

VETERANS NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2011

JEFFERSON COUNTY WORKFORCE CENTER
SERVING THE TRICOUNTY REGION



Veterans Employment and Training Programs

The mission of the Veterans Employment Program staff in the Jefferson County Workforce Center is to provide veterans and transitioning military members with the resources and services to succeed in the 21st Century workforce by meeting labor-market demands with qualified veterans.

Veteran Employment Program case managers provide intensive services to meet the employment and training needs of all qualified veterans and eligible persons. Some, but not all of the services offered include:

- ◆ One-on-One Veteran-Centered Assistance
- ◆ Resume and Interview Assistance
- ◆ Vocational Guidance and Career Development Assistance
- ◆ Job Referral and Job Development
- ◆ Labor Market Information
- ◆ Education and Training Assistance
- ◆ Referral to Supportive Services as needed.

For more information or to set up an individual appointment, please contact:

John Koontz at 303.271.4769, Email: jkoontz@jeffco.us

Or

Joel Levitt at 303.271.4715, Email: jlevitt@jeffco.us

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Employment with the United States Government*
- *Veterans Preference in Hiring for Civil Service*
- *Special Hiring Authorities for Veterans*
- *Helpful Hints for applying for Federal Employment*



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AEROTEK HIRING EVENT—THURSDAY, MARCH 10TH

Aerotek will be on-site presenting job openings and company information which will be followed by a mini-interview. In order to be considered for an interview, it is mandatory to attend the presentation. Please arrive at 8:00 am to check-in and ensure yourself a space. Veterans only can check-in at 7:30 am for priority of service.

HIRING FOR:

- ◆ Industrial Electronic and Mechanical Assemblers
- ◆ Production Tech
- ◆ Renewable Energy / Green Jobs
 - ◆ Commercial Electricians
 - ◆ Commercial Carpenters
 - ◆ Solar Panel Installation Technicians



Bring your resume and come dressed for an interview!

Want more information? Call 303-271-4560.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY - LEED GREEN ASSOCIATE AND NEW DESIGN 7 CONSTRUCTION TEST PREP

The next program is scheduled to start on Thursday, April 7. The class will run on Tuesday and Thursday nights, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, April 7 to May 26, 2011 at the Auraria Campus in Denver.

Are you interested in a career as a Leed Green Associate in the Growing “Green” Industry? Do you have a background in construction, design, land development, real estate, manufacturing or renewable energy? If so, you may want to attend our upcoming LEED Green Associate Credentialing Orientation to find out about training and employment opportunities within this new and exciting industry.

When: Thursday, March 24, 2011 9 AM to 11 AM (Time and Date subject to change)

Where: Jefferson County Workforce Center

Laramie Building

3500 Illinois Street

Golden, CO 80401

If interested in attending please leave a voice mail at 303-271-4769, leaving your name and a contact telephone number. You may also email this information to jkoontz@jeffco.us. Space is limited and registrations will be on a first come, first serve basis. Please register by Monday, March 21st, 2011.

VETERANS PREFERENCE IN HIRING FOR CIVIL SERVICE

Veterans' Preference gives eligible veterans preference in appointment over many other applicants. Veterans' preference applies, to virtually all new appointments in both the competitive and excepted service. Veterans' preference does not guarantee veterans a job and it does not apply to internal agency actions such as promotions, transfers, reassignments and reinstatements. Veterans' preference can be confusing. The law we follow in Federal civilian employment can be found in title 5, United States Code, Section 2108 ([5 USC 2108](#)). Not all veterans are considered veterans for the purpose of Federal civilian employment, and not all active duty service is qualifying for veterans' preference.

Only veterans discharged or released from active duty in the armed forces under honorable conditions are eligible for veterans' preference. This means you must have been discharged under an honorable or general discharge.

If you are a "retired member of the armed forces" you are not included in the definition of preference eligible unless you are a disabled veteran OR you retired below the rank of major or its equivalent.

There are basically two types of preference eligibles, disabled (10 point preference eligible) and non-disabled (5 point preference eligibles).

