



**Virginia Department of Veterans Services**

# Military Spouse Employment Resource Guide

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services

## **About the Military Spouse Resource Guide**

The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive list of employment resources and partners that can provide service to military spouses. The information in this document is meant to serve as an aid to help military spouses with challenges surrounding employment. The Virginia Department of Veterans Services will strive to update this document frequently to make sure the information is current. The Virginia Department of Veterans Services is not responsible for the service provided by the resources and partners outside of the agency.

## **How to use this Document**

Since this document has a lot of information, we recommend utilizing the table of contents to review the sections that are most relevant to your needs. Each section will have a brief description along with a list of the resource or partner information. Many of the resources provided will have an external URL or contact information listed for the associated resource.

## **About The Virginia Department of Veterans Services**

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (VDVS) is organized into seven service delivery sections: benefits; veteran and family support; Veteran education; transition and employment; care centers; Veteran cemeteries; and the Virginia War Memorial. The Board of Veterans Services, the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Services Organizations, and the Veterans Services Foundation work closely with VDVS to support the effective delivery of services to Virginia's veterans and their families.

## **Military Spouse Initiative**

In 2021, the Military Spouse Liaison position was created within the Department of Veterans Services to provide resources, conduct outreach, and advocate for ALL military spouses across the Commonwealth regardless of the sponsor status. If you need assistance, please email the Military Spouse Liaison, [milspouse@dvs.virginia.gov](mailto:milspouse@dvs.virginia.gov) or visit <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/military-spouse-support> for more information and resources.

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# EDUCATION/TRAINING

## Virginia Education Resources

- [Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program \(VMSDEP\)](#): Provides education benefits to spouses and children of military service members killed, missing in action, taken prisoner, or who have been rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as totally and permanently disabled or at least 90 percent permanently disabled because of military service. Military service includes service in the United States Armed Forces, United States Armed Forces Reserves, or the Virginia National Guard.
- [State Approving Agency \(SAA\)](#): Maintain the integrity of the GI Bill and have multiple search engines to find approved educational schools and programs (on-the-job training/apprenticeships) to utilize the GI Bill.
- [Military Education and Workforce Initiative \(MEWI\)](#): Assists Veterans and service members with their transition from active duty to civilian life. MEWI enhances employment opportunities for Virginians who have served in the United States Military, and their spouses, by providing a pathway to education, training, certifications, and technology.

## Education & Certifications

- [Military OneSource – MyCAA](#): The Military Spouse Career Advancement Account Scholarship is a workforce development program that provides up to \$4,000 of tuition assistance to eligible military spouses (**Spouses of service members on active duty, National Guard, and reserves in pay grades E-1 to E-6, W-1 to W-2 and O-1 to O-3**).
- [Institute for Veterans and Military Families \(IVMF\): Onward to Opportunity \(O2O\)](#): offering several learning paths to professional certifications in HR, Project Management, and IT
- [Google Career Forward](#) (HOH): Gain industry-recognized skills through a Google Career Certificate in data analytics, IT support, project management, or user experience (UX) design. After earning your certificate, you'll gain access to job search support, like interview prep and career workshops.
- [Scholarship Database](#): DoD and AmeriCorps VISTA partnered together to create an extensive list of 425+ scholarships specifically for military-connected dependents (children and spouses).

## Continuing Education & Training

- [Act Now Education](#): uses Coursera to offer 100s of certifications.
- [CareerOneStop](#): Employment, Education/Training and Relocation assistance for Spouses.
- [Military Spouse Corporate Career Network](#) (MSCCN): Skillsbuild offers 100s of certifications through partnerships with sites like Udemy.
- [USO Pathfinder Transitions](#): offer free trainings/certifications through Coursera.
- [Military OneSource – MySECO](#): uses Udemy to offer training and certifications to eligible spouses.

# EMPLOYMENT

## Virginia State Resources

### Supporting Virginia Legislation:

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-2901.1, 2.2-3004, 2.2-3900, 2.2-3901, 2.2-3902, 2.2-3904, 2.2-3905, 15.2-853, 15.2-854, 15.2-965, 15.2-1500.1, 15.2-1507, 15.2-1604, 22.1-295.2, 22.1-306, 36-96.1 through 36-96.3, 36-96.4, 36-96.6, 55.1-1208, and 55.1-1310 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public accommodations, employment, and housing; prohibited discrimination on the basis of status as active military or a military spouse.

### Virginia Department of Veterans Services (VDVS):

The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) program assesses, coordinates, and disseminates V3 opportunities for members of the armed forces, dependents, and their spouses transitioning from military to civilian life by providing a pathway to employment, education, and entrepreneurship. [Resource Coordinators](#) are available to provide exceptional customer service with professionalism and confidentiality.

