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Agencies: Jobs are out there

By [Griffin Rogers/A-D Reporter](#)

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Many Yuba-Sutter residents can't find jobs in the area, according to a recent Appeal-Democrat poll, but employment agencies say jobs are available to those who are willing to work.

"We have work," said Gianna Ford, recruiter for Express Employment Professionals in Yuba City.

Finding a job depends on personal motivation, Ford said. Recruiting agencies, such as Express Employment, have jobs available that many people can walk in and fill.

The problem is, not enough people want to, she said.

"It all comes down to motivation and dedication, and finding workers out there who are that way," Ford said. "It's finding people who are willing to do what it takes to make ends meet."

Recruiters help hundreds of job seekers in Yuba-Sutter find work each year. They also provide a number of helpful career tips.

For the unemployed, Ford recommends doing volunteer work until something paid comes along.

"Try to stay busy," she said. "Anything counts."

People who have been unemployed for a short time can find work through Express Employment and other recruiting agencies, such as the Yuba County One Stop or Sutter County One Stop.

Heather Murray, business services representative for Sutter County One Stop, said the organization placed more than 500 people into jobs during the 2012-13 fiscal year. Her advice for the unemployed is similar to Ford's.

"Those that have been unemployed for so long are encouraged to be doing something," she said. "Don't be stagnant."

Finding a strong support and networking system are also helpful tools to get back into the work force, Murray said.

What's out there

Truck drivers, welders, safety managers, quality control testers, health-care workers and maintenance workers are just a few examples of jobs that are wide open in Yuba-Sutter, recruiters said.

For the last several years, most jobs offered in Yuba-Sutter fell under three main sectors: Agriculture, commercial and industrial, said Heather Murray, business services representative for Sutter County One Stop.

However, Murray said, it doesn't hurt to spend some time designing an eye-catching résumé either, as some people often apply for the same job.

"Make sure your résumé is up to par," she said. "Résumés and applications are key now."

Murray also recommends having a third party review a résumé before it's submitted.

Gianna Ford, recruiter for Express Employment Professionals in Yuba City, said health-care jobs are also available regularly. Medical, nursing and dental assistants are frequently sought by employers.

Long-time unemployed still looking for breakthrough

Several Yuba-Sutter residents are unable to find work, despite recruiter's claims of jobs being available.

Johnny Howell, 39, of Yuba City has been unemployed for a year. He has tried applying for anything he can get, even turning an application to McDonald's after a career as a truck driver.

However, McDonald's turned him down, Howell said. Why? He's overqualified.

"It's miserable," he said. "What are you going to do? You're here now."

Howell said employers turn him away because they are worried he'll leave the company when something better comes along. He can't find work out of the area, either, because of a DUI he received before his unemployment.

Additionally, fierce competition makes finding work more difficult, Keith Lay said.

Lay, 26, has been unemployed for a year and a half. He looks for work through the Sutter County One Stop but said the jobs he finds fill up fast.

"If you're a day late," Lay said, "you don't get in."

Irene Hernandez, 48, also uses the One Stops, in both Yuba and Sutter counties, to find work. During the past year of unemployment, she said she's spent four days a week applying for jobs without luck.

"It's really stressful," she said.

– Griffin Rogers and Nate Chute

Select unemployment survey responses

"There seems to be jobs going elsewhere."

"For now, it remains stable, as long as the roadwork in Marysville doesn't muck up traffic."

"There's not much out there, and the pay isn't good. I work two jobs and don't make enough to cover the bills. Looking for a better, or just another, job."

"Tough job market. I ran into someone recently who got a state job, but she had to move to Susanville. Most openings in Y-S seem to be in health care or home care."

"It is all what you make it. There is work, if you are willing to look for it."

"Very few jobs paying much more than minimum wage. Losing my home as a result."

"Welfare is too easy to get, and too many people don't want to work."

"People are only hired in most places if they are from here. I moved from Oklahoma, and I feel that was a hindrance."

"There are jobs people just aren't willing to work them or look for them."

"The lack of jobs is disappointing and frustrating, especially for older workers."

"It's harder to find a job if you have been unemployed for more than a year because companies want there to be work experience in the year prior to applying."

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