

101 Job Ideas for Seniors

Taking Advantage of and Selling Your Seasoned Experience and Unique Value

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The following paper provides a list of job positions where a “seasoned” job candidate would be more desirable over their younger counterparts (i.e., I’d rather consult an older, savvy sales clerk at a Men’s Clothing Store since they would more likely know about how to dress professionally), including:

- Valued Personal Experiences
- Valued Ethics, Honesty and Trustworthiness
- Valued Work Experience
- Valued Network and Connections
- Valued Character or Look
- Start Your Own Business
- Senior Organizations and Resources

Valued Personal Experiences:

How about the following list of positions related to products or services that an older consumer uses where I believe an older worker would be more valued because they could draw on their own personal experiences having used these products or services:

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| 1. Affordable Housing | 21. Marriage Counselor |
| 2. Anniversary Parties | 22. Nutritionist (especially a senior’s diet) |
| 3. Assisted Living | 23. Pawn Shop Clerk |
| 4. Award Plaques | 24. Pension Programs |
| 5. Childcare | 25. Personal Trainer |
| 6. Convention & Visitors Bureau | 26. Pharmaceutical Products |
| 7. Cruise Lines | 27. Pollster |
| 8. Disease State Management | 28. Probate and Related Legal Issues |
| 9. Divorce | 29. Psychiatrist |
| 10. Durable Medical Equipment | 30. Real Estate, Customized Homes |
| 11. Estate Planning | 31. Retirement Communities |
| 12. Family Legacy Videos | 32. Retirement Planning |
| 13. Fine Arts Dealer | 33. Seamstress |
| 14. Funeral Services | 34. Senior Services |
| 15. Furniture | 35. Social Security |
| 16. Home Healthcare | 36. Tax Preparer |
| 17. Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities | 37. Travel Agencies |
| 18. Insurance (Medicaid, Medicare, etc.) | 38. Tutor |
| 19. Language Skills, Translation Services | 39. Wine Connoisseur |
| 20. Market Research and Surveys | |

Valued Ethics, Honesty and Trustworthiness:

I would imagine that most companies would value a seasoned employee who brings a strong work ethic, honesty and trustworthiness, to handle money or other items of value:

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| 40. Bank Employee | 43. Referee |
| 41. Crosswalk Guard | 44. Security Guard |
| 42. Mystery Shopper | 45. Stock Market Broker |

Valued Work Experience:

The following are positions where a prospective employer might place greater value on an older candidate's work experience, discerning tastes, real world wisdom, wealth of knowledge, etc.:

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| 46. Accountant | 61. Judge |
| 47. Ambassador | 62. Lawyer |
| 48. Archaeologist | 63. Librarian |
| 49. Architect | 64. Management Consultant |
| 50. Archivist | 65. Meteorologist |
| 51. Auctioneer | 66. Museum Curator |
| 52. College Professor | 67. Newspaper Columnist |
| 53. Community Service | 68. Pilot |
| 54. Copywriter | 69. Police Detective |
| 55. CPA | 70. Real Estate Agent |
| 56. Doctor | 71. Research Analyst |
| 57. Editor | 72. Sales Clerk at a Bookstore |
| 58. Financial Planner | 73. Sales Clerk at a Car Dealership |
| 59. Head Chef | 74. Sales Clerk at a Men's Clothing Store |
| 60. Historian | 75. Tour Guide |

Valued Network and Connections:

Another benefit a seasoned worker can bring to the job market is their extensive lists of contacts and sales prospects. Here are some sales-related jobs that would typically find those connections of value:

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| 76. Any Multilevel Marketing program
(i.e., Amway, Mary Kay, USANA, etc.) | 83. Fund-Raising for a Nonprofit
Organization |
| 77. Association Executive Director | 84. Hair Stylist |
| 78. Automobile sales | 85. Lobbyist |
| 79. Big-Ticket Item Sales, Airplanes, etc. | 86. Photographer |
| 80. Chamber of Commerce | 87. Politician |
| 81. Dance Instructor | 88. Preacher, Rabbi, Reverend, Etc. |
| 82. Financial Planning and Insurance | 89. Real Estate Sales |

Valued Character or Look:

With age, comes character... and this one benefit of growing older could be your golden opportunity:

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| 90. Actor in a local play or musical | 94. TV or radio commercials |
| 91. Model for marketing brochures, etc. | 95. Voiceovers - requiring an older voice |
| 92. Movie Extra | 96. Mr. or Ms. Santa Claus at a local mall! |
| 93. News Anchor, Editor, etc. | |

Start Your Own Business:

And finally, when all else fails, I'd suggest "creating your own job" by starting a small business. Some likely ideas would include:

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| 97. Provide products or services related to
your hobbies or personal interests | 99. Do Ancestry Research |
| 98. Provide products or services related to
the senior market | 100. Start a Bed and Breakfast |
| | 101. Or how about a Rent-a-Grandpa or
Rent-a-Grandma Service? |

Senior Organizations and Resources:

The following organizations provide products, services and resources for the senior market and might be another source for job opening information and leads:

- AARP, www.aarp.com
- Albuquerque OASIS, www.oasisnet.org/Cities/West/AlbuquerqueNM.aspx
- City of Albuquerque – Department of Senior Affairs, www.cabq.gov/seniors
- City of Albuquerque – Senior Centers, www.cabq.gov/seniors/centers
- Life Long Learning for New Mexicans, www.lifelonglearningnm.org
- NM Association of Educational Retirees, <http://nmaer.com/>
- NM Educational Retirement Board, www.nmerb.org
- NM Retiree Health Care Authority, <https://www.nmrhca.state.nm.us/Pages/Home.aspx>
- Prime Time Magazine, www.ptpubco.com
- Public Employees Retirement Association of New Mexico, www.nmpera.org
- Retired Public Employees of New Mexico, www.rpenm.org
- UNM Osher Learning Institute, <http://ce.unm.edu/enrichment/osher/index.php>
- UNM Retiree Association, <http://retiree.unm.edu/>
- US Government Senior Citizens' Resources, www.usa.gov/Topics/Seniors.shtml