

A variety of resources to evaluate and use wherever helpful.

Please keep in mind that some URLs may have aged-out and no longer work.

Veteran-Specific Programs

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Veterans in Transition from Military Service

1. VA Benefits and Services Participant Guides

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/transition/tap.asp>

2. VA Transition Assistance Program (TAP)

<https://discover.va.gov/transition-programs/transition-assistance-program/>

3. VA TAP Course Catalog

<https://benefits.va.gov/transition/VA-TAP-Course-Catalog.asp>

4. California Transition Assistance Program (CaITAP)

California Transition Assistance Program (CaITAP) is a program designed to inform and connect veterans of all eras to their earned federal and state benefits as well as provide continued support and assistance as their needs change over time through five unique pathways:

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/California-Transition-Assistance-Program.aspx>

Veterans with Job Challenges &/or Significant Barriers to Employment

5. Compensated Work Therapy

Veterans Affairs program to help with health and re-employment How to qualify for CWT as a Veteran. Contact VA Palo Alto and request a referral to the CWT program from a social worker or Primary Care Physician.

<https://www.va.gov/health/cwt/>

Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) Consult Process

Thank you for your interest in the Compensated Work Therapy Program. The CWT Program serves the San Francisco Peninsula and South Bay regions and is dedicated to helping participants improve the quality of their lives through vocational rehabilitation. Its sub-programs include:

- **The Transitional Work (TW) Program:** A transitional work therapy program that emphasizes employment planning, coordination, and development. TW provides qualifying Veteran patients a time-limited, therapeutic work assignment with a goal of obtaining competitive employment.
- **The Community-Based Employment Services (CBES) Program:** Veterans who have a medical/mental health diagnosis, are homeless, or have other barriers to employment are assisted in obtaining competitive employment and are provided with support services.
- **The Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Program:** Veterans who are diagnosed with Severe Mental Illness (SMI) are assisted in obtaining competitive employment and are provided with individualized support services to maintain employment.

In order to submit a completed consult, please ensure the following can be accounted for:

- 1) The CWT Medical Clearance template is completed by the Veteran's PCP or NP. This can be found in CPRS under the "Notes" tab as a "New note" titled, "CWT Medical Clearance 22685." The note documents any limitations that may impact the selection of a work assignment.
 - The CWT Medical Clearance note needs to be completed PRIOR to the consult being placed.
 - If Veterans do not have a PCP, Social Workers can facilitate a connection to one. During this time, they can contact CWT Psychologist/Clinical Coordinator Nana Dawson-Andoh, Ph.D, at ext. 27821 or nana.dawson-andoh@va.gov. Dr. Dawson-Andoh will triage Veterans for vocational assistance and a brief orientation with a CWT staff member while they await assignment of a PCP and consult completion.
- 2) Complete a new consult entitled "Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) Outpt." Any VA provider can place his/her name under "Entered by," but a provider with medical privileges MUST be the "Responsible Person," so their signature is required. Providers with medical privileges include Primary Care Physicians (PCPs), Psychiatrists, Psychologists, LICENSED Clinical Social Workers and select Nurse Practitioners (NPs).
- 3) Veteran has a Mental Health Treatment Coordinator, if being followed for mental health treatment. If Veteran does not have one, Social Workers are encouraged to help arrange for Veteran to meet with one before referring them to CWT.

Once a completed consult is received, Dr. Dawson-Andoh will review the chart and triage the Veteran for assignment to a Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist.

If it is unclear which program may be most appropriate for the Veteran, he/she will be triaged to the treatment team for further review and discussion of clinically appropriate programs or community resources.



A CARF Accredited Program



6. Non-Competitive Special Hiring for Vets - Schedule A

Schedule A letters can be obtained from VA representatives, including Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) and others. Used with USA jobs.

<https://www.vaforvets.va.gov/vaforvets/JobSeekers/Pages/Non-CompetitiveSpecialHiringAuthoritiesforVeterans.pdf>

7. Chapter 31 - Veteran Readiness and Employment

If you have a service-connected disability that limits your ability to work or prevents you from working, Veteran Readiness and Employment (formerly called Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment) can help. This program—also known as Chapter 31 or VR&E—helps you explore employment options and address education or training needs. In some cases, your family members may also qualify for certain benefits.

<https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/>

8. California Department of Rehabilitation

Can provide additional training – check with your CWT representative

<https://www.dor.ca.gov/>

Veterans with Discharge Challenges & Justice-Involved Veterans

9. Upgrading a Discharge

County VSO may be able to help with this process.

<https://www.va.gov/discharge-upgrade-instructions/guidance>

10. Justice-Involved Challenges

Jobs, housing, and reentry programs for those with Felony Records.

