Moving into the 21st century, tight labor markets have heightened the value of older workers. More and more, employers recognize this “new” labor pool because of the demonstrated work ethic of older adults in the workplace. In the Atlanta region, a number of programs and collaboratives support older adults seeking employment.

Senior Employment Programs

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), funded through the Older Americans’ Act, is available to eligible persons 55 years of age and older and provides work assignments in part-time positions with nonprofits and government agencies that assist the community. This is a work experience program designed to upgrade job skills through on-the-job training and eventual placement in the competitive labor force.

While participants develop job-related skills, the community directly benefits from the work they perform in both public and private nonprofit agencies. Participants earn minimum wage while engaged in part-time work experience training assignments.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) contracts with Careers@Work, a division of Jewish Family & Career Services, to administer the state-funded SCSEP positions. State and national contractors in the Atlanta region and the employers’ jobline are listed below:

AARP Foundation SCSEP
1718 Peachtree Road, NE
Ste. 991 South
Atlanta, GA 30309
404.892.4446

AARP Foundation SCSEP
2754 N. Decatur Rd. #11
Ste. 991 South
Decatur, GA 30033
404.292.1330

National Caucus & Center on Black Aged
1514 E. Cleveland Ave., Ste
80 Atlanta, GA 30344
404.762.9500

Tools for Living, JFCS
4549 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd.
Dunwoody, GA 30338-6210
770-677-9465

www.dol.state.ga.us – Georgia Department of Labor’s resources and linkages to help find employment and training information.

www.g1careernet.com – Georgia Department of Labor’s resources and linkages to help find employment and training information.

Atlanta Regional Senior Employment Collaborative

Strengthening local partnerships for mature workers

State and national SCSEP contractors in the Atlanta region formed a collaborative to build partnerships with Georgia’s Workforce Investment System. The collaborative ensures the representation of older workers on Workforce Investment Boards and in one-stop workforce centers as they develop in response to Georgia’s implementation of the Workforce Investment Act.

Atlanta Regional Commission
404.463.3222

AARP Foundation SCSEP
Atlanta, 404.892.4446
Decatur, 404.292.1330

Tools for Living, JFCS
770.677.9465

Businesses can fax job orders to the Employer Jobline 404.463.3264

Web Sites

agewiseconnection.com – Resources regarding aging programs and services currently available; a new senior employment component is under development; expected availability – 2004.

atlantaregional.com – Employment information available under Workforce Development.

www.dol.state.ga.us – Georgia Department of Labor’s resources and linkages to help find employment and training information.

www.g1careernet.com – Georgia Department of Labor’s resources and linkages to help find employment and training information.

Metro Atlanta Older Worker Network

The Metro Atlanta Older Worker Network was formed to promote the unique contributions of older workers in the workplace. Businesses and service providers build win-win partnerships to benefit both the business community and older workers.

Member benefits include

- Opportunity to network with agencies that have as their main objective assisting clients in finding employment.
- Free advertising of employer’s open positions reaching potential employees through member agencies.
- Access to information about older worker functions, job fairs and events.
- Publicity.
- Confidence that your company is contributing to the community while benefiting from access to older workers.
- Receipt of pertinent information about issues affecting the older worker and older worker organizations and associations.
- Opportunity to network with other employers that are interested in older worker issues.
- Announcements of training opportunities, including information on managing, working with and understanding older workers.
- Opportunity to participate in the annual Metro Atlanta Older Workers Awards Luncheon.

The Metro Atlanta Older Worker Network hosts an Annual Older Worker Awards Luncheon. Older workers and employers throughout the region are recognized at the luncheon where the Atlanta Older Worker of the Year and Older Worker Employer of the Year are announced. All of the older workers nominated by employers are recognized at this annual event.
Georgia’s Workforce Investment System

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) replaced the former Job Training Partnership Program (JTPA) on July 1, 2000. In the metro Atlanta area, five local workforce boards have been established to provide a variety of employment and training services for persons of all ages. These new service areas include the City of Atlanta, Cobb County, DeKalb County, Fulton County outside the City of Atlanta and the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board serving Cherokee, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties.

Individuals interested in applying for employment and training services can inquire or apply in person at the offices listed.

Services offered under WIA are provided through a system of one-stop centers. A variety of basic and advanced services are available to assist individuals seeking employment, training and education services. Some basic services that are generally available include assistance with finding a job, job matching, resume preparation and accessing the Internet. Some centers also offer workshops on how to develop interviewing skills, how to look for a job and how to use computers to prepare resumes and assist with job searches. More advanced services are available to help individuals develop career paths, assess current skills, research training and education opportunities and access financial assistance for training and education, career counseling, individualized job searches and other services to help individuals find and keep employment.

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Metro Atlanta One Stop Centers

Atlanta Regional Workforce Board (ARWB)
Includes Cherokee, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties

Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)
Training Hotline: 404.463.3327

Career Resource Center, Clayton - Clayton, Henry and Fayette SeeCounties
409 Arrowhead Blvd., Suite C-5, Jonesboro, GA 30236
770.473.2121

Career Resource Center, Douglasville - Douglas County
Call for an appointment at 770.805.2020

Career Resource Center, Gwinnett Tech - Gwinnett County
5150 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Lawrenceville, GA 30044
678.226.6660

Career Resource Center - Cherokee County
150 Lee Street, Suite A, Canton, GA 30114
770.479.7550

Career Resource Center, Norcross - Gwinnett County
1835 Shackleford Court, Suite 150, Norcross, GA 30093
770.806.2020

Career Resource Center, Rockdale - Rockdale County
350 Tall Oaks Drive, Conyers, GA 30013
770.806.2020

Cobb Works Development Center - Cobb County
463 Commerce Park, Suite 100, Marietta, GA 30060
770.528.4300

Atlanta Workforce Development Agency - City of Atlanta
818 Pollard Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404.658.9675

DeKalb Works - DeKalb County
320 Church Street, Decatur, GA 30030
404.687.3400

DeKalb Career Center - DeKalb County
404.298.3970, Ext. 32

Goodwill Industries - DeKalb County
404.373.0456

Fulton County Office of Workforce Development
Fulton County (Outside the City of Atlanta)
112 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Atlanta GA 30303
404.730.2200