

CAREERS

Metro Expands Boundaries and Income Requirements of FOTA Program

More residents of North, Northeast and Southeast Portland now have the first opportunity to apply for jobs at the Oregon Convention Center, Portland Expo Center and Portland's performing arts venues as a result of a community task force recommendation to broaden the boundaries and income requirements of Metro's First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) program.

The FOTA program gives lower income earning residents of a particular area of North, Northeast and Southeast Portland first opportunity, after internal hires, at jobs at these Metro venues.

The new boundary includes the following zip codes: 97024, 97030, 97203, 97211, 97212, 97213, 97216, 97217, 97218, 97220, 97227, 97230, 97233, 97236, 97266.

The annual household income limit is now set at \$47,000 for households of one or two people, and \$65,000 for households of three or more people. The original income limits were set at \$24,000 for an individual and \$40,000 for a household of four.

The FOTA Task Force recommendations were made in October 2015, formally adopted by the Metro Exposition and Recreation Commission in January 2016, and became effective Feb. 1, 2016. The Task Force recommended the changes to respond to demographic shifts and economic changes due to gentrification and displacement of the communities in the original FOTA boundary area.

The Task Force had three big concerns about its charge of advising Metro on the revision of the FOTA policy and program. First, it felt that these first opportunity jobs needed to be re-targeted to individuals and families in those City census tracts that have the highest number of minority and low-income residents today. Second, it felt that the eligible household income thresholds needed to be expanded so that Metro's higher paying job opportunities could also be available to lower-income working families, as well as families in poverty. And third, the Task Force recommended investing more resources in building strong working relationships with community organizations that service the targeted populations so its outreach is more effective.

"Metro's revised FOTA policy, as adopted, addresses all of the Task Force's critical concerns in a meaningful way, and increases the opportunity for more minority and low-income individuals to have first shot at competing for the living wage jobs that open up at Metro in the future," commented Jeana Woolley, a member of both the original FOTA Task Force, and the current FOTA Task Force.

The FOTA program was created in 1989 to provide economically disadvantaged residents within an area near the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) first opportunity to apply for employment at the OCC. Later, Metro expanded the program to include Portland Expo and Portland's venues.

Health Care Employers Host Career Fair June 29

Employers, training providers and educators from around the Portland metro area will be present at a health care and long-term care fair to help jobseekers launch a career in health care or long-term care.

Jobseekers will be able to meet individuals who are currently employed in a variety of positions within this field and hear their stories, and to network with employers who have jobs currently available in nursing, caregiving, food preparation, skilled trades, housekeeping or admin-

istration.

If you are exploring Health Care professions, are currently in Health Care seeking to change your work experience, are currently in school, or changing careers this is the event for you.

This free event takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Holiday Inn-Portland Airport, 8439 NE Columbia Blvd. To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/health-care-job-career-fair-long-term-care-registration-24243587222?aff=e-browse#tickets>.

Nine Counties Sue Oregon Over Paid SickLeave Law

ALBANY, Ore. (AP) — Nine counties are suing the state, claiming Oregon's new paid sick-leave law is an unfunded government mandate.

KEZI-TV reports that Linn County commissioners filed the suit Friday in Linn County Circuit Court. They were joined by Douglas, Jefferson, Morrow, Malheur, Polk, Sherman, Wallowa and Yamhill counties.

Since January, Oregon law requires employers with at least ten employees to provide paid sick leave. Employers must provide one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked, or 1 1/3 hours for every 40 hours worked.

The commissioners are asking the state court for its interpretation of the constitution, which states they may refuse to comply with any state law if they aren't given funding from the state.

Linn County Commissioner Roger Nyquist said the county can't afford any additional costs.