<https://www.felonyrecordhub.com/>

11. Fair Chance Act

The Fair Chance Act, which went into effect on January 1, 2018, is a California law that aims to reduce undue barriers to employment for individuals with criminal histories. This law generally prohibits employers with five or more employees from asking a job candidate about conviction history before making a job offer, among other requirements.

<https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/fair-chance-act/>

12. Vet Court

PDF available here has info on Vet Court contacts

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/Veterans-Treatment-Court.aspx>

13. **State of California Veterans Legal Assistance**
<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/Legal-Assistance.aspx>
14. **State of California Incarcerated Veterans**
<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/Incarcerated-Veterans.aspx>
15. **American Bar Association Veterans Legal Services**
https://www.americanbar.org/groups/committees/veterans_benefits/
16. **Justice for Vets**
<https://justiceforvets.org/>
17. **National Veterans Legal Services Program**
<https://www.lawyersservingwarriors.com/>
18. **National Organization of Veterans' Advocates**
<https://www.vetadvocates.org/cpages/home>
19. **Santa Clara County Probation Department Record Clearance**
A Record Clearance or Expungement of your conviction does help with employment, housing, student aid and other opportunities, however it does not completely erase the conviction.
<https://probation.sccgov.org/adult-services/record-clearance>
20. **Santa Clara County Probation Dept Resources & Links**
Federal, State, Local government links
<https://probation.sccgov.org/resources-links>
21. **Veterans Treatment Courts**
<https://www.courts.ca.gov/11181.htm>

Veterans Employment & Job Training Resources

22. Hired Labs

A Veteran-run organization that assists with free High-Touch employment guidance as well as a free Coding Bootcamp. Headquartered in the Bay Area.

Hired Labs - <https://hiredlabs.org/>

Hired Labs - How it Works - https://hiredlabs.org/how_it_works/

23. O*NET OnLine

Use military MOS to see potential civilian career options. Scroll down on this page and select the Military Crosswalk.

<https://www.onetonline.org/>

24. Veterans Career One Stop

Veteran and Military Transition Center is a one-stop website for employment, training, and financial help after military service. Family members also. <https://www.careeronestop.org/Veterans/default.aspx>

25. My Next Move - Career Guidance for Veterans

Search careers with keywords. Browse careers by industry.

Find careers like your military job. <https://www.mynextmove.org/vets/>

26. Veterans Employment and Training Service

Our Vision: To enable all veterans, transitioning service members, and military spouses to reach their full potential in the workplace.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets>

27. Veterans Curation Program

The Veterans Curation Program (VCP) was created for two purposes: (1) to provide veterans a bridging experience from military service into the public sector and (2) to process at-risk archaeological collections belonging to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

<https://veteranscurationprogram.org/how-to-apply/>

28. Hire Vets

Hire Veterans is the World's #1 Most Trusted Marketplace to Search and Find Top Jobs for Veterans.

<https://hireveterans.com>

29. National Labor Exchange

Employment departments for California and other states. Sign up here for emails with job listings.

<https://veterans.usnlx.com/>

30. US Dept of Labor Veterans' Employment & Training Service

The U.S. Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) assists veterans, reservists, and National Guard members in securing employment.

<https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/hiring/veterans>

31. Employment Development Department (EDD)

Services for Veterans: While in the military, a veteran gains valuable skills and experience and the EDD is here to help maximize on those gains. We offer resources for veterans to meet their career and employment goals to successfully transition from military service to a civilian career.

https://edd.ca.gov/en/jobs_and_training/services_for_veterans

32. ETP: State of California Employment Training Panel

Companies offering Veterans Training Programs

https://etp.ca.gov/all-news-posts/veterans_projects/

33. National Labor Exchange

Find Services for Veterans by State. Powerful emails with fresh job listings.

<https://veterans.usnlx.com/>

34. Veteran Social Interactions Training

Free courses for Anger Management, Student Academic Success, Parenting, etc.

<https://www.veterantraining.va.gov/index.asp>

35. Linked-In Veterans Free Premium Account Info

LinkedIn is a professional networking site respected nationwide and worldwide <https://www.linkedin.com/help/linkedin/answer/a518653/linkedin-for-veterans-free-premium-career-subscription-and-eligibility?lang=en>

36. Veterati

AMERICA'S MENTORING NETWORK FOR THE MILITARY

<https://www.veterati.com/>

37. State of California & County Veterans Services

Education, Employment, Healthcare, Home Loans, Housing, Advocacy, VA Claims

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/>

38. California Veterans Resource Book

This book assists you in learning about and accessing the wide variety of (many are free) services and benefits available to California veterans and family members. Our goal is to provide information about all the programs offered, plus how to find out if you qualify, who to contact, and how to apply.

