Recruiters spend a large amount of time on LinkedIn searching for candidates. Connecting with them directly is one of the fastest ways to get your profile in front of them. Additionally, it also makes it very likely that you will show up in their search results when they search for candidates with your skill sets.

Though, you don't want to just wait around hoping recruiters connect with you. Instead, you want to be proactive and reach out to recruiters directly - letting them know that you're open to new opportunities or a specific role at their company.

**Finding recruiters on LinkedIn**

If you know the name of the recruiter, look them up on LinkedIn. In fact, it's not actually uncommon for job postings to mention the recruiter's name at the bottom.

If you don’t know their name, search for people at the companies you want to work for who have titles like "Recruiter," "Human Resources", "Staffing Manager," or "Sr. Staffing Specialist."

**Tips to remember when connecting with recruiters on LinkedIn**

Once you've identified who you want to contact, you should send them a LinkedIn connection request. Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

1) Avoid using the default message - "I'd like to add you to my professional network on LinkedIn"! Recruiters get a lot of requests and using the default message is a sure-fire way to get it missed.  
  
2) Say why you’re reaching out. Recruiters are busy, so get straight to the point and explain why you’re reaching out. Do you want to get on a call? Or just add them to your network so they can let you know about future opportunities?  
  
3) Personalize your connection request. If it’s a job you’re interested in applying for, mention that you’re interested in learning more about the opening. If you know someone in common, mention that person.  
  
4) Use the right tone. Don’t be overly formal. Recruiters are used to receiving messages from job seekers, but they appreciate a personal touch.

Finally, remember that your message needs to be less than 300 characters long. That's LinkedIn's hard limit for the length of your message requests. Now, let's move on to the templates you can copy-and-paste into your own connection requests.

**Sample LinkedIn message templates**

Here are exact word-for-word email samples you can start using right away. They're applicable for both email and LinkedIn messages.

# Template #1

# REACHING OUT TO RECRUITERS ON LINKEDIN [+ SAMPLE MESSAGES]

## Subject: Connection request note

Hi Letizia,  
  
I'm interested in IST [or whatever company he/she works at] and have been reading wonderful things about [their diversity initiatives / the company culture / anything that attracts you to the company]. Would love to connect and perhaps ask you a few questions about the role and recruitment process.  
Thanks!

# Template #2

# LINKEDIN MESSAGE TEMPLATE TO CONNECT WITH A POTENTIAL RECRUITER

## Subject: Connection request note

Hey Lisa! I am currently exploring new opportunities and connecting with others to build my professional network. I noticed you recruit for data analyst [or whatever role you're looking for] roles and I thought my profile might be a good fit for current or future roles. Happy to send over my resume or additional details if you'd like :) Thanks!

# Template #3

# EFFECTIVE MESSAGE TEMPLATE TO USE WHEN CONTACTING A RECRUITER

## Subject: Connection request note

Hi Isabelle,  
  
I read from your profile that you recruit for sales roles in the Bay Area. I'm currently an Account Executive at IST and wanted to connect with you in case you think my profile might be a good fit for current or future roles you seek to fill.  
  
Looking forward to connecting!

# Template #4

# BUILD A RELATIONSHIP WITH A RECRUITER OR HIRING MANAGER WITH A LINKEDIN CONNECTION REQUEST

## Subject: Connection request note

Hi Katie,  
  
We've never met, but your profile came up when I was researching marketing roles at IST. [Add a personal touch - optional; examples: I really enjoyed the post you wrote on X / I noticed you were also connected to Amy - I worked with him at Y].  
  
I've read great things about IST and I'd love to learn a bit more about roles there, and would love to connect and learn more even if you aren't recruiting right now.