

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

No.: 15-40

Date: November 9, 2015

**Employment Development Department challenges California's
employers to join its efforts to "Honor a Hero, Hire a Vet"**

Special web page features stories from employers and veterans

SACRAMENTO – To commemorate Veterans Day, the California Employment Development Department (EDD) is today renewing its call to employers to "Honor a Hero, Hire a Vet." A [new web page](#) on the EDD website features stories of inspiration and encouragement from employers and veterans, along with helpful tips and information on veteran services and a special report on veteran employment.

"EDD is calling on employers to give back to veterans by recognizing their talents and hiring them," said EDD Director Patrick W. Henning Jr. "Our veterans bring leadership, teamwork, discipline and dedication to the workplace. I invite employers to use our CalJOBSSM labor exchange system to find skilled veterans to fill job openings."

More than 160,000 veterans have already posted résumés in [CalJOBSSM](#). Employers can go to EDD's CalJOBSSM, click on [Find a Candidate](#) and then select "Yes" under the "Veteran" search criteria to quickly find veterans with the job skills needed for employment.

Veterans looking for employment can use CalJOBSSM to search for jobs, build résumés, access career resources, and gather information on education and training programs. Veterans can also simply enter their military occupational code on their online résumés to be directed to employers with job openings that match their military experience.

California is home to 1.8 million veterans, more than any other state. However, veterans under the age of 35 face an unemployment rate of 17.2 percent, nearly double the rate for non-veterans in their age group. EDD not only has resources and services designed to assist them in transitioning to the civilian workplace, but we want employers to know more about the valuable assets veterans offer, including:

(more)

- Enhanced skills, experience, teamwork, and leadership qualities, which, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, typically meet or exceed the requirements for the civilian workforce.
- Experience that has led to a heavy concentration of veterans in California's fastest growing industry sectors, including the educational and health services sector and the professional and business services sector, which are projected to grow by 25 percent through 2022.
- Extensive education – 95 percent of California veterans have high school diplomas and almost half have associate degrees or higher. Many veterans have mastered high-tech systems and advanced electronics during their tours of duty.

The [“Honor a Hero, Hire a Vet” web page](#) provides more data about veteran employment and skills, as well as helpful information including:

- First-hand accounts from employers who have hired qualified veterans and recognized the benefits veterans bring to the workplace. Also included are stories of veterans who took advantage of assistance available to acquire secure, well-paying jobs, including those proudly employed by the EDD.
- A variety of services available at [America's Job Center of CaliforniaSM](#) (AJCC) locations throughout the state. Veterans representatives at these offices specialize in assisting veterans with employment and training opportunities, and also help employers find and prepare veterans for jobs.
- A collection of resources and assistance available on the [Veterans' Services web page](#).

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