

## Veteran's Newsletter October 2009

### **Future sees more Renewable Energy and Technology driven jobs By Linda Gaber**

Two industries expected to bring new jobs according to Patty Silverstein, president and chief economist with Development Research Partners are :

**Renewable Energy** – Positions for all skill levels, from researcher to high tech manufacturing workers who have a foundation in math and science education.

**Technology** – Powering new products and services in medicine, communications, agriculture, aerospace, energy, sciences, transportation and other sectors, employment growth is guaranteed.

“We can't even imagine the next new technology wave. But, it's out there,” Silverstein said.

Here are additional predictions for careers, industries and directions in our new knowledge based economy:

**Graduate to trendy fields** – Design a game for iPhone or other mobile tools. That is number one on a list of hot careers for college graduates. The others are web feature writing, geriatric health care, occupational health , specialized Spanish/English translators in law, business and medicine, data mining , mobile media graphic designers, and oncology clinical trial designers and managers.

### **Other items of interest :**

#### **Veterans Affairs Extending Health Care Window for Combat Vets**

If you are a combat veteran, this applies to you. Were you discharged from active duty on or after 28 January 2003 ? Then you are eligible for enhanced VA health care enrollment in Priority Group 6 for 5 years after your discharge, assuming you are not already in a higher Priority Group. This applies to vets currently enrolled VA health care and new enrollees.

For those of you discharged from active duty before 28 January 2003, you can enroll and be placed in Priority Group 6 through 27 January 2011.

Priority Groups is how the VA manages the demand for health care with their available resources. There are eight priority groups with group 1 getting top priority and group 8 the least priority.

Eligibility and enrollment under this expanded program makes veterans eligible for retroactive refunds of copayments made for medical services and prescriptions associated with your combat experiences. The VA is reviewing their records to see if any current VA health care veterans are due a refund. If you are eligible, you will receive a letter from the VA explaining their actions to reimburse you. Letters will be mailed in November and refunds should be paid by December. If you have any questions please call 800 983-0932.

## **VA Begins Making Emergency GI Bill Payments**

On Oct. 2, 2009 the Department of Veterans Affairs began making advance payments of up to \$3,000 for veterans who have applied for any of the VA's education programs and have not yet received your monthly benefit payment for the Fall 2009 term can request advance payment either online through the VA website, [advancepay.gibill.va.gov](http://advancepay.gibill.va.gov) or in person at their nearest VA Regional Office. A list of VA's regional offices is available online. Those who choose to apply online will receive payments in the form of a check sent through the U.S. mail, which takes approximately six days. Veterans who visit one of VA's 57 regional offices across the country can immediately receive an advance payment in the form of a handwritten check. Veterans will need to bring a government issued photo ID and course schedule when you visit the regional office. Starting on October 2, regional offices will be open from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm on weekdays to assist with advance payments.

### **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](mailto:dalred@jeffco.us). He 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 pension, 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](mailto: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.