

WELCOME MESSAGE



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Apprenticeship
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2021 Illinois Apprenticeship Expansion Program Notice of Funding Opportunity

*Transferring Military Skills to
Apprenticeship Opportunities*

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Military Population

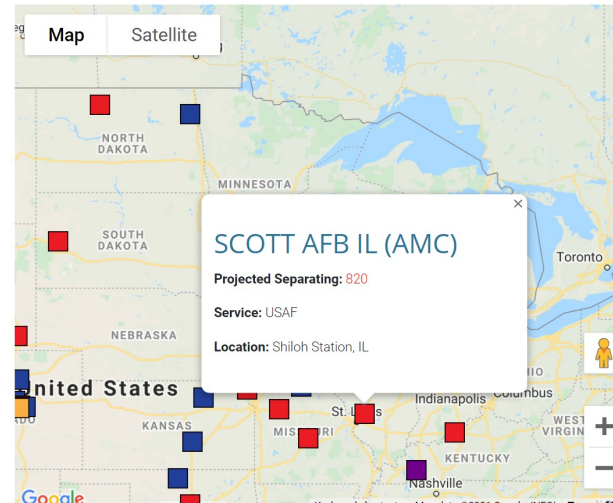
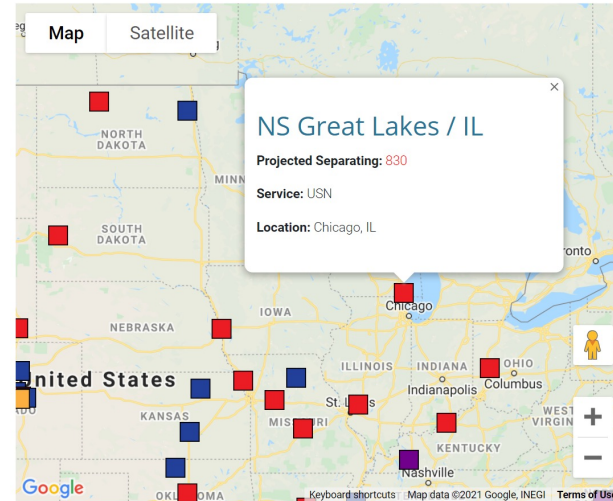
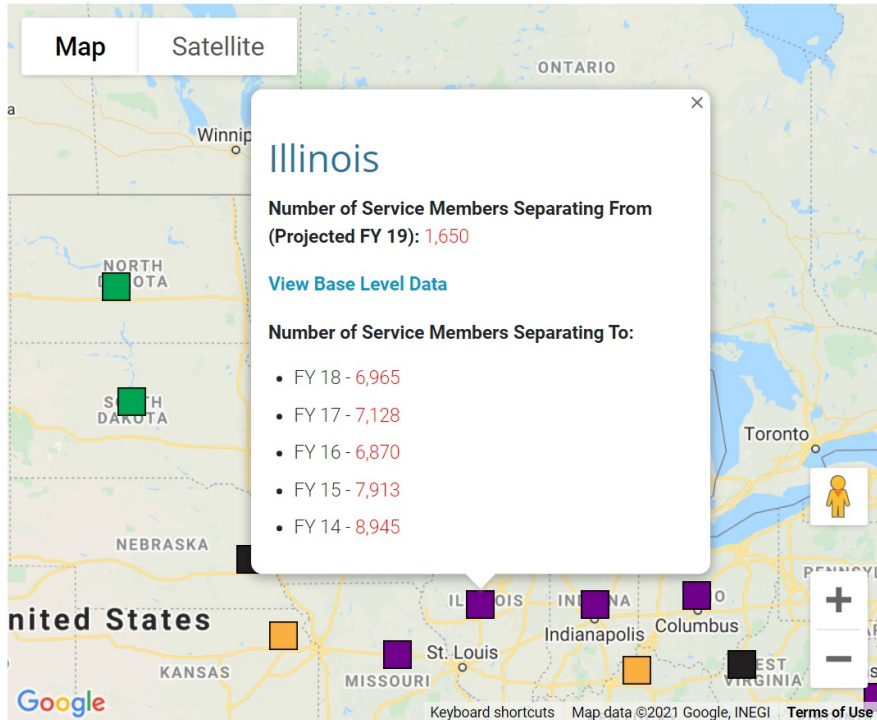
Top reasons military population face difficulties in post-service careers:

- Feeling of a lack of education and skill sets needed in the civilian workforce.
- Devalued by hiring managers
- Employers not understanding how military experiences can transfer to civilian work.
- Veterans may be qualified for certain positions, without a college education, many are not considered for positions.

Military and Apprenticeship Illinois Framework

- Veterans and transitioning service members looking for a new career opportunity is an underrepresented talent pool that fits well with the Apprenticeship Illinois framework.
- Apprenticeships are a unique pathway to align transferrable military training into workplace competencies, as well as identifying career pathways that are in high-demand.
- Navigators and Intermediaries can work in partnership with local veteran's administration offices and military installations to identify candidates interested in an apprenticeship program.

Military Transition Population



Each year, over 200,000 Service members transition out of the military. For FY19, 1,650 military personnel entered the civilian workforce.

SOURCE: Dept of Veteran's Affairs.

