

Veterans BizUp! Virtual Conference 2021 - Helpful Career Information

Session Title: Seeking A Career Path Strategy

A. Career Exploration Resources

1. Military Transition Assistance Program (TAP) - Attendance provides information and training for veterans to make a career change, pursue educational opportunities, or start a business; begins no later than 1 year or 365 days prior to transition
2. Maryland Workforce Exchange - Virtual resource for Maryland residents to connect with employers, job opportunities, etc., mwejobs.maryland.gov
3. CareerOneStop.org - Veteran and Military Transition Center - Online one-stop website for employment and training, <https://www.careeronestop.org/Veterans/default.aspx>
4. Post-secondary schooling - The desired career and its schooling requirements should drive pursuing a college major/program of study or attending a technical school

B. Career Exploration Strategies

1. What career(s) or business are you interested in pursuing after the military? The driving factors should be your interests, career goals and vision for your future.
2. Use military to civilian job translator to identify "job titles and descriptions" as well as qualifications and skills for comparable civilian occupations - Careeronestop.org or Maryland Workforce Exchange
3. Search for applicable "job titles and descriptions" via job search engines, USAJOBS.gov, Indeed.com, CareerBuilder.com, etc., in order to identify applicable job vacancies
4. Tailor your resume and cover letter to target *specific job vacancies "that you are most qualified for"*
5. Ask two or more civilian "subject matter experts" to review your resume against advertised job vacancy to ensure relevant qualifications, skills and experience highlight your best fit for the job(s)

C. Career Definitions

1. Career – a job progression that occurs over 10 years, 20 years, or more of a person's life with opportunities for greater responsibilities, pay, training, education, authority, status, etc.; or a series of different jobs in the same industry with more responsibility
2. Occupation – job specialization in which the people perform comparable tasks and have similar training, knowledge, skills and experience (example: career is doctor, an occupation is pediatrician)