

April 2009 (Vol. 8, No. 3)

## The 2009 Workforce Recruitment Program Database is Here



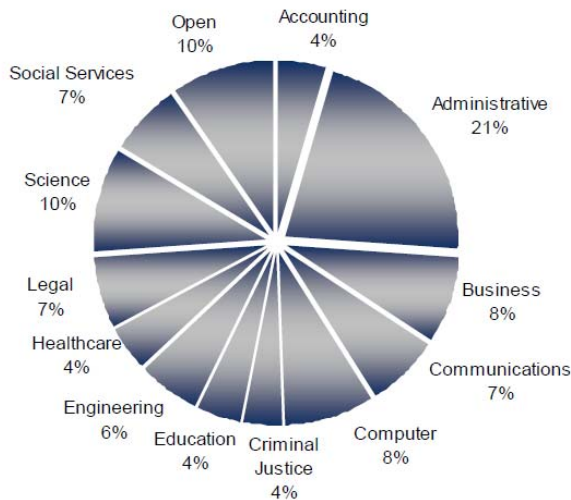
The U.S. Department of Labor released to employers nationwide a free database of more than 1,900 pre-screened college students with disabilities who are seeking summer and regular employment opportunities. Candidates in this database are pursuing degrees in fields ranging from math and business to IT and law.

“Historically, people with disabilities consistently have experienced difficulties finding employment regardless of the economic climate,” said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. “Providing an internship or first job to someone with a disability can provide a real jumpstart in launching a successful career. The Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP) offers top talent while enabling college students and recent graduates the opportunity to gain invaluable work experience.”

Read the [full release](#).

View a brief introduction to WRP in [.wmv](#) or [.mov](#) format.

Below is a breakdown of the pool of candidates by their employment areas of interest:



If you are interested in having EARN search the database on your behalf, please contact an EARN Employment Specialist today by calling 1-866-327-6669 or [request a search](#) online.

### DID YOU KNOW...?

**EARN Works for you** by connecting you to national, state and local resources that will assist you in identifying talent for your job opportunities. Although we recently announced that we are making changes to the EARN program, we will continue to provide employers with free, confidential disability employment consulting services during this transition. EARN is committed to supporting the employment community. We are your one-stop resource for employment questions about hiring and retaining individuals with disabilities in the workplace. If we cannot assist you directly, we will connect you to resources that best meet your needs.

For more information about our services contact us:

1-866-327-6669

[earn@earnworks.com](mailto:earn@earnworks.com)

### THE DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

#### March 2009

[Percentage of people with disabilities in the labor force:](#)

**22.8%**

[Unemployment rate of persons with a disability:](#)

**13.1%**

[Commonly Used Terms](#)

## Can Hiring One Employee with a Disability Make a Difference?

The following is excerpted from an article published by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) in March 2009:

When President Barack Obama mentioned the Special Olympics while describing his lack of skill at bowling during the March 19, 2009, episode of The Tonight Show, he immediately realized his gaffe and apologized. But his apology resulted in a challenge from Special Olympics: to consider hiring an athlete to work in the White House.

It is said that a workforce should reflect the society it serves," says Nadine Vogel, president of Springboard Consulting and parent of two special-needs children. "That should include people with disabilities."

"The White House should be placing qualified people in the government to do the job that needs to be done," says Tony Coelho, the former majority whip of the House of Representatives and a primary author and sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). "But having a single person at the White House is not very significant," Coelho told SHRM Online. "We in the disability community have been working since November to get the new administration to appoint people with disabilities throughout the government in all types of jobs, in different agencies of government and at different levels."

Read the [full article](#).

## Connect the Dots at the USBLN Annual Conference

The US Business Leadership Network's (USBLN®) 12th Annual Conference and National Career Fair will take place on September 15-18, 2009 at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in Washington, DC. The 2009 conference, "Connecting The Dots: Business Solutions," is the preeminent national event for business, community leaders and BLN affiliates that have an interest in hiring, retaining and marketing to people with disabilities. This year's event promises to provide informational and educational opportunities of the highest quality.

Visit the [USBLN's Web site](#) for more information or to register.

## Announcing the 2009 National ADA Symposium

The 2009 National ADA Symposium, "Revitalizing the ADA" (Americans with Disabilities Act), will take place on June 8-10 at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City, MO. This year's conference will feature an employment track that will be specifically designed for human resource professionals and employers. Representatives from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) will provide insight into current EEOC interpretations and future activities. EEOC's guidance on the ADA Amendments Act definition of the person with a disability and its impact on employment will be of key interest to employers.

Visit the [ADA Symposium Web site](#) for more information or to register.

### GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK

If you have an EARN success story, tell us about it. We would like to feature your story in this newsletter and on our Web site.

E-MAIL YOUR STORY TO:

[EARN@EARNWORKS.COM](mailto:EARN@EARNWORKS.COM)

### EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

- [DisabilityInfo.gov](#)
- [Office of Disability Employment Policy](#)
- [Job Accommodation Network](#)
- [Ticket to Work](#)
- [National Organization on Disability](#)

### INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Home page provides a video that identifies common mistakes that small businesses make when trying to comply with the ADA.

View the [video](#).

### EARN SUPPORT

EARN is funded by the [U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy](#).



**ODEP**

Office of Disability  
Employment Policy

EARN offers employers free consultation for successful workplace integration of people with disabilities. To sign up with EARN and to learn more about EARN services, go to [www.earnworks.com](http://www.earnworks.com) or call us toll-free at:

1-866-EARN-NOW (1-866-327-6669, V/TTY)