[https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Documents/Veteran %20Resource %20Book.pdf](https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Documents/Veteran_%20Resource%20Book.pdf)

39. California Veteran Service Office Locations

Contact the VSO for help with service-connected disability filing. Our primary mission is to assist our Veteran community in applying for and obtaining compensation benefits through the US Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA). <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/CVSO-Locations.aspx>

Veterans Essential Needs - Housing, Health, Human Services

40. 10 Kirk Veterans Housing Facility (VHF)

VHF is committed to providing a community-based residential setting and support services for homeless Veterans in order to assist their efforts in returning to optimal independent living. Connections to Veterans health care and employment services. <http://veteranshousingfacility.org/>

41. HomeFirst Housing Services

HomeFirst is a leading provider of services, shelter, and housing opportunities to the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in Santa Clara County and beyond. <https://www.homefirstscc.org/>

42. Nation's Finest Housing and Transitional Services

Transitional housing, Permanent supportive housing, case management, mental health, employment services, homelessness prevention, Art Therapy, The Vietnam Project. <https://nationsfinest.org/>

43. Know a Vet

KnowAVet? is a FREE, CONFIDENTIAL, ANONYMOUS service. Our mission is to help make veterans, our families, and caregivers aware of

more than 90 topics and issues we have Earned help for (through our service), available from the VA and/or community and private providers, in every zip code. <https://www.knowavet.org/>

44. Goodwill of Silicon Valley

Veterans Employment Program

<https://goodwillsv.org/vip-program/>

45. Goodwill Mission Services

<https://goodwillsv.org/mission-services/>

46. Salvation Army Veterans Services

<https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/serve-veterans/>

47. Health Care for Homeless Veterans

The central goal of HCHV programs is to reduce homelessness among Veterans by engaging and connecting homeless Veterans with healthcare and other needed services.

<https://www.va.gov/homeless/hchv.asp>

48. Bay Area Health and Human Services

Food, Housing, Income & Expenses, Crisis Services, Transportation, Health Care, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Children & Family, Youth, Seniors, Education, Legal Services, Post-incarceration Reentry

<https://www.211bayarea.org/santaclara/>

49. Luke's Wings

Flights for families during Veterans Hospital Recovery and Rehab - Luke's Wings provides emergency travel planning services and airplane tickets for the families and loved ones of wounded, ill, and injured service members, veterans, and fallen officers, during hospital recovery and rehabilitation.

<https://lukeswings.org/>

50. Open Doors to Future Possibilities

Free services for Veterans and reduced-cost counseling services for general population. Counseling, homeless outreach,

<https://opendoorstofuturepossibilities.org/>

Essential Needs - Veterans Transportation

Veteran Transportation Options

- These change often and may/may-not remain in place.
- Many of these options require pre-registration.
- For the most part, travel to and from Medical appointments is easier.
- Travel to and from job interviews and/or the job is tougher to come by.
- Travel for individuals over age 65 is easier to come by. Reduced cost travel is available for veterans with service-connected disabilities.
- I'd contact Goodwill to get into their Veterans case management system to get VTA access.
- CWT at the Palo Alto VA can often issue Clipper Cards when needed. Clipper Cards work on more transportation agencies across the Bay Area.

51. Free Transportation to/from Palo Alto VA Medical Center

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) provides free van rides to and from Palo Alto VA Medical Center for Veterans who don't have other transportation options.

<https://www.va.gov/palo-alto-health-care/dav-vans-transportation-for-veterans/>

52. Clipper Card - Bay Area Transit Card

<https://www.clippercard.com/ClipperWeb/>

A discount Regional Transit Card for Clipper is also available for Veterans with Disabilities – medical/VA verification is needed.

Once the RTC endorsement is enabled on a local transit system, the discount is applied on all Clipper-enrolled transit systems.

BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) -

<https://www.bart.gov/guide/accessibility/RTC>

VTA (Santa Clara County) -

<https://www.vta.org/fares/regional-transit-connection-card>

SMCTA (San Mateo County) -

<https://www.smcta.com/funding/transit/RTC>

SFMTA (San Francisco Muni) -

<https://www.sfmta.com/regional-transit-connection-rtc-card-request>

Confirm these systems at the Clipper site or at the specific transit agency's site:

(personally, I use my Clipper Card to ride the ferry from Oakland Jack London Square {close to Amtrak and BART} into San Francisco, use the Muni around SF, then Caltrain to San Jose)

- AC Transit
- BART
- Caltrain
- City Coach
- County Connection
- Dumbarton Express
- FAST
- Golden Gate Ferry
- Golden Gate Transit
- Marin Transit
- Muni
- Petaluma Transit
- SamTrans
- San Francisco Bay Ferry
- Santa Rosa CityBus
- SMART
- SolTrans
- Sonoma County Transit
- Tri Delta Transit
- Union City Transit
- Vine
- VTA
- WestCAT
- Wheels

53. [Transportation to/from Palo Alto VA](#)

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) provides free van rides to and from Palo Alto VA Medical Center for Veterans who don't have other transportation options.

