



Hiring? Perfect season to spring into action

By Laura Byrnes



We often point out that CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion's services are offered to both employers and career seekers at no charge.

I'm sure you wonder just what those services might add up to. Regardless of the "bottom line," you'll likely agree that whether you save \$500, \$5,000 or \$50,000, if the end result is a topnotch employee, those fee-free services are, as they say, priceless.

Recruiting quality candidates to fill your open positions doesn't have to be time-consuming and expensive. Whether you have one job opening, are staffing up for a new business, or planning to expand, CareerSource CLM is your partner, helping market your jobs as well as screen and assess candidates.

Focusing only on our recruitment and candidate-screening menu of services, the total package amounts to more than \$6,000 if you were to tap into everything we offered. This doesn't include training grants and incentives that can save you thousands more, or other options such as outplacement services or labor market information.

Since this month we're holding our annual Citrus County Spring Career Fair, that seems like a great feature to highlight.

The Spring Career Fair takes place Thursday, March 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the College of Central Florida's learning and conference center at the Citrus campus in Lecanto.

If you haven't taken advantage of one of these before, the best way I can describe it is like speed dating for businesses, helping you meet a multitude of diverse career seekers at one place on one day.

Last year, nearly 400 career seekers and more than 30 employers took part in the fast, efficient and effective recruiting event. We take care of all event planning and support staffing, applicant recruitment and promotions and cover all venue fees. This type of event typically comes with a \$1,500 price tag.

So what do you have to do to take advantage of the career fair? First, you have to have open positions – because space is limited, we're looking for businesses that are actually hiring. Second, if you are not already registered with us, you'll want to do so.

Don't worry, our online job postings use the power of the new and improved Employ Florida Marketplace which helps us help you find the best talent. We encourage career seekers to learn about your requirements and even apply for your positions before they attend the event so you can both maximize your time when you meet. Typical value of this posting is \$425.

But how do you know if the candidate is as good as they are on paper? When they apply via EFM, you can choose to have resumes come to you directly or you can let our expert team qualify candidates for you through our resume and application screening services. When you do, you'll save another \$500.

Want to be double and triple sure candidates can do what they say they can? Florida Ready to Work is a work-readiness credentialing program that helps take the guesswork out of hiring. You may request we refer only certified applicants for your open positions. This program is valued at \$2,500 per credential.

Hopefully by now you've got a fairly good idea of the types of services we can provide that save you time and money and, more importantly, get you the qualified, skilled talent you need.

So this season, why not spring into action and let us help you find your next great employee – or entire staff? Learn more about how you can take advantage of the Spring Career Fair and other fee-free employer services by contacting a member of our business development team.

In Citrus County, call Frank Calascione at 352-249-3278, ext. 4206 or Jordan Steelfox at 352-249-3278, ext. 3206.

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