

Veterans' Newsletter

Novemeber 2009

Using the Internet to Job Search

By Tim Coy

You've just been laid off, fired, downsized, outsourced, right-sized. Whatever the term, you're out of a job and need another one fast. You would rather be back at work than wait for that first unemployment insurance payment.

You're already quite skilled at surfing the Web, so why not get your next job that way? Where would you look first?

Look Close to home

Start with the Web site of the newspaper you hold in your hands. DenverPost.com/Jobs, in cooperation with Yahoo! HotJobs, boasts one of the largest selections of jobs. The jobs are here, where you live.

Start on this user friendly site by filling in keywords of the job you'd like to land, along with your target city, state or zip code. Next, select the job category from many types of work sectors listed.

The advanced search link filters the job listings even more, allowing you to plug in a minimum salary and show jobs at one particular company.

Once you've found your dream job, you likely will be directed to an outside Web site to complete your application. Some sites require that candidates attach their resume, either as a Word document or a PDF. Others require applicants to copy and paste their resume text.

Registration is not required to use these tools. However, applicants are required to register if they want to post a resume for potential employers to see. But, the benefits also include the ability to create search agents. The Career Tools category is a bookshelf of articles and interactive applications. Included are a series of screens that allow job seekers to calculate average salaries for the job they seek, to learn how to improve their interview know how, to improve a resume and to read useful networking tips.

Apply at company Web sites

If you are interested in a particular company, bring up it Web site, look for "Careers" or "Jobs" links and apply there. The jobs Web page at Denver Health, for example, advises applicants on how to apply.

Follow all Web site directions exactly. Failure to do so can be a reason to reject the application.

Use other free resources

The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment has several Workforce Centers located statewide. Job hunters don't have to leave home, just log in to coworkforce.com, register and search for your next position. Other job hunting Web sites that work in a similar fashion include Monster.com, CareerBuilder.com and Jobing.com.

Other items of interest :

Military Friendly Employers

Visit Military.com's career board to search thousands of jobs in aerospace, defense, health care, nursing, government, law enforcement, teaching and more. Find the perfect career path for you and connect with military friendly employers today.

Obama Signs VA Healthcare Reform Law

President Obama recently signed new legislation that creates predictable funding for veterans' health care. The Veterans Healthcare Reform and Transparency Act calls for appropriations a year in advance after more than two decades of regular budget delays. No longer will VA and the veterans in its care have to suffer from the "check's in the mail" syndrome. Advance appropriations will go a long way toward minimizing compromises in the delivery of the high quality VA health care our veterans expect and deserve.

Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline

The Department of Veterans Affairs and the Veterans Health Administration founded a national suicide prevention hotline to ensure veterans in emotional crisis have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. To operate the Veterans Hotline, the VA partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Veterans can call the lifeline number at 1-800-273-8255 to be connected to the Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline.

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 search, please call the Veteran Employment Representative at 303 271-4728 or email David Alred at dalred@jeffco.us. He is located at the Laramie Building, 3500 Illinois Street, Golden, Co. Mr. Alred also offices at the Mountain Resource Center in Conifer the first and third Mondays of each month. To make an appointment to see him at the Mountain Resource Center, call 303 838-7552.

Also to assist you is the Jefferson County Veteran Services Officer – The Jefferson County Services Officer assists veterans/dependents with filing claims for pensions, compensation, health care, burial, education, home loan certification, life insurance, and other issues. The Jefferson County Veteran Services Officer is Mr. Henry Mondragon. He can be reached at 303 271-4205 or by email at hmondrag@co.jefferson.co.us. He is located at the Human Services Building, 900 Jefferson County Parkway, suite 170. His office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 am to 5pm.