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VETERANS SERVICES NEWSLETTER



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California's Operation Welcome Home: Honoring Our Veterans

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, upon his return from visiting the troops in Iraq, has expressed a great desire to assist California's veterans once they return from deployment. The Governor wants to ensure that California's returning military personnel have access to assistance and support in order to ease their transition from military living to civilian life. With this desire, the Governor has launched California's Operation Welcome Home initiative, a statewide effort to reach out to every veteran as they leave the armed forces and return to their communities.

California's Operation Welcome Home initiative mission is to directly connect with the 30,000 annually returning California veterans to ascertain their needs and connect them with the services they need to transition successfully from the military back to civilian life and to transfer their diverse military skills into the civilian workforce.

This initiative, one of the most comprehensive streamlining of services in the state, will break down government bureaucracy to facilitate veterans straightforward and more expedited access to their benefits and services including:

- Employment help, job training assistance and employment benefits;
- Education Opportunities;
- Housing;
- Health Care (mental and physical);
- Benefits provided by the US Department of Veterans Affairs benefits; and
- Support for families.

California's Operation Welcome Home consolidates the efforts of various local, state and federal governmental agencies, non-governmental entities and volunteer organizations into nine Regional Outreach Teams.

These collaboratives allow the CDVA to build a network of outreach coordinators that will directly touch veterans throughout the state.

Each collaborative will meet the individual needs of area veterans by orienting themselves around the community partnering with The Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA); California Volunteers (CV); Mental Health Professionals; County Veterans Service Officers; The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); and a network of community organizations.

The CalVet Corps is a coalition of people from government, nonprofit organizations and volunteer groups who will target and directly contact California veterans individually. CalVet Corps will focus on initial contact efforts and getting veterans employment services and unemployment services. LWDA, through the Employment Development Dept (EDD), will hire 325 Limited Term employees beginning this month. They will be trained by EDD and CDVA to be proficient in Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims and veteran benefit referrals. CalVet Corps EDD Team members will serve as veterans' first point of contact to ensure they are evaluated for unemployment insurance and re-employment services, as well as to assist them with their need for other services and in referring them to the appropriate service providers. See below article for further information on how to become a CalVet Corps EDD Team member.

The second component of the California's Operation Welcome Home initiative is the CalVet Corps Volunteer Team. CDVA has applied to California Volunteers (CV) requesting funding for 52 AmeriCorps members, who will assist in outreach efforts for veterans statewide. The CalVet Corps Volunteer Team will reach veterans on the community level, by closing the gap between the wants and needs of the veteran community. The Volunteer Team will attempt to enlist 1,000 community volunteers to assist in accomplishing the mission of Operation Welcome Home. To learn on how to become a volunteer contact us at vetservice@cdva.ca.gov.



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PERTAINING
TO
VETERAN**



EDD is now hiring Employment Program Representatives
for California's Operation Welcome Home CALVET
CORPS

Are you interested in a limited term position with the Employment Development Department working in the California's Operation Welcome Home-CALVET CORPS initiative? The EDD is looking for qualified individuals to provide proactive, comprehensive and collaborative outreach to California's veterans to connect them with the benefits they have earned.

To be considered for these temporary, limited term, positions as an Employment Program Representative (EPR), you must have list eligibility. See Steps Below.

Take one examination and be on two lists. When taking the EPR examination, you are given a choice to apply for Employment Program Representative and/or Disability Insurance Program Representative. If you meet the minimum qualifications, we encourage you to apply for both. Disability Insurance Program Representative hires, however, are not part of the California's Operation Welcome Home-CALVET CORPS initiative.

Step 1: Apply for Veterans Preference Points

Fill out SPB-1093 and attach a copy of your DD-214 and mail to State Personnel Board. Visit <http://www.spb.ca.gov/jobs/documents/spb1093.pdf> to download the form.

Step 2: Check Position Description and Minimum Requirements

See the California's Operation Welcome Home-CALVET CORPS program [position description](#). Check to see if you meet the [Minimum Qualifications](#) for this examination. This is a critical step in the process.

Step 3: Take the Online Examination

If you meet the Minimum Qualifications, [take the examination](#).

Note: For information on translating military experience into civilian experience visit <http://online.onetcenter.org/crosswalk/MOC/> or by calling 1-800-952-5626.

For a complete listing of all our current open examinations, visit the "[Careers with EDD](#)" Section on our Web site www.edd.ca.gov.

For questions regarding the examination process, please contact EDD's Exam Hotline at: (916)654-6869.

Step 4: Check your List Eligibility

EDD will hire individuals within the top three ranks. You could, however, become reachable as hires are made and candidates are removed from the list so we encourage you to apply for all jobs you qualify for. Use the eligible list disclosure tool on the State Personnel Board (SPB) Web site to find your current [EPR](#) exam ranking.

Step 5: State Application Form

Complete a [Standard State Application Form \(STD. 678\)](#).

Step 6: Apply for Jobs

If you were successful in the test you may apply for the EPR [Job Openings](#). To locate job vacancies go to www.spb.ca.gov, and under the Jobs tab, select Vacancy Search (VPOS). Conduct an Easy Search and search for Employment Program Representative.

Note: Select a position in your area that has a "VET Group" letter.

When applying for a vacancy, please attach the following documents:

1. Standard State Application Form (STD 678)
2. Copy of your Notice of Examination Result(s)
3. Copies of Diploma and/or Transcript (if applicable)
4. Copies of US Department of Veterans' Affairs Disability Rating Award (if applicable)
5. Copies of Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty - Form DD214 (if applicable)

Step 7: Mail Application for Positions to:

EDD / HRSB / Attn: Vet Group **(insert group letter)*

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