

Supporting District Energy Engagement and the Veterans Community

DOE Support to Joining Forces

March 19, 2015

Agenda

- Joining Forces (Office of the First Lady)
- Veterans Employment Center (VA)
- Department of Labor Resources
- Understanding the Post 9-11 GI Bill
- Department of Energy Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) Program
- Veterans Community and Existing Resources
- Questions





JOINING FORCES

www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces



Joining Forces



In 2011, First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden launched Joining Forces, a nationwide initiative calling all Americans to rally around service members, veterans, and their families. Joining Forces works hand in hand with the public and private sector to ensure that service members, veterans, and their families have the tools they need to succeed and to educate the public on all these families have to offer.



Joining Forces

The Joining Forces Initiative is organized around three main “pillars” with an underlying mandate to raise public awareness.

Employment

- Employer Commitments
- Licensing, Credentialing, & Skilling Up
- Entrepreneurship

Education

- K-12 and Higher Education

Wellness

- Community Providers, Families & Caregivers, Service.
- Ending Veterans Homelessness in 2015
- Reducing Stigma & Encouraging Help-seeking Behaviors

Awareness

- Changing the Narrative about the Identities of Veterans and Military Families.
- Spreading the Word about Veterans as Civic Assets.

Veterans Employment Center (VEC) –

The Federal Government's Single Online Tool for connecting employers and Veterans with employment outcomes

Connects TSMs, Veterans and their families to meaningful career opportunities in the public and private sectors.

For Job Seekers:

- Translate skills into civilian skill and career field equivalents.
- Utilize Profile & Résumé Builder.
- Search over 1.7 million opportunities in the Veterans Job Bank (VJB).
- View employer hiring and training commitments.
- Access to other informational resources to help find meaningful career opportunities and take advantage of special programs.

For Employers:

- Easily post job opportunities to the Veterans Job Bank (VJB).
- Search verified Job Seeker Career Profiles and make an instant connection.
- Make a public hiring or training commitment.
- Access to other informational resources designed to help recruit and retain talent.

<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/jobs>

Since inception, the VEC has received over 12.5 million page views and features 1.7 million jobs. It contains over 10,000 job seekers, and over 6,500 registered employers. Employers are reporting over 315,000 positions filled towards their Veteran hiring commitments.



U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

Employer Resources

American Job Centers (AJCs)

- The Department of Labor (DOL) sponsors American Job Centers (AJCs), located in 2,500 locations throughout the United States
- AJCs provide free employment services to veterans and to employers
- Find your local AJC/Career One-Stop Center at www.servicelocator.org

CareerOneStop “Business Center”

- The CareerOneStop Business Center gives businesses access to the resources they need to recruit, train, and retain a skilled workforce
- Features of the Business Center include:
 - Employment projections, wages, and unemployment rates for specific areas
 - Access to local training and educational institutions
 - Listings of top industries by employment - by state, metro area, and county
 - A tool for finding military occupations related to specific civilian occupations
- The CareerOneStop Business Center is located at www.careeronestop.org

Veterans’ Employment and Training Service (VETS)



U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

Employer Resources

Other Employer Resources

- The **Veterans Employment Center** has tools and resources for employers to find veterans: www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/employers
- Employers can post online jobs (if applicable) at no-cost with the **National Labor Exchange (NLX)** at: www.us.jobs
- Employers can post currently offline jobs to the NLX at no-cost through your state job bank at: www.careeronestop.org/JobSearch/COS_jobsites.aspx
- **Americas' Heroes at Work** includes a step-by-step toolkit for employers interested in developing or enhancing their veterans hiring initiative.
www.americaheroesatwork.gov/forEmployers/HiringToolkit
- Employers can connect with veterans across the U.S. through hiring fairs and employment summits. Visit www.uschamberfoundation.org/hiring-our-heroes to find events near you.

Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS)

