**101 Job Ideas for Seniors**

*Selling Your Experiences 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, savvier sales clerk at a Men’s Clothing Store since they would more likely know about how to dress professionally), including:

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

**Personal Experiences:**

Given your many years of life’s experiences, I would suggest the following list of positions for your consideration. I believe an older worker would be more valued because they could draw on their own personal experiences having used these products or services:

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

**Ethics, Honesty and Trustworthiness:**

Older workers typically bring a strong work ethic, honesty and trustworthiness; that would be of value in positions where you need to handle money or other items of value:

1. Bank Employee
2. Crosswalk Guard
3. Mystery Shopper
4. Referee
5. Security Guard
6. Stock Market Broker

**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.:

1. Accountant
2. Ambassador
3. Archaeologist
4. Architect
5. Archivist
6. Auctioneer
7. College Professor
8. Community Service
9. Copywriter
10. CPA
11. Doctor
12. Editor
13. Financial Planner
14. Head Chef
15. Historian
16. Judge
17. Lawyer
18. Librarian
19. Management Consultant
20. Meteorologist
21. Museum Curator
22. Newspaper Columnist
23. Pilot
24. Police Detective
25. Real Estate Agent
26. Research Analyst
27. Sales Clerk at a Bookstore
28. Sales Clerk at a Car Dealership
29. Sales Clerk at a Men’s Clothing Store
30. Tour Guide

**Extensive 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 your connections of value:

1. Any Multilevel Marketing program

(i.e., Amway, Mary Kay, USANA, etc.)

1. Association Executive Director
2. Automobile sales
3. Big-Ticket Item Sales, Airplanes, etc.
4. Chamber of Commerce
5. Dance Instructor
6. Financial Planning and Insurance
7. Fund-Raising for a Nonprofit Organization
8. Hair Stylist
9. Lobbyist
10. Photographer
11. Politician
12. Preacher, Rabbi, Reverend, Etc.
13. Real Estate Sales

**Character or Look:**

With age, comes character… and this could be your golden opportunity in the following positions:

1. Actor in a local play or musical
2. Model for marketing brochures, etc.
3. Movie Extra
4. News Anchor, Editor, etc.
5. TV or radio commercials
6. Voiceovers - requiring an older voice
7. Mr. or Ms. Santa Claus at a local mall!

**Start Your Own Business:**

And finally, when all else fails, you may want to consider “creating your own job” by starting a small business. Some likely ideas would include:

1. Provide products or services related to your hobbies or personal interests, or a challenge you have overcome, and could do so for others.
2. Provide products or services related to the senior market
3. Conduct Ancestry Research

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](http://www.aarp.com)
* Albuquerque OASIS, [www.oasisnet.org/Cities/West/AlbuquerqueNM.aspx](http://www.oasisnet.org/Cities/West/AlbuquerqueNM.aspx)
* City of Albuquerque – Department of Senior Affairs, [www.cabq.gov/seniors](http://www.cabq.gov/seniors)
* City of Albuquerque – Senior Centers, [www.cabq.gov/seniors/centers](http://www.cabq.gov/seniors/centers)
* Life Long Learning for New Mexicans, [www.lifelonglearningnm.org](http://www.lifelonglearningnm.org)
* NM Association of Educational Retirees, <http://nmaer.com/>
* NM Educational Retirement Board, [www.nmerb.org](http://www.nmerb.org)
* NM Retiree Health Care Authority, <https://www.nmrhca.state.nm.us/Pages/Home.aspx>
* Prime Time Magazine, [www.ptpubco.com](http://www.ptpubco.com)
* Public Employees Retirement Association of New Mexico, [www.nmpera.org](http://www.nmpera.org)
* Retired Public Employees of New Mexico, [www.rpenm.org](http://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](http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Seniors.shtml)