IWIB



Diverse Experiences

Veterans bring diverse experiences, a variety of skills, and their military training to the civilian workplace

Leadership skills:

- Take responsibility for self and actions
- Make sound and timely decisions
- Understand and accomplish assigned tasks
- Be dependable, disciplined
- Cultivate abilities to meet a variety of challenges

Training skills:

- Technical and tactical proficiency in a variety of skills
- Technical education for a specific military occupational specialty

Personal growth:

- Enhanced maturity
- Self-improvement
- Knowing oneself better (e.g., strengths, capabilities, areas for improvement)
- Strengthening of resiliency
- Working well in teams and understanding the importance of cooperation
- Looking out for the welfare of the team

Alignment with Industry Partners/Employers

- The Department of Defense invests tens of thousands of dollars in training for its Service members.
- This formal training is supplemented by extensive on-the-job training and accumulated hands-on experience gained throughout the Service member's career.
- The SkillBridge Program, taps into the expertise of transitioning Service members by sponsoring internship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities as a component of the program.
- [WorkforceGPS](#)

What is the DOD SkillBridge Program?

- The DOD SkillBridge program is for separating or transitioning service members during their time on active duty and for select groups of the National Guard and the Reserves.
- Through the program, the DOD will continue to provide these members their salary, allowances, and benefits while they are in training with DOD SkillBridge Industry Partners.

Note:

Military Spouses are also an untapped talent pool for apprenticeship opportunities.

SkillBridge Program

[DoD SkillBridge - SkillBridge Locations \(usalearning.gov\)](https://www.usalearning.gov)

- An opportunity for Service members to gain valuable civilian work experience through specific industry training, apprenticeships, or internships during the last 180 days of military service prior to separation.
- Connects Service members with industry partners and real-world job experiences that are designed to facilitate Service members' transition to civilian careers upon separation from their military service.
- The duration of a SkillBridge program must not be more than 180 days and must occur during a participating Service member's last 180 days on active duty in accordance with guidance described in DoD Instruction 1322.29.

SkillBridge Program Employer Benefits

- Employers benefit from gaining early access to the extensive experience, skills, and unmatched work ethics Service members bring to the workforce.
- Employers craft SkillBridge programs to meet their specific workforce needs, matching those needs to the skills and abilities of highly motivated Service members,
- No cost to the employer
- Tax credits
- Intermediaries can assist industry partners establish apprenticeship.

POST-9/11 GI BILL

<https://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do>

The comparison tool uses a list offering approved programs from the VA database. The list is updated daily.

Veterans can use the Post-9/11 GI Bill for college, trade schools, OJT, **apprenticeships** and flight schools.

The Bill can be applied to tuition, licensing/certification tests, and national exams.

Navigator and Intermediary Roles Working with Military Populations

Intermediary's Role:

- Assist employers in identifying transferrable competencies between military training and the job requirements,
- Assisting with registration the apprenticeship program,
- Serve as a liaison with the SkillsBridge Program.
- Work in partnership with Regional Vets Employment Coordinators, American Job Centers, VETS Employment Services

Navigator's Role:

- Recruit business sector employers to serve as a sponsor for SkillsBridge apprenticeship programs,
- Provide tax credit information for apprenticeship programs and hiring of veterans,
- Share previous success stories.
- Support industry-sector partners with TPM back-mapping strategies in identifying the untapped veteran talent pool.
- Support Intermediary as needed

Comments & Questions

APPRENTICESHIP NOFO WEBSITE

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<https://www.illinoisworknet.com/apprenticeshipnofo2021>



APPRENTICESHIP 2021 NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Background

In June 2021, Illinois received a *State Apprenticeship Expansion, Equity and Innovation Grant* for approximately \$6 million from the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to develop, modernize and diversify Registered Apprenticeships in Illinois. The objective of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to diversify apprenticeship programs and find innovative ways of employing the apprenticeship model to meet the needs of businesses, resulting in a total of 750 new registered apprenticeship programs by the end of 2024. It is Illinois' goal to use this NOFO to increase apprenticeship opportunities for historically underrepresented populations, including but not limited to: individuals with disabilities; youth from underserved communities; older workers; returning citizens from incarceration; and workers in jobs that have been severely impacted by COVID, such as the Arts, Entertainment, Recreation and Hospitality industries. This NOFO supports the Governor's priority of expanding apprenticeship opportunities in Illinois.



Read the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's (DCEO) [press release](#) about this funding opportunity.

For more information about Apprenticeships in Illinois, visit ApprenticeshipIllinois.com.

For information on previous Apprenticeship funding opportunities, visit [this page](#).

Program Design

The Apprenticeship Expansion Program design is centered on supporting businesses and individuals. Expanding apprenticeships helps businesses with their current and future workforce needs as well as individuals with a career pathway, which includes work-based learning. Commerce will accept proposals that expand registered apprenticeships in Illinois. This may include projects that serve youth, adults, displaced workers, and/or incumbent workers that are eligible under the

NOFO Materials

- 2021 Apprenticeship Expansion NOFO
- ATTACHMENT I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
- ATTACHMENT II. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Application Timeline



APPLICATION TIMELINES	
Grant Information Workshops	July
Applications Due	September 15, 2021
Grant Negotiation	October/November/December
Grant Award (Anticipated)	January 1, 2022



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Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
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Q and A



All questions regarding this NOFO must be submitted in writing via email to:

apprenticeship@illinoisworknet.com



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THANK YOU



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