

# Monthly Newsletter

March 2026



## MARCH SPOTLIGHTS



### **National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center March 2026 Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program Community of Practice: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran Justice Programs**

Please join our team on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 3 p.m. ET. The Community of Practice will host special guest speakers from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, including Dr. Matthew Stimmel, National Training Director of the Veteran Justice Programs, to discuss resources grant recipients can use to support Justice-Involved veterans. There will be an opportunity at the end for questions.

[Register Here](#)



**National Veterans'  
Training Institute**  
a DOL VETS Program



## Spring into learning with the National Veterans' Training Institute!

The full course schedule, featuring more than eighty courses, is now available through September 2026. Take advantage of the wide variety of courses available - virtual, in-person, online cohorts and more engaging, dynamic learning experiences to meet your needs.

Don't miss out on our new, three-day in-person course, [Interviewing, Presenting, and Resume Writing Course Bundle](#), delivered in Dallas, Texas from April 28-30th. This course provides veteran service providers with tools to effectively review and enhance resumes, translate military experience into civilian and federal qualifications, and align resumes with job requirements. You can find more information about attending in-person courses at the [National Veterans' Training Institute Travel Frequently Asked Questions](#). Space is limited, so register today!

Visit the [National Veterans' Training Institute Class Schedule](#) to see what is being offered, then head to Registering for [National Veterans' Training Institute Classes](#) to enroll.

The National Veteran's Training  
Institute Website

The National Veteran's Training  
Institute Class Schedule

## RESOURCES



**New Registered  
Apprenticeship  
Resource**

## Registered Apprenticeship: A Career Pathway for Veterans

The National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center recently released a [Registered Apprenticeship Quick Guide](#) highlighting how Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program grant recipients can connect the veterans they serve to Registered Apprenticeship opportunities. Registered Apprenticeship is an employer-driven career pathway that combines paid on-the-job learning, related instruction, progressive wage increases, and a nationally recognized credential. With [more than 800,000 apprentices nationwide](#), strong retention outcomes, and competitive long-term earnings, Registered Apprenticeship programs are expanding beyond traditional trades into high-growth sectors such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, healthcare, and advanced manufacturing.

Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program grant recipients can help veterans access these apprenticeship opportunities by using tools such as the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship's [Apprenticeship Finder](#), the U.S. Department of War's [Credentialing Opportunities Online website](#) to align military occupational codes with apprenticeable careers, and American Job Centers through CareerOneStop. Building strategic partnerships with [State Apprenticeship Offices](#), [Chambers of Commerce](#), and [Local Workforce Development Boards](#) can further strengthen referral pipelines and employer connections. These partnerships position Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Programs as key talent pipelines to Registered Apprenticeship program sponsors seeking skilled and work-ready veterans.

Veterans may also be able to leverage funding supports to make participation more sustainable. [GI Bill benefits](#) can provide housing allowances or stipends, while [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act resources](#) can cover portions of related instruction costs, tuition, tools, transportation, and other supportive services.

Registered Apprenticeship Overview Microlearning



## Online Process Makes It Easier for Veterans to Get a Social Security Card

Many veterans need a Social Security number and card in order to apply for employment, enroll in training, or access workforce services. The [Social Security Administration](#) now allows individuals to begin the application process for an original Social Security number or replacement card online, making it faster and more efficient to obtain this essential employment document. The online system walks applicants through a few screening questions to determine eligibility and next steps, and in many cases allows the request to be processed electronically.

If an in-person visit is required, applicants can schedule an appointment in advance to reduce wait times. Veterans should review required documentation beforehand and bring original or certified copies to their appointment. Offices also offer Mobile Check-in Express via QR code to streamline arrival. Once verified, cards are typically mailed within 10 business days.

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## Partnering with Your Local U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care connects shelters, transitional housing providers, street outreach teams, behavioral health agencies, Rapid Re-Housing programs, and Permanent Supportive Housing providers. Many of these providers are serving veterans who need employment services but may not yet be connected to Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Programs. Intentional partnership can significantly strengthen enrollment and coordinate service delivery.

