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**Recognizing Maine’s Senior-Friendly Businesses with the**

**SILVER COLLAR EMPLOYER AWARD**

*Is your business one of Maine’s best employers for workers over the age of 50?*

*Between 2014 and 2024, the impact of minimal population growth and an aging population on Maine’s labor force will be partially offset by an expected increase in participation across age groups, particularly among our oldest workers. By 2024, more than two-thirds of 55–64 year-olds and nearly one-quarter of those over age 65 are expected to be in the labor force.*

In recognition of the increasing role that older workers play in today’s workforce, the Maine State Workforce Board’s Older Worker Committee has designated the Silver Collar Employers Award to honor Maine employers whose policies and practices match the needs of mature employees, valuing their skills and experience, strong work ethic, flexibility, and enthusiasm. Silver Collar Award employers understand the value older workers provide to businesses.

* Recipients of the State Workforce Board’s Silver Collar Award will be recognized to future employees, public and the business community.
* Successful applicants will be showcased in press releases to local newspapers and industry journals.

**Selection process**: A panel of private sector, non-profit, and government employment experts will consider your business’s flexible work options, training and development opportunities, Compensation and Benefits, and age-neutral policies and practices. Silver Collar Award winners will be honored during **National** **Employ Older Workers Week** in September**.**

**ENTRY DEADLINE: August 17, 2018**

**For more information or to apply:**

**Web:** <http://www.maine.gov/swb/committees/older_workers>

**Email:** swb.dol@maine.gov (Please use **Silver Collar** in the subject line.)

**Mail:** State Workforce Board

 54 State House Station

 Augusta, ME 04333-0054

 Attn: Silver Collar

**Fax:** 207-287-5292

**Questions:** Email swb.dol@maine.gov or call 207-621-5091 / TTY Maine Relay 711).

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs.

Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.