You are a **5 point preference eligible** if your active duty service meets any of the following:

1. 180 or more consecutive days, any part of which occurred during the period beginning September 11, 2001 and ending on a future date prescribed by Presidential proclamation or law as the last date of Operation Iraqi Freedom, **OR**
2. Between August 2, 1990 and January 2, 1992, **OR**
3. 180 or more consecutive days, any part of which occurred after January 31, 1955 and before October 15, 1976. **OR**
4. In a war, campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized or between April 28, 1952 and July 1, 1955.

You are a **10 point preference eligible** if you served at any time, and you:

1. have a service connected disability, **OR**
2. received a Purple Heart.

If you are not sure of your preference eligibility, visit the Department of Labor's [Veterans' Preference Advisor](#).

Now that we have discussed your preference eligibility and the associated points, let's discuss preference groups. Preference eligibles are divided into four basic groups as follows:

- CPS - Disability rating of 30% or more (10 points)
- CP - Disability rating of at least 10% but less than 30% (10 points)
- XP - Disability rating less than 10% (10 points)
- TP - Preference eligibles with no disability rating (5 points)

NOTE: Disabled veterans receive 10 points regardless of their disability rating.

When agencies use a numerical rating and ranking system to determine the best qualified applicants for a position, an additional 5 or 10 points are added to the numerical score of qualified preference eligible veterans

When an agency does not use a numerical rating system, preference eligibles who have a compensable service-connected disability of 10 percent or more (CPS, CP) are placed at the top of the highest category on the referral list (except for scientific or professional positions at the GS-9 level or higher). XP and TP preference eligibles are placed above non-preference eligibles within their assigned category.

You must provide acceptable documentation of your preference or appointment eligibility. The member 4 copy of your DD214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty," is preferable. If claiming 10 point preference, you will need to submit a Standard Form SF-15 "Application for 10-point Veterans' Preference."

(<http://www.fedshirevets.gov/job/vetpref/index.aspx>)

SPECIAL HIRING AUTHORITIES FOR VETERANS

Special Hiring Authorities for Veterans are just that...designed for veterans. Knowing about these authorities and identifying your eligibility will enhance your job search. These special authorities represent a few of many appointing authorities that agencies can use entirely at their discretion. Veterans are not entitled to appointment under any of these authorities. Check the vacancy announcements, which should clearly state "Who May Apply."

- ◆ Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA)
- ◆ Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998, as Amended
- ◆ 30% or More Disabled Veteran
- ◆ Disabled Veterans Enrolled in a VA Training Program
- ◆ Schedule A Appointing Authority

For more information about these non-competitive appointments, please visit the following website:

<http://www.fedshirevets.gov/job/shav/index.aspx>.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR APPLYING FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT

Are you interested in applying for a federal job? Are you curious about how they determine if you are qualified or not? Do you want to make sure your application packet is considered for the position you are applying for? Have you ever wondered how the US Federal Government hires employees?

The answer to some of these questions are not as difficult as you may think. Applying for a position with the Federal Government is no easy task, but can be simplified by understanding how the system works.

One of the keys to ensuring your application packet is considered is to make sure you submit a complete packet. The required documents are listed on the vacancy announcement. If it asks for it, be sure you include it.

Also, read the information listed under the qualifications for the grade you are applying for. It will spell out what is needed in order to qualify for that grade level. Make sure it is included on your resume.

For more information, please visit <http://www.fedshirevets.gov>.

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- ◆ **Veterans Job Seeker Workshop** — This workshop is designed for the veteran job seeker and will provide an orientation to all the services offered at Jefferson County Workforce Center. In addition, you will receive information on priority of service, supportive services available in the Tri-County region, information and tips on today's competitive job market and the unique resources available to the veteran job seeker.
 Dates: Wednesday, March 2, 9, 23, 30, 2011 Time: 1:00 PM—3:00 PM

- ◆ **Veterans Federal Job Search Workshop** — Is Federal employment for you? Where do you start? How do you apply? How do you compete with your qualifications? These are just a few of the questions we answer and provide information and resources you take with you. Bring your questions to this interactive session.
 Date: Thursday, March 24, 2011 Time: 1:00 PM—4:00 PM



JEFFERSON COUNTY WORKFORCE
CENTER'S VETERANS EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAMS

Jefferson County Workforce Center
Laramie Building
3500 Illinois Street
Golden, Colorado 80401



WE ARE ON THE WEB!
WWW.JEFFCOWORKFORCE.ORG

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“Unemployment is also Hell...”

