



# FACTSHEET

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## VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE (VETS) PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

Prepare | Provide | Protect | Promote

Department of Labor (DOL) Veterans' Employment Training Service (VETS) is focused on four key areas:

### 1 Preparing Transitioning Service Members and Veterans for Meaningful Careers

**Transition Assistance Program (TAP):** Includes DOL's three-day employment workshop at military installations worldwide for thousands of separating service members. For veterans and military spouses who might also benefit, the full TAP curriculum is available online.

**Apprenticeships:** Registered Apprenticeships allow veterans to learn a trade through an apprenticeship, and use their GI Bill benefits to receive a tax-free monthly stipend.

### 2 Providing Employment Resources and Expertise

**American Job Centers (AJCs):** DOL sponsors nearly 2,500 AJCs nationwide. AJCs provide free training, employment services, and job search assistance to job seekers and to employers. Find your local AJC at [www.servicelocator.org](http://www.servicelocator.org).

**Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) Specialists:** Most AJCs have DVOP specialists who provide intensive services to meet the employment needs of disabled veterans and other eligible veterans with significant barriers to employment.

**Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP):** Provides employment and training services to homeless veterans so that they can be reintegrated into the labor force. The HVRP is one of the few nationwide federal programs focusing exclusively on helping homeless veterans reintegrate into the workforce.

### 3 Protecting Employment Rights

**Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA):** Protects civilian job rights and benefits for veterans and all service members to include members of the National Guard and Reserve. USERRA requires that returning service members must be promptly reemployed in the same position that they would have attained had they not been absent for military service, with the same seniority, status and pay, as well as other rights and benefits determined by seniority. Individuals who believe their employment or reemployment rights under USERRA have been violated may file a complaint with VETS online or by submitting a signed complaint form.

### 4 Promoting the Employment of Veterans and Related Training Opportunities to Employers Nationwide

**Employer outreach:** VETS' Office of Strategic Outreach (OSO) informs and coordinates action within and between the government, private sector and communities to enhance veterans' employment opportunities and leverage the national workforce system. OSO engages with federal, state, and local governments; private sector employers and trade associations, institutions of higher learning, non-profit organizations, and Veteran Service Organizations to establish and develop a network that facilitates veteran employment.

**Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVERs):** Many AJCs have LVERs who conduct local outreach to employers and engage in advocacy efforts with hiring executives to increase employment opportunities for veterans, encourage the hiring of disabled veterans, and assist veterans in gaining and retaining employment.

**Veterans Employment Center (VEC):** The federal government's single online tool connects employers with real job opportunities, and provides transitioning service members, including members of the National Guard and Reserve, veterans and their families with the tools to translate military skills into plain language and build a profile that can be shared with employers. [www.ebenefits.va.gov/jobs](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov/jobs).

**Hiring fairs:** VETS has partnered with the White Houses' Joining Forces Initiative and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Hiring our Heroes program, to provide transitioning service members, veterans, and family members with opportunities to connect to committed employers at hiring fairs on military installations worldwide and in local communities. Visit the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation at [www.uschamberfoundation.org/hiring-our-heroes](http://www.uschamberfoundation.org/hiring-our-heroes) to find upcoming fairs.

For more information, visit [dol.gov/VETS](http://dol.gov/VETS).