How Can My Library Increase Awareness of 2020 Census Hiring?

WHY IS CENSUS HIRING IMPORTANT?

Your library can play a pivotal role in connecting community members to 2020 Census job opportunities. Every day, libraries across the country empower job seekers by providing public internet access, relevant digital training, workforce development services, specialized career resources and flexible workspaces. All of these can be leveraged to support individuals interested in 2020 Census positions. Helping the Census Bureau reach out to identify and hire qualified, culturally competent workers in every community—people who know the community’s neighborhoods and speak relevant languages—will also contribute to achieving an inclusive, accurate and complete count.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT CENSUS JOB OPPORTUNITIES?

- **Hiring in Every Community:** The Census Bureau plans to hire approximately 500,000 temporary workers across the country to help carry out the 2020 Census count, including census takers, office staff, recruiting assistants, and supervisory staff.
- **Good Pay:** These job opportunities offer excellent pay, flexible hours (for most positions), and, in many cases, paid training.
- **Timeline:** The Census Bureau is currently accepting applications for 2020 Census jobs and expects to continue hiring through early 2020.
- **Eligibility:** Candidates must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security number, and be a U.S. citizen. Interested individuals will need to complete an online application.

National Public Radio highlights Census-focused career services offered by New York Public Library:

“Marzena Ermler, the career services manager at the New York Public Library, says she has been recommending census positions as a ‘bridge job’ for some job seekers. ‘We very often see a lot of mature job seekers who are transitioning from one career to another,’ explains Ermler, who is based at the Science, Industry and Business Library in Manhattan. ‘They, for whatever reason, are laid off, other jobs are over, and they need that quick access to cash.’”

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT THE ONLINE JOB APPLICATION?

+ The Census job site at 2020census.gov/jobs provides information about job opportunities, pay rates, and the online application.
+ The website is available in English and Spanish.
+ The online application is secure and encrypted (using HTTPS).
+ Applicants with questions should call toll-free 1-855-JOB-2020.

WHAT CAN MY LIBRARY DO?

+ Publicize the library’s resources for jobseekers, including Internet access, computers, and job search services.
+ Share Census employment opportunities in your library’s newsletters, website, and social media.
  → The 2020 Census Recruitment Toolkit provides sample messages and tips.
  → The Census Bureau’s YouTube channel provides a series of videos in English and Spanish about job opportunities and how to apply.
+ Partner with the Census Bureau to host a job fair at the library.
  → To contact your nearest Census Bureau office, call toll-free: 1-855-JOB-2020—select option 3, and enter your zip code when prompted.
+ Coordinate with your local Complete Count Committee, employment services providers, and other local officials to let them know how your library can assist Census jobseekers.

The New Haven Independent reports on the New Haven (CT) Public Library’s five recent Census job fairs that have reached 160 people:

“City Librarian Martha Brogan has positioned the library system to be an epicenter for computer training, education, and employment related to counting all New Haveners in 2020.”

SOURCE: New Haven Independent (March 21, 2019)