Building relationships creates structured referral pathways and improves service coordination. Presenting your Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care meetings, establishing Memorandum of Understandings, conducting regular check-ins, and collaborating to support veterans served by both programs can help ensure a steady stream of appropriate referrals. These partnerships are especially critical in-service delivery areas with high veteran populations where enrollment has been slower than anticipated. Coordinated engagement also ensures veterans receive wraparound support such as housing navigation, mental health services, Veterans Affairs' benefits access, food assistance, legal aid, and transportation.

Locate your regional contact through the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Exchange Continuum of Care directory](#). The National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center also has a video on [Identifying Your Service Delivery Area Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care Point of Contact](#).

Beyond presenting at general meetings, consider meeting directly with intake staff, case managers, and outreach workers who assess veterans daily. Provide referral materials, clarify how to make referrals, and follow up consistently. Relationship-building takes time but when those connections mature, referrals become routine, and your employment pipeline strengthens accordingly.

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## **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Simplifies Access to Education Benefits**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is making it easier for veterans to learn about their education and training benefits following the 2024 Rudisill Supreme Court decision and the Perkins v. Collins ruling. Previously, more than 1 million veterans were identified as potentially eligible, and some were asked to submit claims to receive a formal decision. Veterans Affairs has removed this requirement. Veterans no longer need to request a review; Veterans Affairs will automatically review records of potentially eligible veterans and issue a decision or notify veterans if additional action is needed. These automatic reviews also apply to veterans who may qualify for multiple education benefit programs based on a single period of service, as well as those who exhaust benefits while enrolled in school. Veterans can learn more on the Veterans Affairs' webpage covering the Rudisill and Perkins education benefits updates: [Impact of Rudisill and Perkins Supreme Court Decision on Veterans' Education Benefits - Education and Training](#).



## Stand Downs for Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

Stand Downs are typically one- to three-day events providing supplies and services to veterans experiencing homelessness such as food, shelter, clothing, health screenings, and Veterans Affairs Social Security benefits counseling. Veterans can also receive referrals to other assistance such as health care, housing solutions, employment, substance use treatment and mental health counseling. They are collaborative events, coordinated between local Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, the U.S. Department of Labor, other government agencies and community based homeless service providers.

This noncompetitive grant is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to support one day or multi-day events at up to \$7,000 or \$10,000, respectively.

Eligible entities include:

- state workforce agencies,
- state and local workforce investment boards,
- veterans service organizations, and
- local public agencies and nonprofit organizations including community and faith-based organizations.

If you are interested in applying for a Stand Down grant, contact your Veterans' Employment and Training Service state director or follow the link on the Veterans' [Employment and Training Service Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program homepage](#) to [Stand Down Grant Information](#).

Awarded Applicant	City	County	State	Event Date	Event Length
Goodwill - Kosciusko	Kosciusko	Warsaw	IN	May 16, 2026	1 Day
Bluegrass Area Development District, Inc.	Lexington	Fayette	KY	May 14, 2026	1 Day
One Community Now, Inc.	Tampa	Hillsborough	FL	April 24-25, 2026	Multi-day
Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry, Inc. (West)	Asheville	Buncombe	NC	May 8, 2026	1 Day
Goodwill - Elkhart	Goshen	Elkhart	IN	June 13, 2026	1 Day

*Do you have a success story you would like to share? If you are a grant recipient who helped a veteran who is struggling with housing or employment, we would love to hear from you at [nvtac@dol.gov](mailto:nvtac@dol.gov).*

### ***Outreach at the National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center***

The National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center outreach coach is available to provide information, answer questions, and guide interested organizations through the process of getting involved with the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program. If you know of organizations that could benefit from learning more about Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program, you can refer them to National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center Outreach Coach Miranda Moffat at:

**[Moffat.Miranda.M@dol.gov](mailto:Moffat.Miranda.M@dol.gov)  
(734) 406-7525**

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