Oregon Unemployment Rate Stays at a Low 4.5 Percent

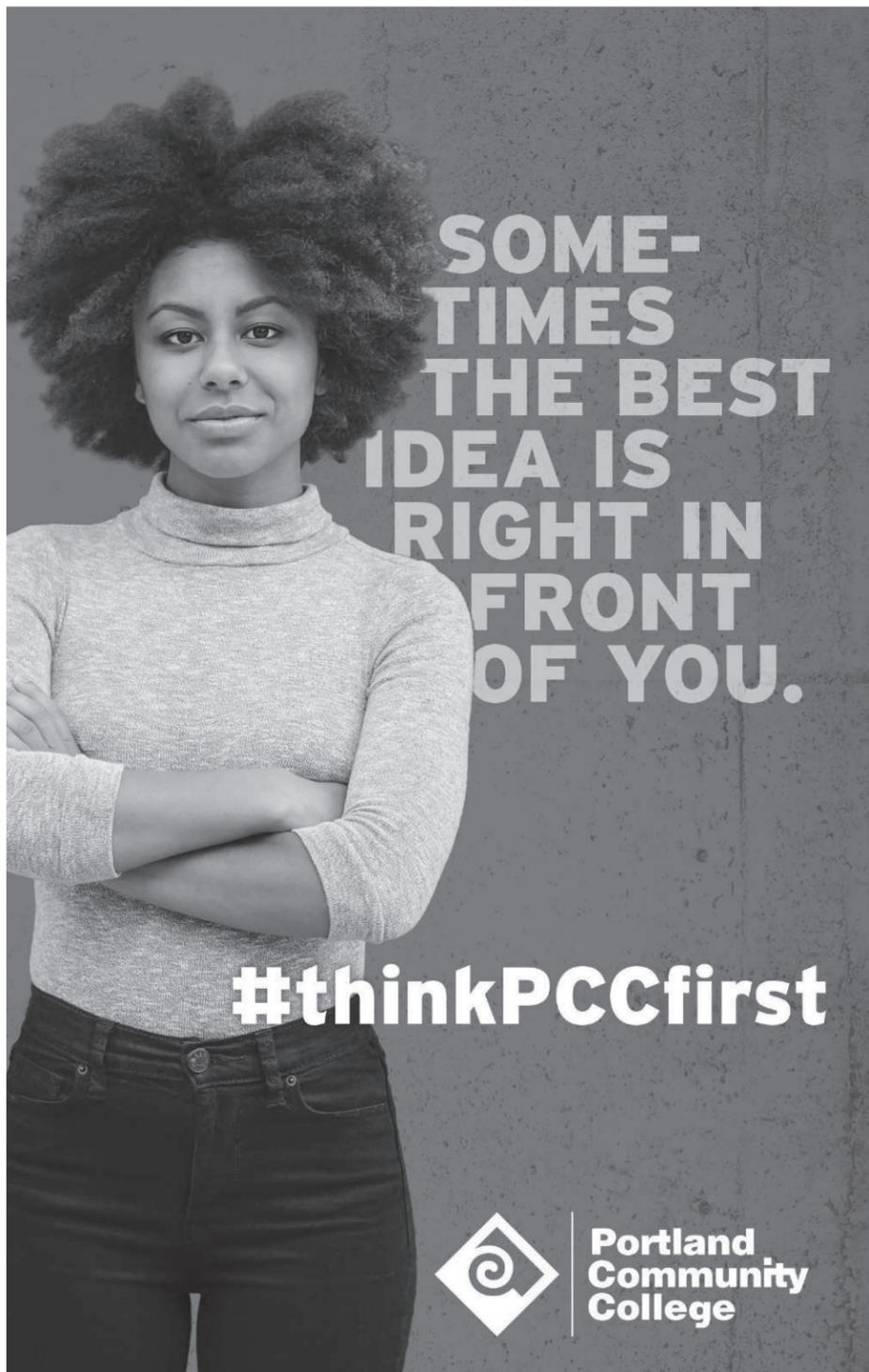
PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The state Employment Department says Oregon added more than 5,000 jobs in April, keeping its jobless rate at 4.5 percent.

The agency says Oregon has gained 64,100 nonfarm payroll jobs since last April, when the unemployment rate was 5.7 percent. That's the most jobs Oregon has ever added in a 12-month

period. The next closest was in May 1997, when the state added 61,500 jobs.

Since April 2015, job growth has been especially strong in construction, health care, and professional and business services.

Oregon's labor force participation rate rose to 62.6 percent in April, up from 60.8 percent in April 2015.



SOMETIMES THE BEST IDEA IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.

#thinkPCCfirst



Portland Community College

We honor the many accomplishments of African Americans.



It is our primary goal as a labor union to **better the lives of all people working in the building trades** through advocacy, civil demonstration, and the long-held belief that workers deserve a "family wage" - fair pay for an honest day's work.

A family wage, and the benefits that go with it, not only strengthens families, but also **allows our communities to become stronger**, more cohesive, and more responsive to their citizens' needs.

Our family wage agenda reflects our commitment to people working in the building trades, and to workers everywhere. In this small way, we are doing our part to **help people achieve the American Dream**. This dream that workers can hold dear regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, creed, or religious beliefs.

Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters

Representing more than 5,000 construction workers in Oregon State.

Do you want to know more about becoming a Union carpenter?

Go to www.NWCarpenters.org



PORTLAND OFFICE

1636 East Burnside, Portland, OR 97214
503.261.1862 | 800.974.9052

HEADQUARTERS

25120 Pacific Hwy S, Suite 200, Kent, WA 98032
253.954.8800 | 800.573.8333