<https://www.va.gov/palo-alto-health-care/dav-vans-transportation-for-veterans/>

54. Community Cycles of California

Our mission is to strengthen our community by promoting economic independence for individuals facing barriers to employment through our nonprofit bicycle shop, charitable bike programs, and vocational training. Close to San Jose Diridon Caltrain/VTA station

<https://www.communitycyclesca.org/>

55. Good Karma Bikes

Provides bicycles to those who volunteer their time - including Veterans and others

<https://goodkarmabikes.org/>

56. Lyft for Jobs Access

<https://www.lyft.com/lyftup/jobs-access/get-help>

57. Transportation for Veterans: HUD/VASH recipients

If Veterans are in housing supported by HUD/VASH, Ryan Bacon at the VA can help schedule rides 650-862-1369

58. County of Santa Clara Veteran Service Office

Contact the Santa Clara County Office of Veterans Services for potential options:

<https://veterans.sccgov.org/home>

59. Veterans Affairs CWT

CWT (Compensated Work Therapy) veterans can sometimes get Clipper Cards. Clipper Cards work on VTA, CalTrain, SamTrans and many other Bay Area transportation services

<https://www.va.gov/HEALTH/cwt/veterans.asp>

60. Uber/Lyft with VA for Homeless Veterans

VA Partners with UBER and LYFT for rides – must enroll in VHA Homeless Program;

<https://www.usich.gov/news/va-partners-with-uber-and-lyft-to-offer-rides-to-veterans-experiencing-homelessness/>

Veteran-Focused Technical Training

61. Calbright College

Free IT, Project Management, and Health training and professional certifications at an accredited California College – All Online with Flexible Schedules, including nights and weekend. Courses begin on-demand, meaning no waiting for a quarter or semester to start the courses.

<https://www.calbright.edu/>

62. Vet Tec

Possible stipend for veteran IT learning.

<https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/how-to-use-benefits/vettec-high-tech-program/>

63. Vets in Tech

Technical offerings from major corporations in the following and more:

- Cybersecurity
- Web Dev
- Data Science
- AI/ML
- Cloud Services
- Sales
- Entrepreneurship
- PLATFORMS
- AWS Cloud
- Google Cloud

<https://vetsintech.co/>

Miscellaneous Links / Services

1. Americans with Disabilities Act for Veterans

<https://adata.org/topic/veterans>

2. Google Cloud Launchpad for Veterans -

<https://cloud.google.com/blog/topics/training-certifications/google-cloud-launchpad-veterans-to-cloud-careers>

3. Veterans Emergency Housing – Santa Clara County -

<https://osh.sccgov.org/need-assistance/i-need-help-veterans>

4. City of San Jose Emergency Services -

<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/housing/homelessness-response/homeless-families-individuals>

5. IBM SkillsBuild free Training

<https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-10282-ARE.pdf>

6. Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education

Private education centers that can be funded by DOR -

<https://www.bppe.ca.gov/>

7. Jobscan

Powerful artificial Intelligence tool to craft resumes and cover letters based on job announcement and LinkedIn profile suggestions. -

<https://www.jobscan.co/>

8. Novaworks

Many job skill and career-focused workshops. - <https://novaworks.org>

9. Coursera

Online training in many fields. Some of the offerings are free and other offerings require a fee for a certificate. <https://www.coursera.org/>

10. Jobs for Veterans

Search using “jobs for veterans at Amazon” for example. Home Depot, Lowes, Costco, Google, etc. to see what options they may have.

11. VTA Access

Shared-ride Paratransit <https://www.vta.org/programs/access>

12. CSIX

Csix is a registered 501 (c) non profit organization. Volunteers, donations, and sponsors enable us to provide the help that individuals in career transition need.

<https://csix.org>

13. Helmets to Hardhats

Earn While You Learn – Use GI Benefits – 1000s of different careers

<https://helmetstohardhats.org/>

14. Vet Tix

Tickets to a wide variety of sports, concert and other events.

<https://www.vettix.org/>

15. Veteran Buddy Link

Connect with fellow veterans and share in the Camaraderie.

<https://togetherweserved.com/buddylink>

16. Our Military Kids

Our Military Kids® is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit offering extracurricular activity grants to children and teens of deployed National Guard, deployed Reserve, or post-9/11 combat wounded, ill, or injured Veterans in treatment.

<https://www.ourmilitarykids.org/mission/>