#### **NASPE Communications Awards Nomination**

Submission Title: Website Enhancements to Assist Agencies and Employees

with the Affects of State Budget Reductions

Submission Category: Website

State: South Carolina
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1. Please provide a brief description of the submission.

To address the significant budget cuts this fiscal year, the Office of Human Resources (OHR) has been working with agencies on cost savings options. To provide more assistance to agencies and employees, OHR has updated its website to include a variety of tools to assist both agencies and employees in dealing with affects of the severe budget cuts. The Cost Savings Programs area includes a summary of the options available to agencies. Each program links to a page with detailed FAQs and sample documents. For example, on the OHR website there is a template for a RIF plan and sample employee letter that may be helpful in preparing a RIF plan. The OHR website also has a RIF tutorial that provides an overview of the RIF process including how to develop a RIF plan.

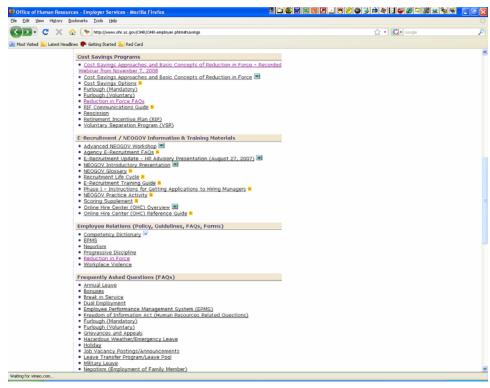
To assist employees, OHR has added an area known as "Assistance for Employees Affected by a Reduction in Force," on the left-hand side of web portal. Through this page, employees can participate in two online training modules that will assist them with résumé writing and job interview skills. They will also find a link listing available public and private sector resources offered by organizations, including legal assistance, credit counseling, food assistance, healthcare needs, retirement, and employment assistance. Under the Reduction in Force Frequently Asked Questions section, employees can access information about the rights and benefits available to them. The same link will allow them to search for any job vacancies that are available in state government. To further assist employees, the website hosts a RIF Applicant Pool database for agencies to search when filling a vacancy to give priority consideration to employees separated though a RIF. The employee information is downloaded from the HRIS into the RIF Applicant Pool on the effective date of the RIF. Following the effective date of the RIF, employees separated by a RIF can access this information at any time to update contact information and provide more details about their skills.

- 2. How long has the submission been in existence? In fall of 2008, OHR enhanced its website to incorporate a variety of tools for agencies and employees impacted by the severe budget cuts of this fiscal year.
- 3. Why was the submission created? OHR made these enhancements to address budget cuts of over 20% this fiscal year.
- 4. How does this submission support the goals and objectives of your agenda/department? Our mission is to partner with our customers to create excellence in human resources. The top priority for our customers this year is reducing personnel costs and through the website OHR has provided resources to assist agencies in their efforts.
- 5. Have you been able to measure the effectiveness of this submission? If so, how? The effectiveness of these additions to the website is being measured by the number of hits. We have also received informal feedback from both agencies and employees using the website. Listed below are statistics for the following links from July 1, 2008 through March 25, 2009:
  - 3,140 hits http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/employer/OHR-furloughmandatory-fags.phtm
  - 3,941 hits http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/employer/OHR-furlough-faqs.phtm
  - 4,170 hits http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/employer/OHR-rif-faqs2.phtm
  - 1,901 hits http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/employer/OHR-rip.phtm
  - 1,942 hits http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/employer/OHR-vsp-faqs.phtm
  - 2,697 hits http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/OHR-rif-assistance.phtm

#### COST SAVINGS PROGRAMS

http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/OHR-rif-assistance.phtm