Understanding the Post 9-11 GI Bill

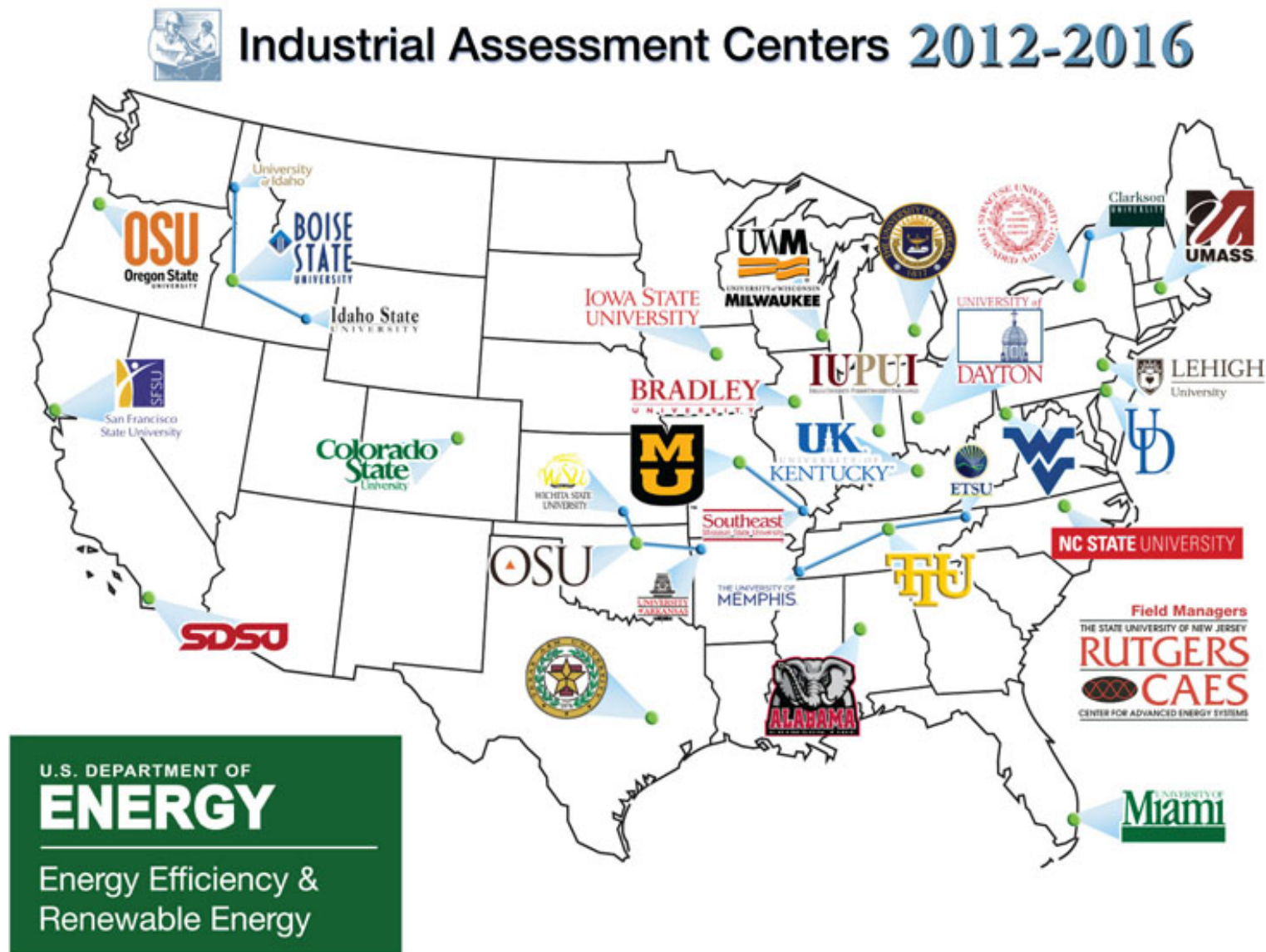
- Allows veterans to pursue education and training
- Up to 36 months for education programs
- Vocational/Technical Training (non-college degree)
- On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeships supported
- Consider developing a relationship with an education or training provider (for example Solar Instructor Training Network providers).
- http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_gibill.asp



Program Overview

- The Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) program focuses on generating energy savings, productivity improvements, and water use and wastewater reductions at small and medium-sized manufacturers
- The program also provides significant workforce development benefits:
 - Goal is to create the next generation of energy engineers
 - IACs conduct hands-on assessments of small and medium-sized manufacturing firms, emphasizing a practical application of engineering principles
 - IACs foster a specialized energy engineering curriculum at their respective host universities

Current Locations



Veterans Community and Existing Resources

- In today's military, service members operate and maintain high value technology and systems.
- Approximately 250,000 service members leave the military each year.
- Companies value the skills and initiative veterans bring to their organizations.

Existing Resources: Consider a Portfolio Approach

- Veteran's Employment Center (Department of Veterans Affairs)
- America's Job Centers (Department of Labor)
- Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)
- Veteran Hiring Fairs
- Universities, College, and Community College Relationships
- Veterans in Your Company



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How Can Your Organization Support Joining Forces: Make a Commitment to Hire Veterans

- A Letter to the Office of the First Lady (sample format provided)
- Make a commitment on the Veterans Employment Center (VEC)



Question Period

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<http://energy.gov/eere/articles/leveraging-veteran-talent-opportunity-clean-energy-industry>



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