

# Employment opportunities after 50

If you are 50+ years old and are seeking new employment, you may think your chances are limited.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Now, more than ever, people your age are returning to work, changing jobs and even seeking new careers successfully.

Many companies look for employees of all ages. Those most sought-after adapt to change, are knowledgeable and current about trends and changes in the marketplace and have good technology skills.

While seeking employment, one mistake to avoid is failing to modify your resumé. Your older resumé may have the traditional chronological information that includes the dates of employment, high school and college. You will want to de-emphasize these older dates as employers are mostly interested in what

you have done in the past 10 years. Therefore, use a functional resumé instead.

If your resumé lacks work history for the past 10 years, emphasize the benefits you can bring to the company. Stress your life's experiences, wisdom, stability, loyalty and strong work ethic.

Prior to an interview, it is important to do your research and be prepared. Know what the company is looking for in an employee. This enables you to focus on the skills and knowledge you have of which the employer is seeking. Also, before interviewing for a specific position, know its pay range, and, determine the least amount you are willing to accept.

Appearance is a key factor during your interview. Because career consultants suggest that you look up-to-date (do not confuse this with looking young), you will want to invest in a professional dress, suit, etc. Also, walk in with a quick, energetic step and offer a firm handshake.

One of the best ways to find good, qualified leads for employment is to network. Do this by telling everyone you know including relatives, neighbors, your organizations and friends that you are looking for new employment.

## FACTS

Many people in their 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s are still working.

Older employees can be more adaptable and dependable.

Productivity of 50+ year-old employees can actually rise due to greater accuracy.

Many older workers have better attendance records than younger workers.

General intelligence levels are similar in both older and younger employees.

More than 50 percent of worthwhile, new production is produced by employees over 40 years old.

During this time, you may want to contact the American Association of Retired Persons to see if there is a local chapter in your area. Their advice and support will be a great help. There are also many sources, including the internet and professional counselors, to assist in this exciting adventure.



*When seeking employment, use your age to its advantage.*