

## The Best Careers for 2009 and Free Tuition!

The U.S. Labor Department reported that a half million people in the U.S. lost their jobs in December of 2008 for a total loss of 2.6 million jobs for the year. That's about as many people that live in Chicago. The unemployment rate has jumped to 7.2 percent, the highest rate in 16 years. And right now 11.1 million people are unemployed.

Cities are scrambling to accommodate this sector of the population before they have to become dependent on public assistance and unemployment compensation. In Pennsylvania, Community College of Allegheny County is offering free tuition to three credit programs and two certificate programs for anyone who is a resident, has a letter from their employer stating that they have been laid-off and has applied for financial aid. Call 412-788-7351 for more information.

Credit courses will be free for the fields of information technology support, basic electronics and phlebotomy. Certificate programs are available for emergency medical technician training and nurse aid. The nurse aid certificate can be earned within 24 days. Check with your local community college for a similar program.

For those who are considering switching fields to recession proof careers, those in college pursuing their first professional career and anyone looking to re-enter the workforce, U.S. News and World Report recently recommended the 30 Best Careers for 2009.

In the next few years a shrunken Wall Street will force bankers and finance specialists to find jobs in other industries while massive green-energy efforts and the aging baby boomers demand for health care could create jobs that don't even exist. Be smart about your career pursuits. Are you making a good career choice or a job change? Know which professions are in demand. Research what the pay range is for these professions by searching the Internet and asking admissions counselors and others. Start now!

### **The 30 Best Careers for 2009**

Audiologist  
Biomedical equipment technician  
Clergy  
Curriculum/training specialist  
Engineer  
Firefighter  
Fundraiser  
Genetic counselor  
Ghostwriter  
Government manager  
Hairstylist/Cosmetologist  
Health policy specialist  
Higher education administrator

Landscape architect  
Librarian  
Locksmith/Security system technician  
Management consultant  
Mediator  
Occupational therapist  
Optometrist  
Pharmacist  
Physical therapist  
Physician assistant  
Politician/Elected official  
Registered nurse  
School psychologist  
Systems analyst  
Urban planner  
Usability/User experience specialist  
Veterinarian

For the **FREE** Worksheets: “**Recession Proof Careers**” and “**How to Make a Career Change in a Failing Economy**” go to Worksheets page on Mary Lee's web site at: <http://www.startingovernow.com/WorksheetsandArticles.html>

*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 foundation president and CEO. View Mary Lee's free career tips, worksheets and Blog on her website at [www.startingovernow.com](http://www.startingovernow.com). Contact Mary Lee at [info@startingovernow.com](mailto:info@startingovernow.com).*