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transition to the new mindset of employees.

Christopher Hayden • Aug. 01, 2022



The Great Resignation hit employers hard in 2021, with more than 48 million people quitting their jobs. Unfortunately, this trend has abated slowly, as another 8.6 million people left their jobs in the first quarter of 2022.

Your clients need to survive The Great Resignation, and your bottom line needs them to survive, too.

If you want to help your clients survive this phase, the following guide is a good starting point and what we've successfully used for our clients.

1. Help the Business Understand Whether They're Ready

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new safesperson be the best choice for the business; how about niring:

- An in-house marketing professional?
- A warehouse worker?
- A manager?
- An IT professional?

It's your job to guide clients to hire the right fit for their business. Sit down with your client and ask questions to learn what position(s), if filled, would add the most value to the business.

Businesses often don't know when the right time is to hire someone, so they'll hire too early or too late. Using client data and financials, you can help them hire the right employee at the *right time*.

2. Define the Employee's Role

Let's pretend you have sat down with your client and agreed that they need a new salesperson. From here, you'll want to define the employee's role to ensure that they're a good fit for the business. A few things to consider are:

- What are the non-negotiable must-have skills and knowledge required for this position?
- What does the employee bring with them? Does the employee have pre-existing relationships that can help your client's business? Perhaps the person brings referrals with them.
- What background are you looking for in a salesperson?
- What level of training will the business provide?
- What hard and soft skills should the person have?

It's critically important to separate the attributes you need from this hire as

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search for better offers elsewhere. A few things to consider are:

- How will the employee be compensated? Base salary? Commission? Hourly? A mix of compensation?
- If the employee can earn commissions, how is the commission based? Will the salesperson earn money on the profits or gross sales? (I always advise clients to incentivize the results that are most critical.)
- What benefits does a person in this industry expect?
- Will you provide health insurance, life insurance, 401(k), gym benefits, tuition assistance, and so on?

Employees want to be successful, and each employee will have a different view of what success means. Someone may view success as a six-figure position. In contrast, others would be much happier with a lower salary but more vacation time, better health insurance, continuing education perks and other benefits.

If you help your client understand what top-tier talent demands in today's workforce, you'll have an easier time helping them create the right compensation package for any open role.

Once you have a compensation package that your client is happy with and you know will attract the best talent, it's time to take the next step to finding the right talent.

4. Help the Client Find the Right Talent

Finally, it's time to help your client find the right talent. Consider using multiple approaches at once for the best results. For example, you may want to use the following avenues to find talent:

- 1. Referrals from clients, vendors, existing employees, and other contacts
- 2. Social media

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Surviving The Great Resignation is possible, but your client may need a little help to transition to the new mindset of employees. The time when money was all that mattered to employees is fading away, and more employees are focusing on cultural fit, benefits, and growth with employers.

The steps above are a good starting point to guide your clients through this turbulent time in business.

Christopher Hayden, CPA, CMA, CGMA is the managing partner of Hayden Nelson & Yoder, a CPA firm based in Pennsylvania. You can learn more about him and/or the firm on their website https://hnycpas.com/.

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