

Professional.me launches UAE pilot survey with Hult International Business School

Case study will track international graduates' job-search experiences and outcomes

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- [Professional.me](#) has partnered with [Hult International Business School](#) to run a 12-week pilot examining the job-search experience of international graduate students in the UAE. The pilot will track how sponsorship requirements, employer response rates, and job-search confidence affect outcomes for early-career talent, with a summary of findings due to be published in April 2026.



Hult students attending case study introduction session

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Ryan Adams, CEO at Professional.me

The pilot involves 60 graduate student volunteers from Hult’s MiM, MBA and EMBA programmes and uses a pre-test/post-test approach to measure changes in job-search confidence, anxiety levels and application-to-interview outcomes over the 12-week period.

Baseline survey: sponsorship constraints and “no response” barrier

Ahead of the pilot, Professional.me conducted a baseline survey with participating Hult learners. The survey

indicates that 67% of participants are on student visas requiring employer sponsorship, and that not receiving responses to job applications was the top challenge cited, even among those applying to 11 to 50+ roles. This is reflective of the current industry average of only 2% of job applicants being invited to interview (according to a 2025 Career Plug analysis of over 10M job postings).

The survey also points to the emotional strain associated with the job-search process. Students reported an average confidence score of 7.2 out of 10 for securing a job within three months, while 75% reported moderate-to-high job-search anxiety.

What the pilot will test

As part of the programme, students will test Pro.me, a jobseeker companion platform developed by Professional.me. The pilot will assess whether clearer role targeting, structured matching, and tailored applications can help reduce high-volume, low-return applications and improve measurable outcomes such as employer responses and interview conversion over time.



Professional.me CEO Ryan Adams presents

“International graduates bring ambition and skills, but transitioning into a new job market can be difficult without clearer signals and expectations,” said Ryan Adams, CEO at Professional.me. “This collaboration with Hult is designed to capture that experience in a structured way and translate it into practical insights for students, universities and employers. Our goal is to contribute to stronger early-career pathways in the UAE through shared learnings,” said Megan Adams, Strategic Partnerships at Professional.me.

“This pilot with Professional.me aligns with Hult’s approach of staying agile in changing market conditions while ensuring the best possible career outcomes for our students,” said Mandeep Sahota, Head of Career Development and Employer Relations at Hult International Business School’s Dubai campus.

“With AI disrupting the recruitment market, insights from Professional.me will help students and graduates talk intelligently about the skills they bring to the highly competitive job market and help employers spot high potential talent more easily, with a more intuitive process than relying solely on the traditional format of CVs and resumes.”

A participating student added: “It’s difficult when potential employers don’t respond or provide feedback on whether you are a good fit for a role. This tool should help with that by making the process more transparent and realistic.”

Professional.me’s wider focus is on making hiring and job search more transparent by moving beyond CV-only screening and capturing skills and experience in a way employers can act on. This pilot with Hult is intended to turn recurring pain points for international graduates, including sponsorship constraints and the lack of application feedback, into measurable insights that can be shared with universities and employers once results are published in April. The

company has already raised \$4.6 million in funding, including a \$3.1 million seed round led by Raha Beach Ventures in 2025, and has been selected for the Cohort 11 of the [Mohammed Bin Rashid Innovation Fund](#)'s Innovation Accelerator Program, a Ministry of Finance initiative that provides mentorship and market access to help innovators strengthen and scale their solutions.

About Professional.me

Professional.me is an award-winning AI-powered talent intelligence platform based in Abu Dhabi, UAE, supporting companies and professionals globally. Since launching in 2024, the company has processed over 500,000 professional profiles, built a community of 250K+ LinkedIn followers, and delivers 87% reduction in screening time and \$15K savings per hire.

Backed by \$4.6M in funding led by Raha Beach Ventures, Professional.me is part of HUB71 x Techstars Cohort 17 and Mohammed Bin Rashid Innovation Fund (MBRIF) Cohort 11. Awards include recognition at AI Everything Global and Bronze at the Technology Excellence Awards (Best New AI Product 2025). Learn more at [professional.me](#) and [pro.me](#).

About Hult International Business School

Hult International Business School is a global business school recognized for its challenge-based curriculum and innovative approach to business education. At Hult, students learn by doing, think globally, and graduate ready to hit the ground running. Hult is recognized by top international accrediting bodies, including the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the Association of MBAs (AMBA), and the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS). The school and its programs have been named among the world's best by Financial Times, Fortune, Bloomberg Businessweek, CEO Magazine, The Princeton Review, and others. Hult is also included on LinkedIn's Top Global MBA Programs list, which is based on alumni career outcomes. Learn more by visiting www.hult.edu.

Megan Brittain Adams

Professional.me

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