roles
- Make sure your CV is clear, looks professional, and has no spelling or formatting mistakes
- Prepare well for interviews
- Practice presentation and excel skills as some companies may also test you on these