Community Colleges: CCCTP Grant Solicitation Available
Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the release of the long-awaited Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) for the Community College and Career Training Program (CCCTP). The Department of Labor (DOL) will award $500 million to community colleges and other eligible entities for three-year grants ranging in size from $2.5 to $5 million for individual applications and $2.5 to $20 million for consortium applications. The deadline for grant applications is April 21, 2011. SGA is available on the [DOL website](http://www.dol.gov). This is the first of four expected annual grant rounds in the $2 billion CCCTP. SGA places a premium on grant applications that emphasize innovation and reform rather than simple capacity expansion. Funding will be awarded for programs that are suitable for TAA–certified workers in the applicant’s state but are not limited to serving these workers. SGA also emphasizes the development and use of evidence-based learning materials, including shared courses and open resources that would be available online for free. DOL posted a webinar at its [workforce3one website](http://www.workforce3one.org) offering tips to help applicants (you must be a registered workforce3one website user to access the webinar). Check the [AACC website](http://www.aacc.nche.edu) for further developments, guidance, and analysis of this vitally important funding opportunity.

Plus 50 Initiative Participates in AACC’s Workforce Development Institute
The Plus 50 Initiative was part of a presentation called “Mature Workers: Resources and Revenue” at AACC’s Workforce Development Institute last week in California. The session explored the workforce trends and barriers to employing older workers. Colleges attending the session learned how to understand older learners’ interests and needs, how to attract them to programs and services, and the business case and resources needed to equip older workers as they develop needed skills. Attendees also learned how the AARP Foundation shares a common interest with the education community in providing services to older adult workers as they remain in or reenter the workforce. Presenters included Emily Allen, director of Workforce Programs at the AARP Foundation; Judy Goggins, vice president of Civic Ventures; and Mary Sue Vickers, director of the Plus 50 Initiative at AACC.

Plus 50 Voices: National Advisory Committee on the Plus 50 Initiative
In this [YouTube video](http://www.youtube.com), members of the Plus 50 Initiative’s national advisory committee
talk about their support for community college programs serving plus 50 students. Speakers discuss why the initiative is so vitally important to community colleges and to unemployed workers.

LaunchPad Finalists Announced: Vote for Your Favorite Baby Boomer’s Idea
Five baby boomers with amazing ideas to improve their communities will get $5,000 to help fund their projects, and you get to help pick the winners! Visit the LaunchPad website, sponsored by Civic Ventures, to review the finalists, read their ideas for social change, and cast your vote for the best one. You have until February 25, 2011 to vote. An e-mail address is required to vote, and you may vote only once per day.

Resources to Support Your Plus 50 Program

LEARNING

Greening the Nation: Baby Boomers + Green Jobs = Great Fit
How Boomers Can Help the Nation Go Green, by the Council for Adult & Experiential Learning, highlights the opportunities green careers have to offer baby boomers. "Boomers interested in continuing to work…represent a potentially massive green army of workers committed to improving the environment," according to the executive summary. The researchers find a great deal of hope for boomer employment in green jobs, because green industries are rapidly expanding and many plus 50 adults want fulfilling work that helps others and society at large. This paper focuses on eight emerging career opportunities in the green economy suited for plus 50 adults: weatherization installers and crew leaders, energy auditors, solar contractors, solar installation trainers, outreach workers, and conservation and sustainability consultants and advocates. The report is based on a review of policy literature, as well as interviews with academics, experts, leaders of sustainability projects, employers in green industry sectors, baby boomer workers in green jobs, and training providers.

TRAINING & RE-TRAINING

Seven Industries to Watch in 2011
The recession may have slowed, but hiring is still slow-going. Advise your students to consider careers in these seven industries identified by CareerBuilder.com as offering the best potential for employment in 2011: sales and customer service, skilled trades, engineering, transportation, education, health care, and automotive. Recommendations are based on surveys of hiring executives and industry studies.

VOLUNTEERING & SERVICE

Citizen Involvement: Engaging Citizens to Address Citizen Concerns
Community Questions is a new publication designed to help community leaders take steps to create spaces where citizens can tackle pressing community concerns. Community Questions is designed as a workbook and is organized around a series of
questions that guide community leaders or facilitators through the planning and implementation of citizen engagement efforts. The materials were developed by Auburn University’s Economic and Community Development Institute, the Southern Growth Policies Board, and other members of the Kettering Foundation’s Citizens at Work project.

The American Association of Community Colleges is a national association representing close to 1,200 community, junior and technical colleges nationwide. Community colleges are the largest and fastest growing sector of higher education, serving close to 12 million students each year. AACC is headquartered in Washington, D.C. See www.aacc.nche.edu.

The Atlantic Philanthropies are dedicated to bringing about lasting changes in the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people. Atlantic focuses on four critical social problems: Ageing, Disadvantaged Children & Youth, Population Health, and Reconciliation & Human Rights. Programs funded by Atlantic operate in Australia, Bermuda, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United States and Viet Nam. To learn more, please visit www.atlanticphilanthropies.org.