



VEAP 2018-19 AWARDS

The Employment Development Department (EDD), in coordination with the California Workforce Development Board, and on behalf of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, is pleased to announce the awarding of \$5 million of *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA) funds in a Veterans' Employment-Related Assistance Program (VEAP). These career development grants are part of the EDD's VEAP, in grant funding to 11 organizations throughout the state to help implement veteran's assistance programs, this year adding a new focus on Gulf War-era veterans.

Funds will connect applicants and employers in six California regions: Los Angeles, Ventura, San Diego, Orange County, Contra Costa, and Riverside. Eleven workforce development agencies were selected for funding. All eleven entities submitted proposals via a competitive process.

Each of the 11 recipients will apply funds toward putting into practice forged solutions that eliminate barriers to employment that veterans face in the current labor market. This year's VEAP funding program sought to ensure that particular attention is paid to Gulf War-era II Veterans with a service connected disability and a disability rating of 60 percent or higher. Current statistics indicate 41 percent of Gulf War-era veterans have a service connected disability, compared to 24 percent of all veterans. Among Gulf War-era veterans, the unemployment rate for those with a service-connected disability 60 percent or greater is elevated, from those with no disability. The EDD expects that the performance period will be up to 21 months.

A list of the awardees and descriptions of their projects is available on the EDD [Workforce Development Solicitations for Proposals](#) webpage.

If you have any questions regarding the VEAP grant solicitation, please email WSBGrants@edd.ca.gov.

/s/ JAIME L. GUTIERREZ, Chief
Central Office Workforce Services Division

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