

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS PINELLAS COUNTY OCTOBER 2014

Unemployment Rates (%) (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	OCT 14	SEP 14	OCT 13
CSPIN	5.7	5.8	6.5
FLORIDA	5.8	6.1	6.7
US TOTAL	5.5	5.7	7.0

Average Annual Wage

	2013	2012
CSPIN	\$43,496	\$43,958
FLORIDA	\$43,651	\$43,210

- The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Pinellas region (Pinellas County) was 5.7 percent in October 2014. The region's jobless rate was down 0.8 percentage point from 6.5 percent a year ago and was slightly below the state rate of 5.8 percent. Out of a labor force of 452,499, there were 25,732 unemployed residents in the region.
- Pinellas County (5.7 percent) had the lowest unemployment rate in the four-county Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater metro area in October. The jobless rates in the other counties in the metro area were 5.8 percent in Hillsborough, 6.7 percent in Pasco, and 7.7 percent in Hernando.
- Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater ranked second (behind Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA) in over-the-year job gains in professional and business services.

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Labor Market Statistics Center (November 21, 2014)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Startup Quest™ Teams Compete for Top Honors

On November 19th, eleven teams of entrepreneurs competed for top place and cash prizes as they pitched their startup ideas for commercializing a technology at the Startup Quest™ Pitch Contest.

The Pitch Contest is the conclusion to the 10-week training program designed to train aspiring entrepreneurs and job seekers on the elements of starting a business as they work in teams to commercialize technologies from NASA, USF, FSU, UCF, and UF. Each team worked with mentors as they learned about market analysis, intellectual property, financial requirements for taking a product to market, sources of funding, and more, all while developing a business plan and pitch.



Enforcer Piling Armour team won 1st place in the competition.

Business plans and pitches were judged by Steve Tingiris, founding board member of Tampa Bay WaVE and current co-chairman of TechNova; David Buckel, current partner with TechCXO; Matt Mullarkey, managing partner for Patina Solutions; Susan Kelly, EVP/Chief Marketing Officer for Apollidon Learning; Kirk Burton, founder of Innovation & Technology Solutions LLC; Nancy Bostock, former County Commissioner and CEO of Chemical Standards Laboratory Inc.; and Alfred Goldberg, founder and President of the Americas Absolute Mobile Design.

Congratulations to all the teams that participated! Below are the rankings from the event:

- 1st Place** – Enforcer Piling Armour (USF technology: Bond Enhancement for Underwater Pile Repair; Mentor: John Renslow)
- 2nd Place** – Hidden Depth Technologies (NASA technology: Radiographic Thickness Measurement Method; Mentor: Drake Carlisle)
- 3rd Place** – Viro Tech (USF technology: Protein Kinase-C as a Target for the Treatment of Respiratory Syncytial Virus; Mentor: Brian Stephens)

The 3rd round of Startup Quest™ will begin in May 2015.

You're Invited! Healthcare Effects on Businesses

Please join us for the upcoming business seminar, *Healthcare Effects on Businesses*, presented by Assistant Vice President of Aon Hewitt's Employee Benefits Consulting Group, Cam Potter. Learn new approaches that can impact your decisions across strategy, compliance, health improvement, data analytics and employee experience to achieve positive outcomes. Mr. Potter will share how employers can be innovative with healthcare for real results; including:

- Driving defined contribution through a private healthcare exchange or innovative incentive strategies
- Mitigating the cost trend in new ways across networks, providers, pharmacy and more
- Elevating health as a business imperative to manage risk and improve performance

The seminar will be held **December 16, 2014** at the **CareerSource Tampa Bay Administrative Office** (5100 W. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 300) in Tampa, from **11:30am – 1:00pm**. The cost for the seminar is \$25.00 (food and beverage included). To register for this seminar or future seminars, visit: www.careersourcepinellas.com/pages/business_seminars. For more information, please contact Marilyn Browne at (813) 397-2093 or brownem@careersourcetampabay.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

DECEMBER 3, 11:00 AM
Executive Committee
EpiCenter @ SPC

DECEMBER 16, 11:30 AM
Healthcare Effects on Businesses
Seminar
CareerSource Tampa Bay
Administrative Building, 5100 W.
Kennedy Blvd., Tampa

DECEMBER 17, 11:45 AM
Board of Directors
EpiCenter @ SPC

CHRISTMAS DAY - DEC. 25
DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS - DEC. 26
NEW YEAR'S DAY - JAN. 1
All CSPIN Locations Closed

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Helping Heroes Work Promotes Veterans Hiring Initiative

In honor of Veteran's Day, CareerSource Pinellas and CareerSource Tampa Bay partnered with Fox 13 to promote employers that are hiring veterans. On November 10, staff participated in a live Veterans job phone bank, called "Helping Heroes Work", which aired 7:00 am – 7:00pm on Fox 13. The show resulted in 721 calls that included veterans looking for employment and employers looking to hire veterans.

Tampa Bay employers that support a veterans hiring initiative within their organization were asked to participate in this honorable day; including, Bank of America, Synergy Health, GTE Financial, JP Morgan Chase, USAA, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA), Time Customer Service, Digital Hands, Florida Lift Systems, McRoberts Protective Agency, ConnectWise/LabTech, Grow Financial, Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART), Citi, Vistra Communications, and Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.



"PSTA has always had an active participation with Veteran recruitment and promotions. We were proud to be a part of this Fox program, "Helping Heroes Work", and want to thank Fox Network, CareerSource Tampa Bay, and CareerSource Pinellas for selecting us to participate and share our story. We plan to continue our efforts and look for new opportunities with Veteran programs."

Larry Longenecker, Director of Human Resources, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority

"Your team did a great job! Thank you very much for the opportunity and for including us. I look forward to working with you again soon and it is great to hear that you had such good response for job-seekers."

Maribel Ferrer, Vice President, Media & Community Engagement, JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Accepting Applications for Technology Training Program

CareerSource Tampa Bay and CareerSource Pinellas are accepting applications for the final year of the Tampa Bay Hi-Tech Training Program (HITT). The HITT program, funded with a \$3.8 million grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor, was created to provide training and industry-recognized certifications in the Information Technology and Telecommunications fields to the long-term unemployed, underemployed, or those interested in moving up the career ladder in these fields.

This is an excellent opportunity for unemployed and underemployed IT professionals to earn the necessary certifications employers require. Participants in the program can upgrade their technical skills while having their tuition, books, and industry certification exam fees covered. Applicants with some post-secondary education and/or IT experience is preferred, but not required. Training is provided by Hillsborough Community College and St. Petersburg College. Courses begin in January and will be offered throughout 2015. CareerSource Tampa Bay and CareerSource Pinellas also provide employability skills services and placement assistance to program participants.

Program eligibility requirements apply for participants. Priority of service will be giving to veterans, including recently separated veterans and eligible spouses. For more information or to apply, visit http://bit.ly/CSTB_HITT.