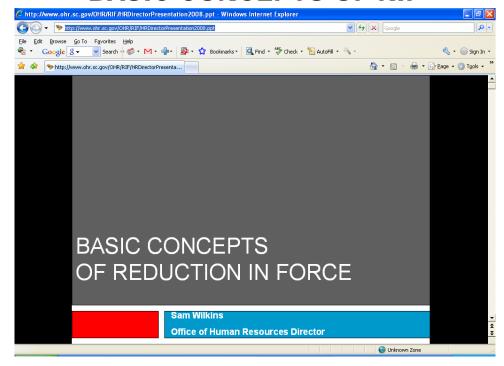
### **COST SAVINGS LISTING**



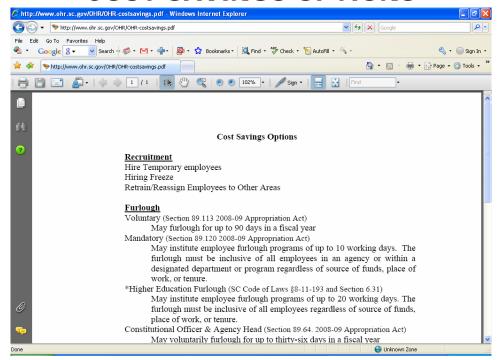
## COST SAVINGS APPROACHES AND BASIC CONCEPTS OF RIF



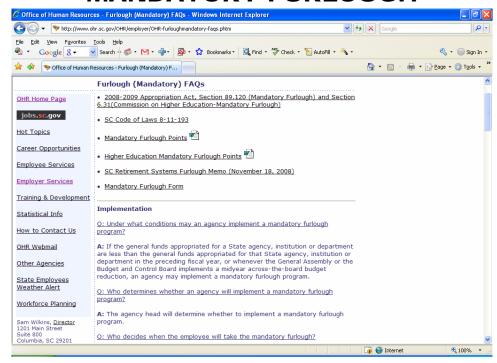
## COST SAVINGS APPROACHES AND BASIC CONCEPTS OF RIF



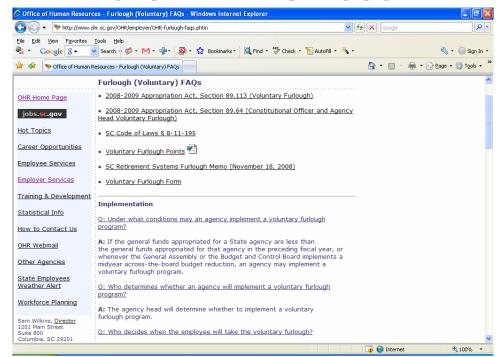
#### **COST SAVINGS OPTIONS**



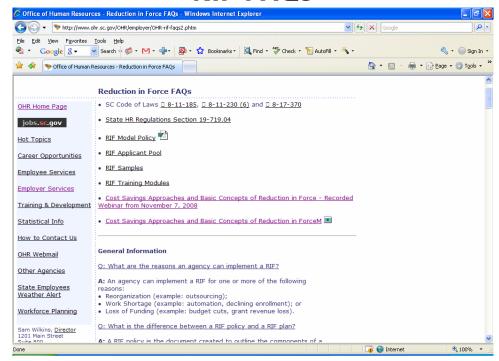
#### MANDATORY FURLOUGH



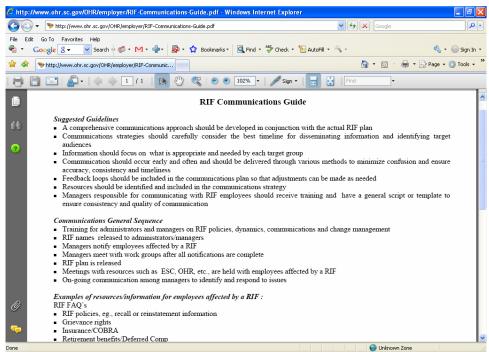
## **VOLUNTARY FURLOUGH**



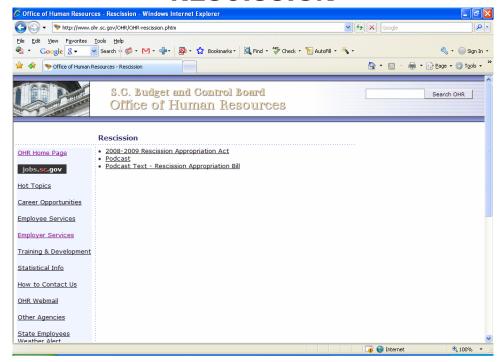
#### RIF FAQs



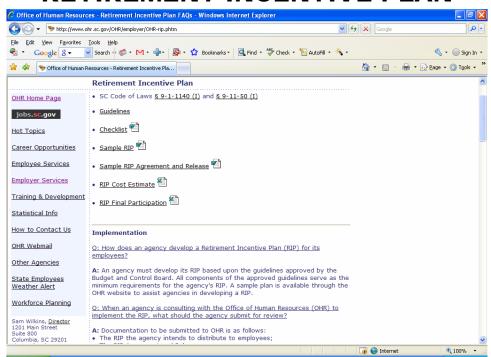
## RIF COMMUNICATION GUIDE



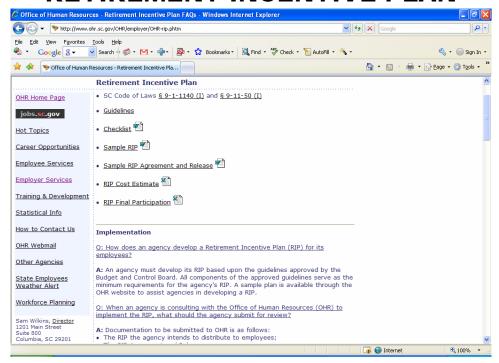
