

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Third Annual Hiring Red, White & You! Veterans Hiring Fair to Take Place Nov. 13
Job fairs for veterans and spouses hosted by 28 local workforce development board areas across Texas

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), in partnership with 28 local workforce development boards and the [Texas Veterans Commission](#), will host statewide veterans hiring fairs on Nov. 13. TWC’s third annual [Hiring Red, White & You! Statewide Hiring Fair](#) is a joint initiative supported by the Office of the Governor, the Texas Medical Center and the Texas Veterans Commission to connect veterans in Texas with employers who are hiring.

“Texas wants to do everything it can to thank our heroes for their service, and the Hiring Red, White & You! Statewide Hiring Fair is one way we can,” said Gov. Rick Perry. “This campaign helps veterans take their skills and forge new careers in Texas, while helping employers meet the experienced workers they need to fill open positions in their companies. This is a win-win-win for veterans, employers and Texas.”

The Hiring Red, White & You! Statewide Hiring Fair is designed to assist veterans, service members and their spouses find their next career opportunity. Employers may participate at no cost and are encouraged to contact their local Workforce Solutions office for more information. Last year’s Hiring Red, White & You! hiring events attracted more than 11,000 job seekers and 1,562 employers statewide, and resulted in approximately 67 onsite hires and many more connections made that resulted in interviews and post-event job offers.

“The military is one of the nation’s most important sources of well-educated and highly-trained individuals who have a variety of technical and professional skills,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “The Hiring Red, White & You! Statewide Hiring Fair is a wonderful opportunity for Texas employers to hire these highly skilled veterans.”

The Texas Veterans Commission is preparing veterans for these hiring fairs by assisting them with applications and résumés, interviewing techniques, as well as one-on-one counseling services.

“Through military training, veterans have acquired advanced skills in high stakes environments, something employers are looking for because it is good business,” said Texas Veterans Commission Executive Director Thomas Palladino. “This hiring fair represents a great example of Texas employers working together to help those who have served our nation as they begin the next chapter of their lives.”

The national unemployment rate for all veterans is 6.6 percent¹. In contrast, for those veterans who served in the military since September 2001, the unemployment rate is higher at 9.0 percent². The Hiring Red, White & You! Statewide Hiring Fair will help provide opportunities for employment to the estimated 1.6 million³ veterans in Texas.

“Many highly-qualified service members are transferring back to civilian life every day,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “I encourage all veterans looking for employment to seek out the Hiring Red, White & You! hiring fair taking place in their area. This is a great way to network with employers looking to hire a skilled workforce. I would also urge our veterans to take advantage of the services available at [Workforce Solutions](#) offices around the state.”

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TWC certifies employer claims for the [Work Opportunity Tax Credit](#), which allows employers to receive up to \$9,600 on federal business income or payroll tax benefits when they hire from certain qualified groups of veterans.

“The Work Opportunity Tax Credit is just an extra incentive for employers who hire veterans,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Hope Andrade. “The real incentive to hire a veteran is that your business benefits from a well-trained and dependable team member with a strong work ethic. I encourage Texas employers statewide to take part in this year’s Hiring Red, White & You event.”

Information on how employers and job seekers can participate in Hiring Red, White & You! job fairs may be found at www.texasworkforce.org/hrwy. Please note that some job fair locations have changed since last year. For information on all veteran workforce services available in Texas, visit www.texasworkforce.org/veterans.

1. Bureau of Labor Statistics: Employment Situation of Veterans, veterans 18 and over, not seasonally adjusted. <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/vet.htm>
2. Bureau of Labor Statistics: Employment Situation of Veterans, Gulf War-era II veterans, not seasonally adjusted. <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/vet.htm>
3. Bureau of Labor Statistics: Employment Situation of Veterans, veterans 18 and over, not seasonally adjusted. <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/vet.htm>

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.