

What are Affiliate Programs?

If you have ever studied finance, you have heard the term, “The law of compounding interest”. If you have not heard of this before, it is simply a fancy way to say that you will make interest on the interest and over time it snowballs.

I suppose affiliate programs are kind of like “Interest on the interest” because not only can you make sales of your own, but over time, other people will sign up under you as an affiliate and you will begin to make money from their sales.

Ok, let me back up. What is an affiliate program?

An affiliate program is kind of like a sales position but at the same time it isn't. You aren't really selling products or services, you are merely recommending products or services. You start the ball rolling by making initial contact with a prospective customer and pass the ball to the company by sending your referrals to them to make the sale. If a sale is made, you get a commission.

Sometimes the people you refer will really like the product and want to become an affiliate, also. This puts them in your down line. Some affiliate programs have down lines of several tiers with each tier earning a certain percentage of each sale. Most commonly is the two-tier system which pays when you make the sale or when someone you recruited makes the sale.

As far as being a way to get started immediately in Internet Marketing, affiliate programs are right up there at the top of my list. All you have to do is surf the Internet until you find a product or service that you believe in, sign up for their affiliate program, and start telling others about it. You don't have to have a website to refer people to your product. There are many techniques for making referrals.

There are some people who work full-time promoting affiliate programs and there can be substantial income from such endeavors. Other people will only want to work once or twice a month. One of the greatest benefits of being an affiliate is that no one is going to tell you that you have to reach a certain quota or work a set number of hours. You work according to your schedule and needs.

You would be surprised at how many websites offer affiliate programs. Look for the affiliate link, usually at the top or the bottom of the website and click on it. They will ask for some basic information on an online registration form. You should read the rules and regulations before you sign up and once you do, you are on your way to making money on the Internet.

This article was written by Julie Anderson - homeschool mom and author of “[The Full-Year Notebook System](#)” (which, by the way, has an affiliate program ;)