VETERANS’ PROGRAM

The Employment Development Department (EDD) is California’s designated state workforce agency. The EDD partners with Local Workforce Investment Boards and other public and private service entities that provide resources and networking within a statewide workforce system and local America’s Job Centers of California℠ (AJCC).

The Veterans’ Program is a grant-funded program within the EDD’s Workforce Services Branch. Each year, the U.S. Department of Labor-Veterans’ Employment and Training Service awards the Jobs for Veterans State Grant to EDD to support the services to veterans provided by two principal staff positions:

- Disabled Veterans’ Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists
- Local Veterans’ Employment Representatives (LVER)

The DVOP and LVER staff at the local AJCC coordinate, along with partner agencies, a wide array of services including, employment services, job training, vocational education, supportive services, and participation in community college programs.

Dedicated Staff

The EDD Veterans’ Program staff is responsible for providing employment services to veterans and eligible spouses. Upon entering a AJCC, a veterans’ services navigator will conduct a Needs Based Determination (NBD) to identify the employment needs of the veteran. The NBD will identify potential barriers to employment and determine what services the veteran requires to improve their employability. Employment services can range from:

- **Self-Service** – Individuals are job-ready and require little or no direct assistance from Veterans’ Program staff when enrolling and entering résumé data into EDD’s Internet-based labor exchange system - California Job Openings Browse System (CalJOBS℠);

- **Group Services** – Individuals who are essentially job-ready, but require a low to moderate level of staff assistance; or

- **One-on-One Services** – An in-depth assessment is conducted by the Veterans’ Program staff to determine if a veteran client requires receipt of intensive services.

The DVOP specialists focus their efforts on those economically or educationally disadvantaged veterans who can reasonably be expected to benefit as a result of the receipt of intensive services. These veterans will receive priority of service within the AJCC system including:

- Comprehensive assessment of education, skills, and abilities;
- Employability development plan to identify employment goals, interim objectives, and appropriate services that will enable the veteran to meet his or her employment goals;
- In-depth interviewing and evaluation to identify employment barriers and appropriate employment goals;
- Group and individual career coaching; and
- Short-term pre-vocational services that may include the development of learning and communication, interviewing, and personal maintenance skills; and professional conduct to prepare individuals for career goals.

The LVER staff conducts outreach to employers, assist veterans in job development contacts, conducting job search workshops, and establishing job search groups. They also facilitate employment, training, and placement services to promote the hiring of veterans. The LVER concentrates on individualized job development services for veterans, especially those determined to be job-ready after receipt of intensive services from a DVOP specialist.
Veterans’ Priority in the CalJOBS℠

Through CalJOBS℠, veterans can view a wide variety of job listings located throughout California, and if qualified, refer themselves to employers for consideration. The CalJOBS℠ veterans’ priority hold process allows veteran job seekers to view or access new and reopened job listings during the first 24 hours of posting, in the following order of priority:

1. Special Disabled Veterans
2. Disabled Veterans
3. Eligible Veterans
4. Eligible Spouses of Veterans

The EDD or partner staff screens and refers those veterans who request a referral on a suppressed job listing during the 24-hour hold. The process consists of a résumé search and only those eligible veteran résumés that meet the employer’s minimum qualifications are forwarded to the employer.

Honor a Hero, Hire a Vet℠ Job and Resource Fair

The EDD annually conducts several Honor a Hero, Hire a Vet℠ (HAH-HAV) Job and Resource Fair strategically located throughout California. The HAH-HAV events bring together a collaboration of partners and service agencies to provide veterans with access to employers, training, education, job placement opportunities, and an array of resources. The job fairs are open to the public and geared toward providing services to recently separated veterans.

For more information on HAH-HAV job fairs and other events, visit our website at www.edd.ca.gov, select Job Seekers, then Job Fairs and Workshops in your region, and then look for the American flag.

California Association of County Veterans Service Officers (CACVSO)

The CACVSO assists veterans and dependents at the county level, to provide information on federal and state veterans’ benefits, and to help veterans or their dependents complete application forms for benefits. These benefits include: outpatient, extended and ambulatory health care, compensation, pension, insurance, education assistance, vocational rehabilitation, home purchase assistance, and burial allowance. For additional information contact your local CACVSO or visit www.cacvso.org.

General Information

If you would like more information, visit EDD’s Services for Veterans page. You may also write or call us at:

Employment Development Department
Workforce Services Division
Veterans’ Program Unit
722 Capitol Mall, Room 5099
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-654-7799

The EDD is an equal opportunity employer/program.
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.