Bringing Jobs and Talent Together

DCAS’s Office of Citywide Recruitment joined the Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities’ NYC: ATWORK team in May to host a career fair in Harlem. What made this event so exciting is that it was specifically designed to recruit people with disabilities who are eligible for the City’s 55-a program.

The 55-a program allows the City to hire qualified individuals with disabilities into competitive positions without having to take and pass a Civil Service exam. More than 100 people attended the event which was held at Harlem’s Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center.

Participating City agencies on the hunt for talent included the Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications, the Office of Emergency Management, the Mayor’s Office of Contract Services, NYC Health and Hospitals, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Education, the Buildings Department, and the Administration for Children’s Services.

Human resources staff and hiring managers from each agency were on hand to share information about their agency and to interview candidates. More than 200 positions were on offer at the event. The Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) also hosted mock interview sessions onsite to ensure candidates were fully prepared for their interviews.

Roughly 11% of all New Yorkers who are working-age adults have some form of disability, but while 4% of the general working-age population in NYC are unemployed, 78% of working-age people with disabilities are out of work, according to MOPD. The Office’s NYC: ATWORK program identifies qualified candidates with disabilities for private and public sector positions.

For more information on the City’s 55-a program, go to https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dcas/employment/55-a-program.page

For more information on MOPD NYC: ATWORK, see https://www1.nyc.gov/site/mopd/employment/nyc-at-work.page