



State of Illinois

Department of Employment Security



Jobs For Illinois Veterans

Employment Services and Special Benefits for Veterans



For all services offered by IDES, please visit our website at: www.ides.illinois.gov

IDES is an equal opportunity employer and complies with state and federal non-discrimination laws in the administration of its programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact the office manager of the IDES local office nearest you or the IDES Equal Opportunity Officer at (312) 793-9290 or TTY (888) 340-1007.

Note: The information contained in this brochure is subject to change at anytime. For the latest information, visit the IDES website at www.ides.illinois.gov



To All Veterans Of The U.S. Military

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) is committed to helping you find the job you want and the job training you need.

Priority of Service

At any of our IDES offices, you will receive priority of service, as prescribed by federal law, because you earned it. Our staff will make it a top priority to connect you with the appropriate job and job training.

Vets Helping Vets

In addition to IDES' regular staff, each office is assigned a Veterans' employment representative, a fellow Veteran who is a specialist in providing employment services in your area. The representative also can refer you to job training programs with our partner agencies and assist with your job search needs.

Our work with Veterans is supported by the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, an arm of the U.S. Department of Labor. Illinois and the federal government work together to help Veterans obtain suitable employment.

Illinois JobLink

IDES employment service staff and Veterans employment representatives are available to help you find a job. Staff can register you on our online job-matching system. Go to www.ides.illinois.gov, select the Individuals menu, Search for Jobs and click Illinois JobLink. This no-cost, Internet-based system is available 24 hours a day and can be accessed from any Internet-linked computer.

Other Employment Services

Other services offered through IDES and its partners include:

- Workshops on job hunting, resume writing and interviewing
- Federal contractors job listings

Intensive Services

IDES provides eligible Veterans with intensive services to help identify and overcome employment barriers. Examples include, but are not limited to, coordination and outreach with other State agencies and one-on-one employment assistance.

Career Information

IDES provides online tools for exploring careers in Illinois. The tools provide career assessments as well as comprehensive information about careers, including the educational requirements, wages, and the outlook for occupations. To access these tools, visit our Career Information page at <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=35>.

IDES Helps Veterans Get Back To Work. Here's How...

Recently Separated From Military Duty?

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) can help you. Once you have completed your military service, you might be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. You also might be eligible if you lost your civilian job.

When you visit any of our local offices, be prepared to identify yourself as a Veteran. Remember to bring your DD Form 214 as proof of your military service.

Returning To Your Most Recent Job

A uniformed service member who has recently returned from a tour of active duty may have special re-employment rights under the Uniformed Services Employment & Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). If you qualify, your former employer could be required to hire you back, complete with any seniority benefits that have accrued during your absence. You must apply to your former employer as soon as possible after your separation from duty.

Special Opportunities For Federal Jobs

The Veterans Readjustment Appointment Program offers federal jobs, training, and education to certain Veterans. To be eligible, you must have been honorably discharged after serving more than 180 days of active duty. Visit <http://www.usajobs.gov> for more information.

REALifelines

Veterans (and their family members) who were injured as a result of Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts can get special assistance through REALifelines, an employment program administered through the U.S. Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service. See your IDES Veterans' employment representative for more information.

Gold Card Program

Available to post-9/11 Veterans, the Gold Card Program may provide eligible Veterans with:

- Job readiness assessments
- Career guidance through group or individual counseling
- Provision of labor market, occupational, and skills transferability information
- Referral to job banks, job portals, and job openings
- Referral to employers and registered apprenticeship sponsors

Federal Jobs For Disabled Veterans

Helping disabled Veterans with their employment and training needs is a top priority for IDES. Many IDES Veterans' Employment Representatives are disabled themselves and know from personal experience what it takes to overcome the barriers of employment.

When Applying For A Job...

Remember, employers have several good reasons to consider Veterans first when hiring. That's because Veterans are:

- Trained and trainable
- Leaders and team players
- Dependable and disciplined
- Respectful of structure and procedures
- Aware of technical trends and have a global outlook
- People with strong work ethics



Tax Credits

Employers may receive tax credits when they hire eligible Veterans. The maximum tax credit for a qualified new hire is generally \$2,400 for the first year of employment. However, the maximum tax credit for a qualified Veteran with a service-connected disability is \$4,800 for the first year of employment. <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/wotc>.

Stop By And Visit Us

For more information and one-on-one personal service, visit your local IDES office. Our staff stands ready to assist you. Visit www.ides.illinois.gov to locate the nearest IDES office.

Give back to those who give their all.