- [V3 Transition](#): peer-to-peer support through the transition process. V3 staff work alongside the transitioning service member or spouse to address specific needs. Services may include – review of resumes, connection with [Virginia Values Veterans \(V3\) certified companies](#) for employment, and warm transfers to other VDVS programs as applicable.
- [Hiring for Military Spouses and Dependents](#): the V3 Program has an official partnership with the U.S. Chamber Foundation to connect V3 Certified Organizations with military spouse job seekers. Virginia is one of only six states named by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce as a statewide Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone.
- [Military Medics & Corpsman \(MMAC\) - Military Spouse Pathway](#): healthcare systems across the Commonwealth, as well as V3 Certified Healthcare Employers, partner with MMAC to assist military spouses starting or continuing a career in healthcare.
- [Transition Connection Newsletter](#): a biweekly distribution of job postings from V3 Certified Organizations seeking to hire veterans and spouses. The newsletter includes upcoming events, programs, and other valuable information for the job seeker.
- [Hire Vets/Milspouses Now Events](#): monthly networking events dedicated to job training and career opportunities with V3 certified companies.

### Other State Agencies/Organizations:

- [Military Spouse Transition Network](#) (NASPE): For current state employees either moving to or from Virginia. Other state must be part of the network.
- [Virginia Career Works \(VCW\)](#) has dozens of programs that can help you on your search, from assistance with transportation and childcare to training programs, the workforce system in Virginia is here to help.
- [Virginia Employment Commission \(VEC\)](#) provides unemployment insurance, job seeker and employer services.
- [Virginia Works](#) – Department of Workforce Development and Advancement (*coming soon July 2024*)

# Branch-Specific Employment Resources

*\*\*See regional installation family service center(s) information in next section*

## Army

### [Army Community Service \(ACS\) - Army Spouse Employment, Career and Education](#)

Offers information on area employers, job networking groups and has computers, printers, fax machines, digital senders, and telephones to aid in the spouses' job search. Supporting the employment and development of spouses ultimately contributes to improving quality of life and workforce readiness.

## Air Force & Space Force

### Military & Family Readiness Center (M&FRC) - [Total Force Employment Assistance Program](#)

Support military, civilians, and family members in achieving short and long-term employment, by referring for education/training, and obtaining career goals in the private and public sectors. The M&FRC provides comprehensive services to ensure the Total Force is equipped with adequate knowledge and assistance to aid in their job search.

[Five and Thrive Initiative](#) - Five & Thrive will focus on these five lines of effort:

- 1 Consolidate Quality of Life (QoL) resources in a one-stop shop
- 2 Educate military families on existing QoL efforts and best practices
- 3 Advocate for QoL improvements
- 4 Foster community partnerships
- 5 Promote the exceptional value of the military spouse

## Coast Guard

### [Coast Guard Office of Work-Life Programs: Spouse Employment Program](#)

The Spouse Employment Assistance Program (SEAP) can assist spouses with career and employment information. The goal of SEAP is to help you learn how to get a job and maintain a career you enjoy as a military family member, it is not an employment office or placement center.

## Marine Corps

### Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS) - [Marine Family Member Employment Assistance](#)

- The career center will assist with information on portable careers, resume composition, education planning and career planning.
- Spouse Transition and Readiness Seminar (STARS) addresses the transitional challenges and opportunities specifically for spouses as they prepare to transition with their Marines into the civilian world.

## Navy

### Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) - [Navy Family Employment Readiness Program](#)

- Workshops have been created to help you plan a career, launch a job search, write the resume, learn interview techniques, find information on federal employment, conduct self-assessments, set goals and even take vocational tests.

## Virginia National Guard

### [Soldier and Family Readiness Program](#)

- Guard's primary support for all things readiness and assistance. It is intended to assist Army National Guard Service Members and their families navigate their military and civilian lives while providing support to Unit Leadership and the Commander's Family Readiness Program.

#### [Airman and Family Readiness Program](#)

- Provides assistance, guidance, and support that enhances the quality of life for service members and their families during peacetime and upon mobilization.

