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On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

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Thousands of Job Seekers Using Skill Explorer Search Tool

Over 32,000 job seekers enter site, explore opportunities

MADISON – Tens of thousands of job seekers are taking advantage of Skill Explorer, the Department of Workforce Development's (DWD) new online job search tool that helps users find employment opportunities based on shared skills that go beyond job titles.

Last fall, Governor Walker announced the free website, skillexplorer.wisconsin.gov, and in the first six months, more than 32,000 job seekers have used the site. Of the total, over 20,100 have visited the site multiple times, taking advantage of a new approach that can alert them to more employment opportunities, based on their skills. On average, regular visitors are viewing eight pages per session, indicating its value and usefulness in their job search.

"As more and more job seekers use Skill Explorer, they will see it can open the door to new careers including some they didn't previously consider but have the necessary skills," DWD Secretary Reggie Newson said. "Skill Explorer is reflective of the innovative self-service resources that we are making available to help unemployed workers and other individuals find and pursue job openings based on skills that are in demand by employers."

To help illustrate the value of Skill Explorer, DWD produced a brief video in-house featuring Appleton resident Rodger Patience's successful job search, using Skill Explorer and the assistance of Appleton Job Center staff. The [Skill Explorer video](#) includes interviews with Fox Valley Workforce Development Board leaders, who also explain the value that Skill Explorer adds for employers. The video has had over 900 views since its launch in December 2013.

For more information:

Skill Explorer website: <http://skillexplorer.wisconsin.gov>

DWD Online: www.dwd.wisconsin.gov

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