

## Hiring Moves up Slightly

Hiring moved up slightly in December 2012 according to a January 4, 2013 Associated Press report. Even though hiring wasn't strong, that's good news. What fields were the new jobs in?

- Manufacturing and construction accounted for the biggest portion of the jobs. (The construction increase probably came from hiring to rebuild after Superstorm Sandy on the East Coast, plus some gains in home building.)
- Professional and business services added jobs in information technology, management and architecture.
- Financial services jobs, including accounting and financial managers, increased.
- Health care created a wide variety of additional positions.



Ask yourself these questions:

- Was the December 2012 hiring in an industry that appeals to me?
- Is another field I'm interested in beginning to hire?
- In the area where I live, is this industry growing? Am I willing to move to where the jobs are?
- What training do I need to be successful in this field? Should I take more math and science courses, or perhaps more English, communication, and social sciences courses?
- What can I do to prepare for a future with limited job opportunities?

To find the answer to the last question, take these steps now:

- Go online and read everything you can find about the fields that interest you.
- Learn the names of companies in the field and read about them on their websites.
- At company websites, click on "jobs available" or a similar term for descriptions of jobs currently available. That will give you an idea of the type of training you'll need in the future.
- Take courses or additional education that prepare you for the field.
- Locate an internship, co-op or work-based learning job in the field, even if there's no pay. Employers value experience.

What other steps can you take to prepare for a well-paying, satisfying job?

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