

N E W S R E L E A S E

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EDD Commemorates Labor Day With Release Of Economic Briefing to Help Unemployed Californians

SACRAMENTO – The state Employment Development Department (EDD) reiterated its dedication to providing resources to get unemployed Californians back into the workforce by releasing its annual Labor Day Briefing. The report summarizes data about the current status of the state's labor force as of this Labor Day 2009. The briefing also provides helpful links and resources to immediate and short-term job opportunities, projections on growing industries and occupations, and a tool kit of resources to help unemployed workers find and train for upcoming jobs.

The report concludes that the slowing of job losses and unemployment, both nationally and in California, indicates that the worst of the recession appears to be over, and that high-paying jobs do still exist for workers with the right skills and training. The report surveyed job posting data, projected job openings, and annual earnings to identify recession-resistant occupations such as registered nurses, computer software engineers, and executive secretaries.

The report also predicts California's green economy will experience job growth. Four areas in particular are anticipated to see job growth through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: renewable energy, energy efficiency, weatherization, and smart grid transmission and research.

In addition to these growing sectors, EDD continues to hire new staff in various areas of the state, adding 1,652 staff in the first eight months of the year. The Department plans to hire at least 200 more staff in the next few months as the record demand for filing claims and processing UI benefits continues. EDD has also hired at least 244 staff to provide job search and placement assistance in local offices statewide. More hires are expected.

EDD's annual Labor Day Briefing is online at www.edd.ca.gov. Job application information also is available online or at local One-Stop Career Centers.

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