

U.S. Department of Labor

Veteran Employment and Training Service (VETS)

Integrated Employment Programs and Services for U.S. Veterans

“we prepare, provide and protect”



DOL & VETS: Mission and Services

Mission and Service Offerings to U.S. Veterans

DOL's Mission

To foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

VETS's Mission

Serves veterans & service members by providing resources and expertise to assist and prepare them to obtain meaningful careers, maximize their employment opportunities, and protect their employment Rights.

VETS Functions

- Employment & Civil Rights Enforcement
- Employment and Training Services
- Employment Policy Integration

“we prepare, provide and protect”

VETS Integration with Partner Agencies

- Office of Federal Contractor Compliance (OFCCP)
- Employment and Training Administration (ETA)
- Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP)
- Office of the Solicitor (SOL)

VETS services are closely integrated with other Department of Labor employment and enforcement programs in order to serve veterans with a broad array of coordinated services



DOL & VETS: Mission and Services

P3: Our Integrated Approach To Serving U.S. Veterans

► **Prepare**

Prepare our service members for transition to the civilian workplace through our employment workshop.

► ► **Provide**

Provide our veterans employment placement assistance through our network of American Job Centers and various programs targeted at assisting homeless and other disadvantaged veterans obtain meaningful employment.

► ► ► **Protect**

Protect the employment rights of those service members who responded to the call to serve and ensure preference is given to veterans with respect to Federal hiring.

In order for U.S. Veterans to find meaningful employment opportunities, we must prepare them to enter the workforce, provide them the resources to find employment and protect their rights once they find employment.



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

► *Prepare*

VETS offers diverse services to U.S. Veterans through effective collaboration with other DOL agencies and external groups to ensure proper **employment and training program** delivery.

- **TAP(DOLEW) & Intensive Services** – the Transition Assistance Program encompasses the Department of Labor’s Employment Workshop
- **National Veterans Training Institute**



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

► *Prepare*

DOLEW is a three day course within **DOD's Transition Assistance Program** for *Separating Service Members & Their Spouses*.

- Historically, the only touch point to DOL services
- Sharply focused on mechanics of getting a job
- Explore career interests and related skills
- Build a solid resume
- Practice interviewing techniques
- Learn how to close the deal – negotiating salary
- Gold Card Services

• Professional contract Instructor beginning January 2013

Fiscal Year	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013*	FY 2014*
Participants	127,053	129,612	144,242	160,000	200,819	190,576
Workshops	4,426	4,065	4,203	4,300	5,738	5,444



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

VETS' largest service, **DVOPs** and **LVERs**, are funded by the *Jobs for Veterans State Grant*. DVOPs and LVERs are integrated **within the SDDL**R, which is funded, regulated, and overseen by ETA. VETS is also fully integrated with ETA in service U.S. Veterans through:

- ▶ **Competitive Grants**
 - VWIP, HVRP, Stand Down
- ▶ **Unemployment Insurance**
- ▶ **Gold Card, My Next Move**
- ▶ **Priority of Service**
- ▶ **VRAP**
- ▶ **WOTC**

DVOP (Disabled Veteran Outreach Program) - provide intensive services

LVER (Local Veterans Employment Representative) - provide employer outreach



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

Eligible Applicants:

- ▶ **State and Local Workforce Investment Boards**
- ▶ **Public agencies**
- ▶ **Non-profit organizations**, including faith-based and community-based and neighborhood partnerships.

*Applicants must have a familiarity with the area and population to be served and the ability to administer an effective and timely program.

* Entities organized under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code are not eligible to receive funds under this announcement.



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

- ▶ ***HVRP*** - Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program
- ▶ ***STAND DOWN***
- ▶ ***HOMELESS FEMALE VETERANS & HOMELESS VETERANS WITH FAMILIES***
- ▶ ***VWIP*** - Veterans Workforce Investment Program
- ▶ ***IVTP*** - Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program

*For more information on these Competitive Grants, go to

<http://www.dol.gov/vets/grants/main.htm>



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

HVRP - Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program

- ▶ At DOL, our primary program aimed at **eliminating homelessness** among Veterans is the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP).
 - To provide services to assist in reintegrating homeless Veterans into meaningful employment within the labor force; and
 - To stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing homeless Veterans.
- ▶ HVRP is the only federally funded program that targets **employment and training for homeless Veterans**.
- ▶ In June 2012, more than \$15 million in grants were awarded. These 64 grants are aimed at providing approximately 8,600 homeless veterans nationwide with job training to **help them succeed** in civilian careers.

In June 2012, *Goodwill Industries of Sioux Falls, SD* received the first HVRP Grant awarded in South Dakota!



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

Homeless Veterans Stand Down

- ▶ ***Stand Down*** is a military term referring to a brief respite from combat
- ▶ ***Stand Down*** community events are held by local organizations that provide veterans with a wide range of social services such as **food, clothing, shelter, housing, and employment assistance**

2012 SD Homeless Veterans Stand Downs

- Rapid City
- Wagner
- Sioux Falls
- Aberdeen



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

Homeless Female Veterans & Homeless Veterans with Families Program

- ▶ Grantees provide **supportive services** to eligible homeless female Veterans and homeless Veterans with families who are “at risk” of becoming homeless.
- ▶ The program provides **direct services** through a case management approach that leverages Federal, State and local resources.
- ▶ Eligible Veterans are **connected** with appropriate employment and life skills support to **ensure a successful integration** into the workforce.



