

**The Kiosk Project Goes Online:** Good News — Our state website liaison was able to secure a shorter, friendlier direct URL name for the new *Civic Engagement: Work, Serve and Learn* website.

It is [www.mass.gov/elder/civicengagement](http://www.mass.gov/elder/civicengagement). This will make it a bit easier for media outreach as well as linking consumers directly to it. Please check out this important website. Your comments are welcome.

**We are now asking you to provide an on-site link to this website  
on a public computer at your senior center.**

This site provides links and information on employment opportunities, civic engagement, lifelong learning, state and federal benefits, and available transportation. *This is a work in progress.*

**Instructions on how to create a shortcut follow.** We have also included a short survey (originally emailed by Emmett Schmarsow/EOEA) to help us help you. Please complete and return. Also please thank Mary Kay Browne, Senior Project Director at EOEA for all her hard work. Comments to [david@mcoaonline.com](mailto:david@mcoaonline.com) and [Mary.K.Browne@state.ma.us](mailto:Mary.K.Browne@state.ma.us)

## **COA Internet Kiosk – Home Page Set Up for New Web Site entitled “Civic Engagement: Work, Serve, and Learn”**

[www.mass.gov/elder/civicengagement](http://www.mass.gov/elder/civicengagement)

Civic engagement is a term that broadly encompasses work, volunteer service, participation in community events or political dialogue and lifelong learning activities.

This new *Civic Engagement: Work, Serve, and Learn* website was designed to help older adults connect more easily with the myriad websites that help people find jobs, volunteer opportunities, lifelong learning programs, ways to pay for life's necessities, and transportation providers to travel to and engage in these civic events. MCOA and member agency staff designed the site concept, with input from myriad stakeholders, and Elder Affairs staff built the content for the site.

*Note:* Your home page is the page that appears every time you open up Internet Explorer. The following instructions are for PCs which use Internet Explorer.

To select this new website as the Home Page for your COA's Internet Kiosk, do the following:

1. Go onto the Internet
2. Go to the “Civic Engagement: Work, Serve, and Learn” page with your browser.  
<http://www.mass.gov/elder/civicengagement>
3. On the “Tools” menu, click “Internet Options”.
4. Click the “General” tab.
5. Under ‘Home Page’, click “Use Current”.
6. Click “OK”

**Note:** To restore your original home page, repeat steps 1-4 above but then, at step 5, click “Use Default”, and then finish with step 6.

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## **Help Getting a Job**

Would you like to get a new full-time job? Or perhaps a part time job to supplement your retiree income? Many jobs today use only the internet to post openings. These links will show you electronic job search techniques and tools and connect you with online job databases like Job Quest. It also provides you with information about the One-Stop Career Centers (OSCCs) and Unemployment Insurance (UI).

## **Service**

Do you have the time now to give back to your community through volunteer service? Want to add your voice to the civic dialogue about the future of your town and of your state? Your talents and wisdom are needed by myriad organizations, commissions, and boards to help deliver services to others in need and to make Massachusetts a better place to live. This site will provide you with links to Connect & Serve and other volunteer matching websites, the Governor's boards and commissions application site, the Governor's Public Calendar of Events, and various service organizations.

## **Lifelong Learning**

Education need not end after high school or college, since we can learn new techniques and concepts at any age. Also, advancing along your current career path or switching between different lines of work may require additional education or training. Our Lifelong Learning page provides you with information and resources regarding a wide range of opportunities for developing your skills and knowledge base, from community colleges to GED programs to lifelong learning institutes.

## **Paying for Life's Necessities**

Our Paying for Life's Necessities provides links to sites that detail eligibility criteria for various federal, state, and local financial assistance programs. We will also direct you to search engines that specialize in finding the relevant local, state, and federal programs for your needs.

## **Transportation Planning**

Our Transportation page will show you how to best utilize low-cost, convenient public transportation so you can go where you need to go, when you need to go there. Do you drive a car to work? If not, it is vital that you have an alternative means of transportation.

## **Council on Aging**

Here you can find the phone number of your local Council on Aging, which may be able to provide you with additional assistance with all the topic areas listed above.