

Part 1I: How to Select a Rehab Travel Company

If you have taken advantage of Part 1 of this series of articles, you've completed a thorough self-assessment, defined your goals, set some time frames, and feel great about exactly what you want from your career. Congratulations on taking that important step. You now have a sense of clarity that will make the road ahead a bit more enjoyable and productive.

Now it's time to find the small group of firms that can be your guide in achieving your dreams. In Part II, we give you the tools to make great choices, along with advice for making the most of your recruiter relationship.

As traveling and local contract rehabilitation therapists, you will not only work in various locations, but you will undoubtedly work with numerous staffing firms throughout your career. It is rare that any single firm will have everything you're looking for at every moment. Therefore, it is critical to identify what is most important to you when working with recruiters and their companies, and to make deliberate choices that are best for you.

We've taken our many years of experience working with rehab therapists like you, and have organized it into several categories of information we believe will help you in making the best choices.

What to Look For

Plenty of Jobs

First and foremost, make sure the company you're talking to has plenty of jobs in the right areas and settings. Not all companies will have exactly what you're looking for, but if they have a large number of opportunities that change frequently, they can probably find the assignment you're seeking.

Recruiters You 'Click' With

A great recruiter can make the difference between achieving your career goals and letting them slip away as distant memories. While working on contract can be one of the most fulfilling career choices, it can also be difficult. You may not be treated the same as full-time staff. You may be expected to do more, and you may be excluded from decisions.

This is where your recruiter comes in. A great recruiter can make a good assignment great, and can even help turn a boring one into something much more enjoyable for you. Great recruiters will learn about your goals, motivations, preferences and decision-making style. Ideally, your recruiter will be able to anticipate which jobs you'll be interested in before they even talk with you about them. A great recruiter will know about market conditions, hot markets, and compensation and won't hesitate to share this information.

It's also important that you enjoy your recruiter. If you don't, work with someone else, even if it's another recruiter in the same company. This person is your lifeline; you need to enjoy talking with them.

It's not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are. ~ Roy Disney

Responsive & Friendly Staff

Is your recruiter listening or selling? Are they responsive to your questions and requests? What about after hours numbers in case of emergencies? Will the recruiters and housing coordinators give you their cell numbers in case you need them on the weekend?

It's also important that you're working with a friendly staff. Call into the main number and ask for credentialing or housing. How friendly is the receptionist, benefits

