

Top Web Tools for America's Job Seekers

by Janet E. Wall

Abstract: Given that our unemployment rate continues to flirt with double digits, we all try to find ways to help our clients and customers. Over the last few years several online tools have been developed. Here is a listing of what some consider the best tools.

The US Department of Labor, as part of the "Tools for America's Job Seekers" Challenge, put forth a request to employers, businesses, agencies and workforce development professionals to nominate the best online tools and resources. The tools were organized by category and voting was opened to identify the best of the best. During a two-week period, more than 16,000 members of the public registered to vote for tools and leave comments.

The job tools postings are the culmination of an effort to offer members of the public an opportunity to weigh in on their favorite career sites and to raise awareness of new sites. Government agencies, private companies, nonprofit organizations and many other entities came together to make the project a success.

Based on voter input, the top-rated sites were identified in each of six categories: general job boards, niche job boards, career planning tools, career exploration tools, social media job search, and 'other' tools.

As a note of caution: before depending on one of these tools, evaluate it fully to be sure it is right for your students, customers, and clients. One size does not fit all and voted "most popular" does not necessarily mean it's the best tool for your clientele.

All participating tools are available at www.careeronestop.org/JobSeekerTools. Here is a list of the top rated and most recommended tools in each category:

General Job Boards

America's Virtual OneStop - (<http://www.americasvos.com/>)
CareerBuilder.com - (<http://www.careerbuilder.com>)
CareerStallion - (<http://www.careerstallion.com>)
Indeed.com - (<http://www.indeed.com>)
JobSearchUSA.org - (<http://www.jobsearchusa.org>)
LinkUp.com - (<http://www.linkup.com>)
Monster Newspaper Partnerships - (http://media.monster.com/a/i/infomons/pdf/npp_partnerlist_2009.pdf)
Monster.com - (<http://www.monster.com>)
Simplyhired.com - (<http://www.simplyhired.com/>)
USAjobs.gov - (<http://www.usajobs.com/>)

Niche Job Boards

Tools Targeting Specific Occupations

Excele - (<http://excele.monster.com/>)
HR Guru - (<http://hrguru.monster.com/>)
Inside Tech - (<http://insidetech.monster.com/>)
Media Buzz - (<http://mediabuzz.monster.com/>)
Sales HQ - (<http://saleshq.monster.com/>)

Military/State/Local Government

FireLink - (<http://firelink.monster.com/>)
Military.com - (<http://www.military.com/>)

Police Link - (<http://policelink.monster.com/>)
Transition Assistance Online - (<http://www.taonline.com>)
VetJobs - Leading military job board, sponsored by VFW - (<http://www.vetjobs.com>)

State/Local Job Tools

Employ Florida Marketplace - Florida's Online Career Resource - (<http://www.employflorida.com>)
IHaveAPlanIowa - Everyone Needs a Plan To Succeed - (<http://www.ihaveaplaniowa.gov>)
Illinois workNet - (http://www.illinoisworknet.com/vos_portal/)
WECAN- Wisconsin Education Career Access Network - (<http://services.education.wisc.edu/wecan>)
Workforce Central Florida - (<http://www.workforcecentralflorida.com/>)

40+/Older Worker/Senior

AARP Job Board - (<http://jobs.aarp.org/job.search/>)
OurExperienceCounts - (<http://www.ourexperiencecounts.com>)
Retired Brains - (<http://www.retiredbrains.com>)

Students

AfterCollege - (<http://www.aftercollege.com/>)
Monster College, a Monster Community - (<http://college.monster.com/>)
OSU-OKC Job Postings - (<http://www.collegecentral.com/osuokc>)

Diverse Populations

Diversity & Inclusion Networks - (<http://www.ihispano.com>)
MarylandDiversity.com - (<http://marylanddiversity.com/>)
TexasDiversity.com - (<http://texasdiversity.com/>)

ExOffenders

Good Will Services for Ex-Offenders - (<http://www.goodwill.org/goodwill-for-you/specialized-services/people-with-criminal-backgrounds/?gclid=cmvnl7y4j4cfw55qodntekg>)
HIRE Network - (<http://www.hirenetwork.org>)
The NextStep/WOTC Solutions - (<http://www.thenextstep99.com/>)

Career Planning Tools

50+ Career Coach - (<http://www.50pluscareercoach.com>)
Career Ready 101 - (<http://www.keytrain.com>)
CareerScribe - (<http://www.careerscribe.com>)
GadBall.com - (<http://www.gadball.com>)
Monster's Making It Count Program - (<http://www.makingitcount.com/students/start/default.asp>)
National Career Readiness Certificate - (<http://www.act.org/certificate/index.html>)
Optimal Resume - (<http://www.optimalresume.com>)
ResuWe - (<http://www.resuwe.com/>)
Susan Ireland's Resume Site - (<http://susanireland.com>)
The Riley Guide - (<http://rileyguide.com/>)

Career Exploration Tools

ASVAB Career Exploration Program - (<http://www.asvabprogram.com>)
Career Coach - (<http://www.womenemployed.org/index.php?id=38>)
CareerNoodle - (<http://www.careernoodle.com>)
CareerOneStop - (<http://www.careeronestop.org/>)
FastWeb - (<http://www.fastweb.com/>)

Great Job! - (http://www.greatjobus.com/secure/login/register_dol.aspx)
JobTitled - (<http://jobtitled.com>)
Kuder Journey - (<http://kuderjourney.com/>)
Monster Career Advice - (<http://career-advice.monster.com/>)
Monster Career Benchmarking - (<http://my.monster.com/career-assessment/dashboard.aspx>)

Social Media Job Search

Door64.com - (<http://door64.com>)
GreenJOBS.pro - (<http://greenjobs.pro>)
JibberJobber.com - (<http://www.jibberjobber.com>)
JobHunt.org Twitter - (<http://twitter.com/jobhuntorg>)
Jobs-Assistant - (<http://www.jobs-assistant.net>)
LinkedIn - (<http://www.linkedin.com/>)
LinkedIn Jobs Group - (<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1976445>)
Susan Ireland's YouTube Playlists - (http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=326ccae042d03e86)
Susan P. Joyce's LinkedIn Group - (<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1713867>)
TweetMyJOBS.com - (<http://www.tweetmyjobs.com>)

Other Tools

Alison.com - (<http://www.alison.com>)
Career Directors International - (<http://www.careerdirectors.com/>)
Department of Education- Training Grants - (<http://www.ed.gov/programs/landing.jhtml>)
Human Capital Institute - (<http://www.hci.org>)
Monster Evolutions - (<http://hiring.monster.com/hr/hr-best-practices/recruiting-hiring-advice/strategic-workforce-planning/monster-evolutions.aspx>)
Monster Real-Time Labor Intelligence - (<http://hiring.monster.com/hr/hr-best-practices/market-intelligence.aspx>)
Monster's Keep America Working Tour - (http://resources.monster.com/job-fairs/?wt.srch=1&wt.mc_n=olmsrchsk)
SkillUP - (<http://skillup.metrixlearning.com>)
Step 9: Apply for a Job Using Shortcuts - (<http://fastest-jobs-search.com/2009/10/step-9-apply-for-a-job-using-shortcuts/>)
WaggleForce - (<http://www.waggleforce.com>)

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This article originally appeared in NCDA's web magazine, *Career Convergence*, at www.ncda.org. Copyright National Career Development Association, (March, 2010). Reprinted with permission."