AGELESS LEARNING

In the News

Plus 50 In the News

- “Baby Boomers to Earn Certificates or Degrees in Healthcare, Education or Social Service Occupations,” Kingwood Online, November 13, 2014
- “Plus 50 Career Workshops Scheduled at Middlesex County College, Edison,” The Alternative Press, November 12, 2014
- “LCSS Joins Program to Train 10,000 Older Workers for New Jobs,” Your Houston News, November 10, 2014
- “CSM Welcomes ‘Coach on Call’ Eleanor Nelson,” College of Southern Maryland, November 6, 2014
- “Plus 50: It’s Now,” Patrick Henry Community College (YouTube channel), November 4, 2014

Scholarships to Watch: Upcoming Deadlines

Administered by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, the Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship provides up to $40,000 individually per year to 85 students selected annually, making it the largest private scholarship for 2-year and community college transfer students in the country. Applications are due December 2, 2014. There is no age restriction.

The American Indian Nurse Scholarship Program gives students of American Indian descent the opportunity to pursue careers in nursing. Students are expected to return to work among their people to help improve health care. Some students work on reservations, and others find employment in hospitals in areas largely populated by American Indians. The program has expanded to now include not only nursing careers, but jobs in health care and health education, as well. Deadline: December 1, 2014.
The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution offers a number of scholarships, including scholarships for students pursuing careers in nursing, health care, and education. Applications are due February 15, 2015.

The American Legion Auxiliary offers a scholarship for nontraditional students. One $2,000 scholarship is awarded annually per Auxiliary geographic division. Applicant may be pursuing training in a certified, trade, professional, or technical program, or a 2-year or 4-year degree program. Applicant must be a member of the American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion. Applications are due March 1, 2015.

Purpose Prize Accepting 2015 Nominations
Do you know an outstanding plus-60 adult with the energy and passion to solve one of the world’s toughest problems? The Purpose Prize is awarded annually to creative problem-solvers over the age of 60. Nominations are being accepted through January 15, 2015, and those nominated will have until January 30, 2015, to apply. Read about this year’s inspiring winners.

What Works in Job Training: A Synthesis of the Evidence
A new report on the U.S. Department of Labor’s website highlights practices in job training that worked effectively for adults, including:

- “A post-secondary education, particularly a degree or industry-recognized credential related to jobs in demand.”
- “Flexible and innovative training and post-secondary education approaches, such as contextual learning and bridge programs.”
- “The more closely training is related to a real job or occupation, the better the results for training participants.”
- “Employer and industry engagement strategies.”
- “Having access to accurate and up-to-date labor market data, as well as information and guidance about career and training opportunities.”
- “Lower-skilled individuals and those with multiple barriers to employment benefit from coordinated strategies across systems.”

See more information from DOL’s Workforce3One.

Nonprofits: Providing Jobs in Healthcare, Education, & Social Services
This report examines nonprofit employment from January 2000 to June 2010, with a special focus on the Great Recession. The researchers found that three service fields—health care, education, and social assistance—accounted for 84% of U.S. nonprofit jobs. In the United States, there are 11,426,870 nonprofit employees earning $532 billion in wages, representing around 10% of the total private workforce. There are 267,855 workplaces across 152,585 nonprofit organizations. Nonprofit employment grew steadily through the Great Recession, even while overall employment dropped and has still not fully recovered to pre-recession levels.
Discussing the Healthcare Workforce: Visual Tool to Help
The American Medical Association Health Workforce Mapper illustrates the distribution of physicians and non-physician clinicians by specialty, state, county, or metropolitan areas. The mapper provides a useful visual tool to demonstrate the geographic distribution of the healthcare workforce in a given state or nationally. Users can layer geographic and health policy data such as hospital locations or health professional shortage areas, population indicators, landmarks, and other topographical features. The user can also display the ratio of physician or non-physician clinician to population in any given region or nationally. The mapper can be used to distinguish possible areas of both deficiency and overlap, and to identify high-priority areas for workforce expansion.

Resources to Support Your Plus 50 Program

COMPLETION

“Assessing Affective Factors to Improve Retention and Completion”
Non-cognitive factors, such as psychosocial skills, or soft skills, are changing the conversation about key skills and behaviors in higher education. The affective domain reflects the world of feelings, values, appreciation, motivation, and attitudes, and educators have struggled to understand how this domain impacts student success. This blog post discusses key reports highlighting the role of the affective domain in higher education. The authors examine course placement, academic success, and persistence behavior, including the research into each area, relevant non-cognitive factors, and effective practices to improve each outcome.

LEARNING

“Why a Focus on Adult Women is Critical to the Higher Education System and Our Country”
This commentary by Bay Path University President Carol Leary discusses why higher education should focus its efforts on adult women and encourage them to complete degrees. One in three adult women is living in poverty or on the brink of it. Women now represent half of all U.S. workers, but hold a disproportionate 62% of minimum-wage jobs. While higher education is making strides through online education and technology, Leary notes that state and federal financial aid policies impact student success and calls on her colleagues to help ensure they reflect the realities of educating adult students.
TRAINING & RE-TRAINING

_**Labor Market Returns to Sub-Baccalaureate Credentials: How Much Does a Community College Degree or Certificate Pay?**_
This November 2014 study from the Community College Research Center provides one of the first estimates of the returns to different types of community college credentials across different fields of study. The analysis suggests that earning an associate degree leads to increases in wages in almost every field, but that the magnitude of the effect varies greatly by field. Further, the analysis reveals that returns to associate degrees are higher than the returns to long- and short-term certificates within almost every field. The impact of credential receipt on the probability of employment and on hours worked per week is at least as significant in magnitude as the impact on wages.

PLUS 50 TRENDS

_“Some Aging Baby Boomers Will Upsize, Not Downsize, Poll Finds”_
This *Washington Post* article examines the surprising results of a poll of baby boomer homeowners and their future housing plans. Most of the baby boomers surveyed plan to age in place. The majority of them have lived in their homes for at least a decade, and when they retire, they plan to stay put. When baby boomers do move, they don’t plan to move far. More than half will move within 30 miles of their current home. [Read more about the survey.](#)