

Recession Resistant Careers

In a recent CNN opinion research poll of voters nationwide, the top three issues on voters' minds are the economy, the situation in Iraq, and gasoline prices. So in a failing economy with increasing energy costs and great national investment in the war, where does a job seeker look for stability?

Some industries are continually vulnerable during a recession such as retail, manufacturing, finance and technology, but some industries seem "recession-resistant," based on different trends at the time of the slowdown.

Look for the opportunities. Thirty-two percent of employers plan to add full-time, permanent employees in 2008, according to a CareerBuilder.com survey. Most employers are cautious, but expect a slower, yet steady hiring environment.

Do not make the mistake of thinking that only those with industry-specific skills will be in demand. Hospitals not only need nurses and physical therapists, they need administrators, marketers and information technology workers.

Middle and high school math and science teachers continue to be in demand. Other hard-to-fill positions in the education field include special education and English Language Learner teachers, along with administrators, school counselors, and teacher aides.

The need for national and cyber security is booming. Bank-card merchants must comply with increasing federal regulations, state privacy legislation, and industry standards. Security failures can be very painful for businesses; the theft of customers' personal data can result in lawsuits and nightmarish PR.

Renewable-energy manufacturing projects (such as solar and wind turbine) are creating new jobs. Environmental engineers are in demand because of crumbling infrastructures and climate change resulting in floods and droughts that need solutions.

Due to a fast paced American culture, eating and drinking establishments continue to grow and a high rate of turnover is a problem for restaurant owners. These jobs cannot be outsourced and serve as an opportunity for job seekers.

Many healthcare services are essential. Patient care can't be outsourced. The aging US population ensures a continued heavy demand.

So don't let a downturn in the economy mean an abysmal turn in your career search. Be smart about seeking opportunities. Start now!

Got to www.StartingOverNow.com to get the FREE Worksheet "Set SMART Five and Ten Year Goals."

Mary Lee Gannon went from being a stay-at-home mother with four children to divorce, poverty and then on to become a newspaper reporter, trade association executive director, public relations consultant, and ultimately a hospital foundation president and CEO. View Mary Lee's free career tips, worksheets and Blog on her website at www.startingovernow.com. Contact Mary Lee at info@startingovernow.com.