**Call for Papers – Conference on Labor Market Activity and Older Workers**

The aging of the U.S. population is creating new challenges and opportunities in the labor market for both employers and older workers. Age-specific labor force participation rates for older workers have increased substantially in recent decades. In response, there have been many studies of how public and private programs, such as employer pensions, Social Security, Medicare, and retiree health insurance affect labor force activity. There has been less attention to how employers are modifying employment practices and compensation structure to influence the timing of retirement. With the support of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) will host a research conference on “Employer and Labor Market Responses to an Aging Workforce.” The conference will bring together researchers who offer a range of perspectives on labor market responses to an aging workforce, with particular emphasis on changes in wage structure, the redesign of benefit programs, and the modification of employment conditions. Suitable research topics include, but are not limited to, the structure of retirement incentives in defined benefit pension plans in the public and private sector, innovative strategies for funding health insurance costs for workers who are beyond the age of Medicare eligibility, and the adoption of more flexible hours by offering phased retirement programs or part-time employment.

The conference will be organized by Robert Clark (North Carolina State University and NBER) and Joseph Newhouse (Harvard University and NBER). In keeping with the constraints that apply to all NBER research, papers and presentations may not include any policy recommendations or normative statements. Papers presented at the conference will be eligible for distribution through the NBER working paper series and will be considered for publication in a special issue of an appropriate academic journal such as the *Journal of Pension Economics and Finance.* The conference will be held in Jackson, Wyoming, on August 8-10, 2019.

Researchers are invited to submit papers for potential presentation, or summaries of at least three pages describing research in progress, to the following link:

http://papers.nber.org/confsubmit/backend/cfp?id=ELMRs19

no later than Sunday, November 11, 2018. Papers from authors with and without NBER affiliations are welcome and submissions from early career scholars, and from researchers from groups that are under-represented in the economics profession are especially encouraged. Decisions about which papers will be included on the program will be announced in December, 2018.  
  
NBER will cover the hotel and economy class travel cost for up to two authors per paper and will pay a modest honorarium to the authors of each paper selected for inclusion on the program. All co-authors are welcome to attend the conference; space permitting, other participants are also welcome. Please direct questions about this project to the NBER Department ([confer@nber.org](mailto:confer@nber.org)).