



# Hire Minnesota's Veteran



## Beyond the Yellow Ribbon

**There are many unemployed Minnesota veterans.** According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national unemployment rate for veterans from the post-9/11 Gulf War was almost 12 percent, as of 2010. Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development reports that Minnesota's overall unemployment rate as of December 2011 was 5.7 percent.

An Interagency Military Employment Work Group was established in late spring 2011. Facilitated by the Minnesota National Guard's Deployment Cycle Support Team, partners from more than 20 state, federal and local entities have aligned employment resources and identified a process for Servicemembers to find employment and for employers to find Servicemembers.

To kick start this employment process, 11 professionals traveled to Kuwait March 1-7, 2012, to prepare the 19 percent of the Minnesota National Guard's 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team that face unemployment after their deployment.

**FOR VETERANS:** Dedication, smart planning and strategic networking will lead to a job. Start at [www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/Veterans](http://www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/Veterans), where you'll be connected to a clear, three step process to put your military skills to work in a new career.

*The three steps are:*

**STEP ONE:** Visit your nearest [Minnesota Workforce Center](#) and contact a veteran employment representative.

**STEP TWO:** Use the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities "[MyMilitary GPS Lifeplan](#)" to create a career goal.

**STEP THREE:** Post your resume on [www.MinnesotaWorks.net](http://www.MinnesotaWorks.net).

**FOR BUSINESSES:** Hiring a veteran is good business. Start at [www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/Veterans](http://www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/Veterans), where you'll be connected to a clear, three step process to hire a veteran. PositivelyMinnesota.com is where prospective employers and veterans looking for work meet, and good business gets better.

*The three steps are:*

**STEP ONE:** Post your available job on [www.MinnesotaWorks.net](http://www.MinnesotaWorks.net), and label it "veteran-friendly."

**STEP TWO:** Visit your nearest [Minnesota Workforce Center](#) and contact a veterans employment representative. Let them know you want to hire a veteran.

**STEP THREE:** Connect with your local Yellow Ribbon Network to find Servicemembers that may be looking for a new opportunity. Find your network at [www.BeyondTheYellowRibbon.org](http://www.BeyondTheYellowRibbon.org).