## Regional Employment Resources

### Northern Virginia

- [Work in Northern Virginia](#) – Fairfax County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA)
  - Comprehensive website promoting career opportunities to talent nationwide.
  - Organize and host virtual, in-person, and hybrid career fairs.
  - Create Veteran and Military Spouse Programming and promote upskilling opportunities
- Military Installation Family Support Centers. *Call the center to confirm services provided for your military status (active duty, reserve, national guard, retiree, national guard, gold star family, etc.):*
  - [Ft. Belvoir ACS](#): 571-231-7001 | 5965 6th Street, Building 1263, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060
  - [Quantico MCB MCCS](#): 703-784-3306 | Religious and Family Services Center, 3019 Embry Loop, Quantico, VA
  - Joint Base Myer - Henderson Hall
    - [Fort Myer ACS](#): 703-696-3510/3435 | 202 Custer Road, Building 201, Fort Myer, VA 22211
    - [Henderson Hall MCCS](#): 703-614-7200 | 1555 Southgate Road, Building 12, Arlington, VA 22214
  - [Dahlgren FFSC](#): 540-653-1839 | 6027 School House Lane, Ste 208, Dahlgren, VA 22448
  - Virginia National Guard station locator: <https://va.ng.mil/>

### Central

- Military Installation Family Support Center - *Call each center to confirm services provided for your military status (active duty, reserve, national guard, retiree, national guard, gold star family, etc.)*
  - [Ft. Gregg-Adams ACS](#): 804-734-6388 | Mahone Avenue, Building 9023, Fort Lee, VA 23801
  - Virginia National Guard station locator: <https://va.ng.mil/>
- Virginia Community and Resource Center: 804-431-3260 | 22 W. Washington St., Petersburg, VA 23803
  - One-stop location to help Virginian with employment, Veteran benefits, and other state resources.

### Hampton Roads

- Hampton Roads Veteran Employment Centers (Norfolk & Newport News)
  - <https://www.theworkforcecouncil.org/>
    - Newport News Office - 757-782-4528 | 600 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite 210, Newport News, VA
    - Norfolk Office - 757-807-1192 | 861 Glenrock Road, Suite 220, Norfolk, VA
- Military Installation Family Support Centers - *Call each center to confirm services provided for your military status (active duty, reserve, national guard, retiree, national guard, gold star family, etc.):*
  - [Camp Elmore MCCS](#): (formerly Camp Allen) 1251 Yalu St., Norfolk, VA 23515

- [Coast Guard Station - Portsmouth](#): 757-686-4023/4025 | 4000 Coast Guard Blvd, Portsmouth, VA 23703
- Joint Base Langley Eustis
  - [Ft. Eustis ACS](#): 757-878-3638 | 650 Monroe Ave., Fort Eustis, VA 23604
  - [Langley Air Force Base M&FRC](#): 757-764-3990 | 45 Nealy Ave., Hampton, VA 23665
- Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek - Ft. Story FFSC:
  - [Little Creek](#): 757-462-7563 | 1450 D. Street, Building 3129, Virginia Beach, VA 23459
  - Fort Story: 757-422-7311 | 517 Solomon Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23459
- Joint Forces Command/ NATO (*utilize FFSC at NS Norfolk*)
- [Naval Air Station Oceana - Dam Neck FFSC](#):
  - NAS Oceana: 757-433-2912 | 1896 Laser Rd., Suite 120, Virginia Beach, VA 23460
  - Dam Neck Annex: 757-492-6342 | 2073 Tartar Ave., Building 585, Virginia Beach, VA 23461
- [Naval Medical Center Portsmouth FFSC](#): 757-953-7801 | 620 John Paul Jone Cir., Portsmouth, VA 23708
- [Naval Station Norfolk FFSC](#): 757-444-2102 | 7928 14th Street, Building SDA-344, Suite 102, Norfolk, VA 23505
- [Naval Weapons Station Yorktown FFSC](#): 757-887-4606 | 1949 Von Steuben Dr., Newport News, VA 23603
- [Newport News FFSC](#): 757-688-6289 | Huntington Hall, 3100 Huntington Ave., Building 633, Newport News, VA 23607
- [Northwest Annex FFSC](#): 757-421-8770 | 4505 Relay Rd., Building 374, Chesapeake, VA 23322
- SCSC Wallops Island (*utilize FFSC at JEB Little Creek-Ft. Story*)
- Virginia National Guard station locator: <https://va.ng.mil/>

## Southwest

- Military Installation Family Support Center
  - Virginia National Guard station locator: <https://va.ng.mil/>

## National Employment Resources

- [Blue Star Families](#) innovative programs are solving specific challenges for military families with resources that foster spouse career development, creating family strength with rich family programming, and providing critical peer support for caregivers, whose numbers are only increasing.
- [CareerOneStop](#) Employment, education, and relocation resources just for military spouses.
- [Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Services](#) (DOLVETS) – Military Spouses contains information about resources to help find state-specific information about occupational requirements. We also have employment resources along with training and support for spouses of military members.
- [Hire Heroes USA](#) (HHUSA) provides free job search assistance to U.S. military members, veterans and their spouses, and helps companies connect with opportunities to hire them.
- [Hiring Our Heroes](#) (HOH) career services include events, programs, and career counseling dedicated to connecting world-class military community talent with American businesses of all sizes.
  - [Amplify Events](#): Amplify is a free career development program that empowers military spouses and equips them with essential skills and resources for professional growth. (Virtual and in-person in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads regions annually)

