Top candidates need to have a strong academic history and relevant work experience, but it is these transferable skills that make them ideal:

1. Ability to work in a team structure.
2. Ability to make decisions and solve problems.
3. Ability to plan, organize, and prioritize work.
4. Ability to verbally communicate with people inside and outside the organization.
5. Ability to obtain and process information.
6. Ability to analyze quantitative data.
7. Technical knowledge related to the job.
8. Proficiency with computer software programs.
9. Ability to create and/or edit written reports.
10. Ability to sell or influence others.

Source: *Job Outlook 2014*, National Association of Colleges and Employers. Transferable skills are listed in the order of their importance, as ranked by employers.