



Jefferson County Workforce Center

# Veteran's Newsletter

October 2008

## Who's Hiring Now: America's Most-Wanted Workers

**by Kate Lorenz** While the U.S. economy has softened this year, there are still jobs out there ... you just have to know where to look. We dug deep into Bureau of Labor Statistics data to find industries that are still adding jobs despite a rising national unemployment rate.

### *Health care*

With a large segment of the population entering retirement age, health care remains strong, adding more than 196,000 jobs so far this year. All sectors of the health-care industry experienced growth from January to July 2008.

### *Government*

The federal government, which employs more than 1.8 million civilians (except for the U.S. Postal Service), has added 33,000 jobs so far this year. At the state level, 39,000 new jobs were added. The local government, which added 124,000 jobs from January to July 2008, remains the strongest sector of the industry.

### *Education*

Education is growing at a healthy clip in 2008. More than 82,600 jobs were added during the first seven months of the year.

### *Mining/Oil and Gas Extraction*

Although the U.S. crude oil production has declined by 20 percent in the last decade, employment in mining rose by about 36,600 workers in the first seven months of 2008.

### *Professional and business services*

This category, with its vague name and broad reach, is comprised of several sectors, but three in particular, engineering, computer systems and consulting, experienced growth from January to July of this year. Architectural and engineering services added 10,000 new jobs, technology, computer systems design and related services added 27,700 positions. Management and technical consulting, which added more than 30,000 jobs.

### *Leisure and hospitality*

Food services and drinking places added more than 58,000 workers so far this year, while performing arts and spectator sports added almost 5,400 workers. And 26 percent of hospitality employers expected to expand staffs in the third quarter of this year.

*cont.*

Bottom line: Despite the lagging economy, there are jobs available across all categories, whether from industry growth, skilled worker shortages or turnover. You just need to know where to look and prepare for a longer job hunt. (Kate Lorenz is editor and career adviser for CareerBuilder.com. )

## **Other Items of Interest :**

### **Employment Guide Helps Vets Find Jobs**

Finding employment can be a daunting task for veterans returning to the civilian workforce, but **The Employment Guide's Veterans Transition Guide** is helping to ease the change. As military members return from deployments around the world, they routinely face problems integrating back into civilian jobs and lives. Unfortunately, for many veterans, years of military experience may not directly correlate to equivalent paying civilian jobs. The Employment Guide is using its resources to match employers with these talented, but often over looked veterans. Learn more on Military.com.

### **Facts on Your VA Home Loan**

A VA-guaranteed loan is a loan made by private lenders to eligible veterans. If you want to purchase a home, condo, or manufactured home, the VA can guarantee up to \$417,000 of the total loan – much higher than you can get with most conventional home-loans. If you are considering refinancing an existing loan, the VA offers you two options. You can either refinance to reduce your current interest rate or you can take equity out (cash-out). The “cash-out” option is limited to \$144,000.

### **Extra Social Security Benefits**

For those of you with military service prior to 2001, you may be entitled to an extra monetary benefit when filing for Social Security benefits. This benefit includes all military veterans with active duty service from 1957 – 2001. Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for military service for this period can be credited to Social Security. The DD-214 can establish eligibility for up to \$1,200 per year of earnings credited at time of application. Taking your DD-214 to the Social Security Administration when applying for benefits will help ensure extra earnings for military service. For more information, visit the Social Security website.

**We are here for you!** The U.S. Department of Labor and the Jefferson County Workforce Center place great emphasis on service to veterans, especially to recently separated veterans, and to those with a service-connected disability or some other barrier to employment. If you feel you have a situation that is limiting your job readiness, or hindering your job search, or would just like some assistance with your job search, please call one of the Veteran Employment Representatives at (303) 271-4787 or 4728 or send an email to Del Atencio at [datencio@jeffco.us](mailto:datencio@jeffco.us) or to David Alred at [dalred@jeffco.us](mailto:dalred@jeffco.us). We are located at the Laramie Building, 3500 Illinois Street, in Golden, Co.

**If** you have a subject you would like to see covered here, please email either Dave Alred at [dalred@jeffco.us](mailto:dalred@jeffco.us) or Del Atencio at [datencio@jeffco.us](mailto:datencio@jeffco.us).