- [Military Spouse Fellowship Program \(MSFP\)](#): Programs provide networking, professional training and hands-on experience in the civilian workforce. Participating host companies harness the power of internships to find, evaluate, and hire the best military talent.
- [Military OneSource](#)
  - [Spouse Education and Career Opportunities \(MySECO\)](#): The Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program provides education and career guidance to military spouses worldwide, offering comprehensive resources and tools related to career exploration, education, training and licensing, employment readiness and career connections.
  - [Military Spouse Career Accelerator Pilot \(MSCAP\)](#): Military spouses of currently serving members of the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Space Force, to include active, reserve and National Guard components, are eligible for this competitive multi-year program that provides spouses with paid 12-week fellowships at employers across various industries and locations. Host employers provide fellows accepted into the program with hands-on professional training and mentoring in the civilian workplace. Host company may be invited to join the employer as a direct hire.
  - [Military Spouse Transition Program \(MySTeP\)](#): Help plan, prepare and be ready for the life your family wants after transitioning out of the military, whenever that time comes. The information, tools and programs highlighted in MySTeP will connect you with the right resources at the right time to help you successfully navigate military life at every stage of your service member's career.
  - [Military Spouse Employment Partnership \(MSEP\)](#): The Department of Defense Military Spouse Employment Partnership connects military spouses with hundreds of partner employers who have committed to recruit, hire, promote, and retain military spouses.
- [Military Spouse Corporate Career Network \(MSCCN\)](#)/[Military Spouse Jobs](#) personalized, 1-on-1 job placement support, career exploration, and employment training at no cost to our military spouses or our employer partners.
- [RecruitMilitary - Spouse Resource Center](#)
- [USA Jobs](#) for federal positions
  - [Military Spouse Appointing Authority](#) – Formerly called PPP or MSP and updated in NDAA FY19 with changes to the Executive Order (EO) 13832. This authority enables a hiring manager to non-competitively appoint a military spouse who meets certain criteria to any position in the competitive service for which he or she is qualified. There is no grade level limitation.
- [USO Pathfinder Transition Program](#) extends the USO experience to active duty, Reserve, National Guard and military spouses by offering professional development services throughout the duration of the service member or military spouse's career, as well as when they transition out of the military and settle into their new communities.
- [Vets2Industry \(V2I\)](#)- The FREE resource library for active, guard, reserve, veteran, military-spouse, dependent children, Blue-Star & Gold-Star Families, and caregivers.

## MENTORSHIP

- [American Corporate Partners \(ACP\)](#): A mentor is assigned to you for a 12-month free mentorship program (*Open to active-duty, disabled veteran, and surviving spouses*)
- [Fourblock](#): a comprehensive, instructional career transition program for military spouses looking to return to work or pivot into new careers.
- [Veterati](#): select your own mentors based on certain qualifications/interests.

# LICENSURE

## Regulation Boards & Reimbursement Program

- [Department of Education \(DOE\)](#)
- [Department of Healthcare Professions \(DHP\)](#)
- [Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation \(DPOR\)](#)
- [Virginia Board of Bar Examiners \(VBBE\)](#)
- [Department of Defense Licensure Reimbursement Program](#) (*DOD military spouses only*)

## Supportive Legislation for Licensure Reciprocity

Code of Virginia, [§ 54.1-119](#). Expediting the issuance of licenses, etc., to spouses of military service members; issuance of temporary licenses, etc. (*Effective 7/1/2020*)

- Covers all licenses under the Department of Healthcare Professions and Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

Code of Virginia, [§ 22.1-298.1](#). Applications for teacher licensure by reciprocity; military spouses; timeline for determination. (*Effective 7/1/2022*)

- Requires the Department to determine and communicate such individual's eligibility for licensure by reciprocity within 15 business days of receipt of the complete application packet.

[Universal Licensing Recognition \(ULR\)](#) (*Effective 7/1/2023*)

- Apply to all individual licenses regulated by DPOR except for architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects.
- ULR does not recognize other states' occupational licenses automatically.
- Workers licensed in others states who move to Virginia still must apply for a license through the appropriate DPOR board before working in the Commonwealth.

Federal SCRA License Portability Provision (*January 2023*) provides that servicemembers and military spouses can have their out-of-state licenses recognized as valid in the new state while they are stationed there if they meet certain requirements. [U.S. Department of Justice SCRA License Portability Factsheet](#)