

Typical courses in which older workers have participated include Licensed Vocational Nurse, Drafting, Custodian, Hospital Orderly, Stationary Engineer, and stenographic and clerical refreshers.

The MDTA program should afford more opportunities following recent changes modifying eligibility requirements and permitting referral to on-going classes. Approval of basic education courses under MDTA should benefit older workers with literacy problems.

Both MDTA and California retraining are too short to serve as a refresher in most professional occupations. Study for an advanced degree may take two or more years. Although there are scholarships available in some fields, the individual may not always be able to afford the additional expenses involved in a long period of training. Also, he may find much competition to get back in the occupation, even after he has completed academic training. There is a need for funds providing college and university training for professional individuals who lack current academic requirements for employment.

3. Area Redevelopment Act of 1961

This Act provides for establishing retraining classes in areas of substantial and persistent unemployment, if it will help workers acquire skills suited to new job opportunities being created under the Area Redevelopment Act. Up to the present time, there has been little training in California under this Act. With the inclusion of the Oakland area under this program, there will be more ARA training. These possibilities should be explored for older workers.

4. Job Corps (Economic Opportunities Act)

The possibility of employing older workers as teachers or in other capacities in connection with the youth camps established under this Act should be considered. This is an opportunity to bring together the group which needs training with the older group which has the needed experience and knowledge.

5. Vocational Education

Vocational education facilities need to be expanded and directed towards adults who lack education and skills which will help them to compete in today's labor market. The Governor, in his Economic Message for 1964, points out that although there were 23,700 apprentices in training in California, during 1964, this number should be four times as great to meet anticipated needs. In expanding apprenticeship programs, present age restrictions should be modified so that qualified older persons who need to change their vocations