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

VWIP - Veterans Workforce Investment Program

- ▶ VWIP funded programs are **intended** to:
 - ▶ **Meet** the workforce investment needs of Veterans
 - ▶ **Perform** outreach and public information activities to develop and promote employment and job training opportunities
- ▶ The **primary objectives** of VWIP are:
 - ▶ To **provide** services to assist in reintegrating eligible Veterans into meaningful employment within the labor force; and
 - ▶ To **stimulate** the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing eligible Veterans.



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

IVTP - Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program

- ▶ Under the program, grantees **provide supportive services** to eligible Incarcerated Veterans who are “**at risk**” of becoming homeless.
- ▶ The intent of the program is to **provide** direct services through a **case management approach** that leverages Federal, State and local resources.
- ▶ Incarcerated Veterans are **connected** with appropriate **employment and life skills support** as they transition from correctional facilities into the community.

*Grantees provide referral and career counseling services, to include job training and placement assistance, job readiness and life skills support services, housing, health care, and other benefits.



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Competitive Grants

DOL Agencies and Federal Grants

▶ **General access to all DOL agencies**

www.dol.gov

▶ **Clearinghouse** for all competitive federal grants

▶ **Search** for grant opportunities

▶ **Download, complete, and submit** grant applications

▶ **Check the Status** of an Application submitted via

Grants.gov

www.grants.gov



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

Gold Card Initiative

In August 2011, the White House announced the Department's launch of the *Veterans Gold Card initiative*, to **provide post-9/11 veterans with the intensive and follow-up services they need to succeed in today's job market.**



- ▶ This card entitles every post-9/11 veteran to **six months of enhanced, intensive services** at any of the Department of Labor's One-Stop Career Center locations across the country.
- ▶ Our experience shows that veterans who get **one-on-one job assistance** have a much **greater success** in launching civilian careers.



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

My Next Move - (www.MyNextMove.org/vets)

- ▶ is a ***simple and quick*** search engine where transitioning Service Members and Veterans can:
 1. **Translate** Military Skills
 2. **Search** Industries that are hiring
 3. **Search** areas that Industries are hiring in
 4. **Apply** for jobs





USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

VRAP – Veterans Retraining Assistance Program

- ▶ Designed for Veterans who: have received an *other than dishonorable discharge*, are 35-60, unemployed, are not enrolled in a federal or state job training programs, and have exhausted their G.I. Bill Benefits
- ▶ Eligible recipients may **receive up to 12 months of retraining assistance** (\$1,564 per month)
- ▶ Participants must be enrolled in a VA-Approved Program
- ▶ Must lead to an Associates Degree, Non-College Degree, or a Certificate, and train the Veteran for a **high demand occupation** as determined by DOL
- ▶ Program began on July 1, 2012 and will accept applications until March 2014
- ▶ **Over 85,000 applications have been approved as of March 2013!**

South Dakota has **87 approved applications and **40 currently in training.***



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ *Provide*

WOTC – Work Opportunity Tax Credit

Through WOTC, employers can receive up to \$2,400 and \$9,600 in tax credits by hiring:

- ▶ **Veterans** receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits
- ▶ **Veterans** with a service-connected disability hired within 1 year of discharge or release from active duty
- ▶ **Veterans** with a service-connected disability who are unemployed for at least 6 months
- ▶ **Veterans** who have been unemployed for at least 4 weeks
- ▶ **Veterans** who have been unemployed for 6 months or more

*For more information, directions, and forms – visit

www.irs.gov



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

▶ ▶ ▶ *Protect*

USERRA-Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act

- ▶ **USERRA** is a federal law that establishes certain rights, benefits, and responsibilities for Veterans, Service Members, and employers
 - affecting employment, reemployment, and retention in employment
- ▶ **VETS** enforces these rights when the Service Member returns to civilian employment once tour of duty concludes
- ▶ Includes **protection** against discrimination on the basis of a person's membership or application for membership in the service, performance of service, or service obligations
- ▶ Provision applies to all positions of employment and to offers of employment

Compliance Assistance Efforts

- ▶ Functional integration between VETS, SOL, DOJ, and OSC that requires extensive employment law expertise
- ▶ VOW Act expands USERRA enforcement to include hostile work environment to U.S. Veterans

FY11 VETS Recovered: \$1.7 million for Veterans



USDOL-VETS Service to Veterans

National Electronic Tools for Veterans

Veterans Reemployment Portal

<http://careeronestop.org/ReEmployment/veterans/default.aspx>

Military to Civilian Job Finder

<http://www.careeronestop.org/MilitaryTransition/findajob.aspx>

My Next Move for Veterans

<http://www.mynextmove.org/vets/>

My Skills My Future

<http://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>

Military to Civilian Occupation Translator

<http://www.careerinfonet.org/moc/>

Hero to Hired

<http://www.h2h.jobs>

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