#### RESCISSION



## RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PLAN



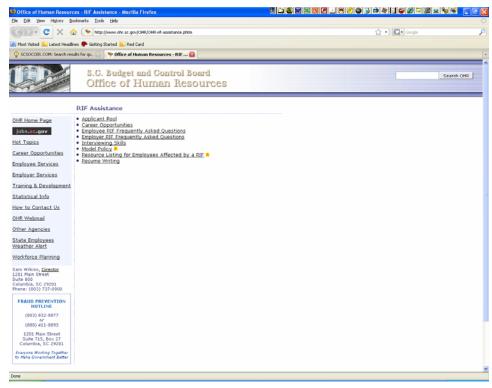
## RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PLAN



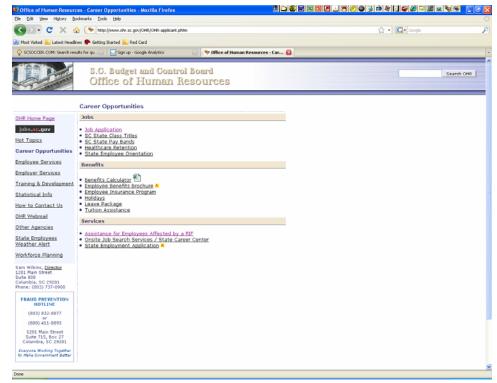
#### ASSISTANCE FOR EMPLOYEES AFFECTED BY A RIF

http://www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/OHR-rif-assistance.phtm

### **EMPLOYEE RIF PORTAL PAGE**



### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**



## **RIF EMPLOYEE FAQS**



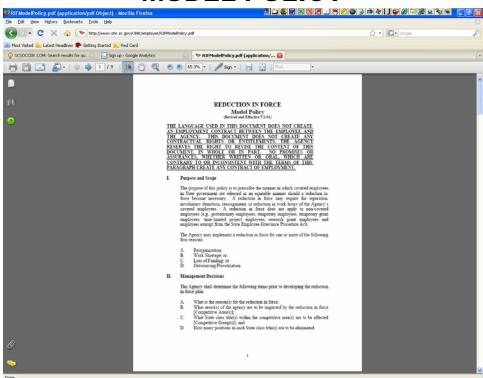
#### RIF EMPLOYER FAQS



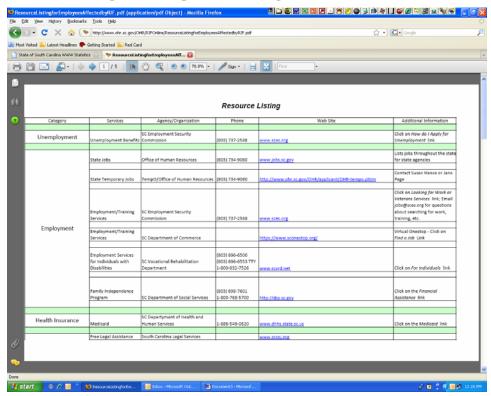
## **INTERVIEWING SKILLS**



## **MODEL POLICY**



# RESOURCE LISTING FOR EMPLOYEES AFFECTED BY A RIF



## **RESUME WRITING TIPS**

