



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

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ARIZONA EMPLOYERS CERTIFIED AS MATURE WORKER FRIENDLY

PHOENIX – The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging and the AZ Department of Commerce are proud to announce that in 2008, 46 Arizona employers were certified as **Mature Worker Friendly Employers**. The Mature Worker Friendly Employer Certification provides special recognition to employers who commit to creating a workplace environment that values experience and skills that mature workers exhibit, and also assists employers in attracting and retaining those mature workers.

This was the first year (2008) that this special certification was available. The Mature Worker Friendly Certified employers from across the state include organizations in hospitality, city and county government, home health and medical services, corrections, senior services, education, services for individuals with disabilities, and public safety. A complete listing of the certified employers is available from the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging.

“The face of aging is changing, and we have to make sure older Arizonans have the opportunities we need to live with dignity and independence,” Joyce Finkelstein, Chair of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, said. “Part of independence is having work and volunteer opportunities outside of the home.” Finkelstein goes on to point out, “This is a great example of what strong public/private partnerships can achieve. Despite the fact that there is no state or federal appropriation for this certification, Arizona is consistently highlighted as *the* national leader when it comes to addressing the challenges of an aging workforce.”

Employers can apply for the certification at the *AZ Mature Worker Job Bank and Resource Web Site* (www.azmatureworkers.com). Developed by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, in partnership with Jobing.com, and at no expense to Arizona taxpayers, this website has been designed to provide information to both employers recruiting mature workers and mature job seekers looking for employment opportunities. Through a special arrangement with Jobing.com, employers can post jobs for up to 30 days at no cost, and people of any age are welcome to search the site for employment opportunities. Up-to-date listings of employment opportunities, resources

for mature workers and employers, community events and job fairs can be found at the Arizona Mature Worker Web Site at www.azmatureworkers.com.

Employer applications for the Arizona Mature Worker Friendly Employer Certification are accepted for approximately 6-8 weeks each year. The next open application period will be summer 2009.

Reasons why Arizona businesses have chosen to become certified as a Mature Worker Friendly Employer include: increased company visibility, FREE job postings on www.azmatureworkers.com, FREE use of the Mature Worker Friendly Certified logo on employer's materials, FREE advertising via listing on the Mature Workers Web site, recognition and FREE training at the biennial Governor's Conference on Aging, and advantage in recruiting experienced and qualified mature workers.

For more information about the Arizona Mature Worker Friendly Employer Certification, please visit the Mature Worker Website at www.azmatureworkers.com.