



Changes to Active Duty Transition Services

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Joint Legislative Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs

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Background – What we've done so far



Federal Legislation



Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) to Hire Heroes Act of 2011

- Expands Education & Training Opportunities
- Improvement of Transition Assistance Program (TAP)
- Translating Military Skills & Training into Civilian Terminology
- Tax credits for Companies that Hire Veterans
 - Up to \$9,600 for Hiring an Unemployed Veteran With Service Connected Disabilities
 - Up to \$5,600 for Hiring an Unemployed Veteran

What's New - ACAP



Current Requirements

- Soldiers attend the Preseparation Briefing no later than 90 days prior to separation

Voluntary Services

- DoL Workshop
- VA Benefits briefing

Requirements as of Nov. 2012

- Mandatory transition counseling and planning no later than 12 months prior to separation
- Individual Transition Plan
 - Soldier chooses between 4 career tracks
 - VAPP

* Transition integrated into the entire lifecycle of service



Demographics



- 13,000 Service Members per year projected to make WA State their permanent residence
- 6,000 per year from Joint Base Lewis-McChord through 2016
 - + / - 400 per month – JBLM ACAP
 - 40% of transitioning Service members from JBLM stay in WA
- Many Service Members transition without a plan
 - Washington State is consistently one of the highest in the nation for service members receiving employment immediately after leaving active duty



Where we want to go

“Building relationships and enhancing processes”



Workgroup Representation



- Office of the Governor
- Office of Sen. Murray
- JBLM ACAP Director
- WA State Department of Veterans Affairs
- WA State Employment Security Department
- WA State Department of Social and Health Services
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
- Pierce College
- National College
- University of Washington-Tacoma
- WA State Office of State Human Resources Director
- WA State Labor & Industries
- Washington Student Achievement Council
- PAC Mountain Workforce Development Council
- Seattle-King County Workforce Development Council
- WA State representative for Department of Labor
- Pierce County Economic Development Council
- Thurston County Economic Development Council
- King County Veteran's Program
- Tacoma-Pierce Chamber of Commerce
- U.S. Department of Small Business Administration
- Helmets to Hardhats
- Operation Military Family
- JBLM Plans, Analysis, & Integration Office



Vision



- Enable seamless transition and enhanced opportunities for Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard Service Members
- Create a sustainable platform that supports a holistic approach to employment and business opportunities in WA state that can be replicated across the nation as a benchmark process



Goals



- The State of Washington achieves the lowest unemployment rates and most competitive earning wages in the United States
- Enhance employment and small business opportunities for Veterans
- Integrate networks and partnerships between state and federal agencies, community partners, and WA State businesses



Next steps



- Linkage between employer and job seeker (*H2H as a solution*)
- Referral network-proper hand-off between JBLM and state partners
- Partnerships between businesses, state, and federal entities
- IT and data integration
- Working with other military installations and branches of service in Washington State