AGELESS LEARNING

In the News

“After Layoff, Training from Community College Helps Launch Older Worker into a New Field,” *Detroit Free Press*, December 17, 2012

“Skydive City Manager Lands PHCC Associate’s Degree,” *Tampa Bay Times*, December 12, 2012

**New Colleges Join AACC’s Plus 50 Encore Completion Program**

Seventeen new community colleges have been chosen to join AACC’s Plus 50 Encore Completion Program, a national program designed to train 10,000 baby boomers over the next three years for new jobs in healthcare, education, and social service. The 17 newly-selected colleges are: Blue Ridge Community and Technical College (WV), Elgin Community College (IL), Guam Community College (Guam), Halifax Community College (NC), Ivy Tech Community College Northwest (IN), Lake Region State College (ND), Lenoir Community College (NC), Montgomery County Community College (PA), Northern Wyoming Community College District (WY), Norwalk Community College (CT), Salt Lake Community College (UT), Seminole State College of Florida (FL), Tallahassee Community College (FL), Tarrant County College District (TX), Tri-County Technical College (SC), Wayne County Community College District (MI), and Zane State College (OH).

**New Year’s Resolutions for Plus 50 Programs: We’ve Got Resources to Help**

If you are already thinking about ways you want to improve your college’s program serving older adults next year, we’ve got resources that can turn your 2013 resolutions into action. If you’d like to raise more money for your college’s plus 50 program, consider consulting our helpful guide to obtaining financial resources for plus 50 programs. If your college’s plus 50 program is seeking to partner more extensively with the business community, try our business outreach toolkit. If you want to educate
faculty and staff about the unique needs of the plus 50 learner, try consulting our PowerPoint presentation on understanding the particular needs of the adult learner before you go into a major meeting or training for faculty and staff.

**AACC Plus 50 Encore Completion Grant Open Jan. 2-Feb.15**
The goal of AACC’s Plus 50 Encore Completion Program is to help 10,000 students age 50 and over earn certificates or degrees in the high-demand fields of healthcare, education, and social services, enabling them to increase their employment competitiveness while improving their communities. The next round of grant applications will be accepted January 2 through February 15, 2013. You can get more information and submit your application online.

**Sharing the Stories of Plus 50 Adults Returning to Campus: AACC’s YouTube Channel**
One of the most effective ways you can market your college’s plus 50 program is through sharing the stories of participating students. The most popular video on AACC’s Plus 50 YouTube channel is the story of an older student at Cape Cod Community College who is training to become a nurse. The second most popular video is aptly titled, “Being Older Doesn’t Matter at College, Says Plus 50 Student.” See more videos and contact Mary Sue Vickers if you are interested in contributing video footage.

**Resources to Support Your Plus 50 Program**

**COMPLETION**

**Improving College Completion: Reforming Remedial Education**
This National Conference of State Legislatures brief provides an overview of remedial education at community colleges and highlights strategies states are taking to help remedial students earn a degree. Adults who have been out of school for some time and are returning to college to earn a degree or receive job training often need to take remedial courses to brush up on their math, reading, or writing skills. More than 42 million Americans ages 18 to 64 do not hold a postsecondary degree and would likely need remediation if they pursue one. Recommendations for state policy changes are suggested.

**LEARNING**

**Encore Colleges: Creating Pathways for Older Learners Seeking Encore Careers**
This webinar offers tips for community college administrators interested in offering courses for plus 50 students seeking encore careers, using lessons learned by Encore College Initiative grantees. Presented by Civic
Ventures and the American Association of Community Colleges’ Plus 50 Initiative, the webinar also addresses the workforce needs of social-purpose and public sector employers. A video and transcript are available.

**TRAINING & RE-TRAINING**

*Career Pathways and Career Counseling for the 50+ Workforce*

This [report](#) by the Council for Adult & Experiential Learning summarizes a project working with seven community colleges to address challenges facing mature workers. They worked to identify priority industries, examine the job and career opportunities in those industries, and highlight the opportunities that are most appropriate for mature workers. Employers representing each regionally prioritized industry were identified and consulted to focus the research on the realities of the local area. Group training sessions were conducted in each region to provide career advisors and workforce development professionals with region-specific information and resources for more effectively working with mature workers.

**VOLUNTEERING & SERVICE**

*The Intergenerational Community Building Resource Guide*

This [resource guide](#) describes strategies, challenges, outcomes, and lessons learned from a multi-site national initiative. The results demonstrate how intergenerational community building approaches can add value to community change efforts and promote interdependence among generations. The information is based on an evaluation conducted by the Center for Assessment and Policy Development from 2008–2012 for the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and offers insights garnered from technical assistance provided by the Intergenerational Center at Temple University.

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The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) is the primary advocacy organization for the nation’s community colleges. The association represents nearly 1,200 two-year, associate degree-granting institutions and more than 13 million students. AACC promotes community colleges through five strategic action areas: recognition and advocacy for community colleges; student access, learning, and success; community college leadership development; economic and workforce development; and global and intercultural education. Information about AACC and community colleges may be found at [www.aacc.nche.edu](http://www.aacc.nche.edu).