

Veteran's Newsletter

January 2009

Welcome to the January edition of the Jefferson County Workforce Center's Veteran's Newsletter. If you have a subject you would like to see covered here, please email Dave Alred at dalred@jeffco.us.

Layoffs stalking weak sectors throughout 2009

By Linda Gaber

Which workers are holding the 4,000 Colorado jobs economists project will be cut statewide in 2009, pushing unemployment to a 20 year record 6.4 percent? (Darker estimates put the loss at 5,500 to 20,000 jobs.)

Be prepared, be forewarned and be quick to exit sectors tagged for job loss. The biggest cuts are anticipated in leisure and hospitality, and manufacturing (down .7 percent), retail, transportation and utilities (down 1.1 percent), banking and finance (down 1.8 percent), publishing and information firms (down 1.9 percent), and construction (down 7 percent).

Construction Topples

Through November, construction lost 6,500 employees in a year and 2,000 in the past month. In positive news, education and health services have added 9,700 employees in a year and 900 since October. The data are from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.

In 2009, health care is among the industries expecting few layoffs due to predicted job growth. Other up sectors include natural resources (up 10 percent over 2008), then education (up 2.8 percent), and government (up 1.1 percent). Professional and business services are set to grow 1 percent.

These are conclusions from Rich Wobbekind, who annually produces the state's economic forecast. He is an economist with the University of Colorado Leeds School of Business in Boulder.

Act to Save Job

Avoid or push back a layoff by:

Aligning yourself with company goals. Attend meetings and company development courses. This illustrates your willingness to be on board with the company's future plans.

Taking initiative and staying busy. Volunteer for challenging tasks and exhibit a take charge attitude. By assuming additional responsibilities, you demonstrate how you can increase value for the corporation.

Being a “change maker”. Identify problems and devise innovative solutions. Increase your recognition as a problem solver to secure your reputation as an indispensable employee.

Discovering ways to save money. Find ways to increase efficiency and performance, while decreasing costs. You will be making a significant contribution to the organization’s profitability.

Other Items of Interest:

5 Federal Careers Hiring at Record Pace

The government’s 2009 hiring needs have been reported: 193,000 mission critical jobs need to be filled over the next two years. Based on a survey of 34 federal agencies, here are the five career paths that are projected to hire at record paces in 2009.

Enforcement & Investigation - 37,515 New Hires
Medical & Public Health – 25,756 New Hires
Engineering & Sciences – 23,806 New Hires
Program Managers & Administrators – 17,373 New Hires
Accounting & Business – 12,959 New Hires

Guard Against Identity Theft

Identity thieves can steal your money and ruin your credit rating. Learn how to protect your identity and minimize the damage if you’ve been victimized. The Federal Trade Commission’s Identity Theft Site provides information to help protect you from identity theft. It includes information for military personnel and their families on how to clear their name if they are ID theft victims. For practical tips on guarding against internet fraud and protecting your personal information, visit OnGuardOnline.gov.

More Assistive Technology for Wounded

A new Department of Defense (DOD) instruction on assistive technology (AT) will increase availability and awareness of AT to wounded servicemen and women at no additional cost. This instruction enables the Computer/Electronics Accommodations Program (CAP) to work closely with military treatment facilities to coordinate AT needs assessments. This ensures that eligible wounded servicemembers can receive accommodations for their disabilities and conditions. CAP is part of TRICARE. For more information on the CAP Wounded Servicemember initiative, visit TRICARE’s CAP website.

We are here for you !

The U.S. Department of Labor and the Jefferson County Workforce Center place great emphasis on service to veterans. Especially to recently separated veterans and to those with a service connected disability or some other barrier to employment. If you feel you have a situation that is limiting your job readiness or hindering your job search or would just like some assistance with your job search, please call the Veteran Employment Representative at 303 271-4728 or email David Alred at dalred@jeffco.us. He is located at the Laramie Building, 3500 Illinois Street, Golden, Co.