

# Warrior Support News

For National Guard Soldiers and Airmen

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National Guard Bureau  
J1 - Warrior Support Office  
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## USEFUL LINKS:

National Guard Bureau:  
[ngb.army.mil](http://ngb.army.mil)

Office of Reserve Affairs:  
[defenseink.mil/ra](http://defenseink.mil/ra)

Find VA facilities:  
[va.gov/directory](http://va.gov/directory) / 877.222.vets

For OIF/OEF Vets:  
[seamlesstransition.va.gov](http://seamlesstransition.va.gov)

Benefits Info:  
[yba.va.gov](http://yba.va.gov) / 800.827.1000

Get a copy of your DD214:  
[vetrecs.archives.gov](http://vetrecs.archives.gov)

Veterans Employment & Training:  
[dol.gov/vets](http://dol.gov/vets)

Employment info:  
[vetjobs.com](http://vetjobs.com)

Education Benefits:  
[gibill.va.gov](http://gibill.va.gov) / 888.442.4551

Jobs, schools, pay:  
[militaryconnection.com](http://militaryconnection.com)

Wounded Warrior Website:  
[aw2portal.com](http://aw2portal.com) / 800.237.1336

For quality of life info/resources:  
[militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://militaryhomefront.dod.mil)

For transition services:  
[turbotap.org](http://turbotap.org)

For redeployment info:  
[afterdeployment.org](http://afterdeployment.org)

## TO SUBSCRIBE TO THIS NEWSLETTER:

Email [warriorsupport@ng.army.mil](mailto:warriorsupport@ng.army.mil)



## It's Time To File - Free Tax Services

Here are some options for National Guard members in filing your taxes for free:

- Military OneSource - Provides free tax consultation and filing services. TaxCut Basic Online by H&R Block is offered free to active duty, National Guard and Reserve Service members and their families. Tax consultants are available by email or phone (800.730.3802) to help with personal tax-related questions and financial planning. Log onto [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) for more information.
- VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. A military-based program which provides free tax advice, tax preparation, return filing and other tax assistance to military members and their families. For more information about this program, log onto [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com).
- Through [www.irs.com](http://www.irs.com) you may take advantage of free tax preparation and e-filing through Free File if your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is \$56,000 or less for 2008. You may also be interested in using Free File's Fillable Forms, a new tool that allows you to self-select your federal income tax forms and schedules.
- For specific tax information and special benefits for members of the US Armed Forces, go to [www.irs.gov/newsroom](http://www.irs.gov/newsroom).
- Your state/territory may offer additional tax benefits as a result of your military service. Contact your Transition Assistance Advisor (see page 2) for more information.

**Wednesday, April 15th is the tax filing deadline.** Consult a tax specialist for advice.

## Advance Your Skills with Veterans Green Jobs



Looking for a new job? You may want to check out **The Veterans Green Jobs Academy** which provides individualized mentoring, support and attention aimed at helping you maximize your potential, not only during the program, but throughout your career. In order to provide the best career development for veterans, the academy has different types of training - - from 2 months to a full academic year program, as well as residential and non-residential programs. The Academy also provides intensive education, training and career development services for vets interested in careers in the green industries.

The first Home Energy Auditor Training (HEAT) will begin this spring, and more programs will start later this year in the summer and fall. Training programs will be based in the San Luis Valley of Colorado, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Washington in 2009. Eight to ten states are expected to open their own programs in 2010 and possibly more in the coming year. They are also partnering with a non-residential program where focusing on outdoor conservation and restoration is already transforming both people's lives and land.

To learn more about Green Jobs Training Programs, go to [www.veteransgreenjobs.org](http://www.veteransgreenjobs.org).

**NATIONAL CRISIS HOTLINE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE 24/7/365 - - -  
1.800.273.TALK (8255)**

## The Veterans Airlift Command

The VAC provides free air transportation to wounded warriors, veterans, their families and friends for medical and moral support by working with a national network of volunteer aircraft owners and pilots. Currently, priority is given to OIF/OEF veterans for these services with the hope that as they expand they will be able to serve other conflicts as well.

The reasons behind pilots volunteering their time and effort for this commendable program include their desire to serve those who have served; and additionally, this program enables these volunteer pilots to maintain their proficiency while performing a valuable service to the veterans. Some owners and pilots come from a military background, are seasoned aviators, or they simply love to fly.

Due to pilot and aircraft availability schedules, missions are prioritized based on OIF/OEF medical needs, the needs of family and friends visiting Service members, and other medical needs of the veterans. Walt Fricke, Founder of Veterans Airlift Command, said it best when he commented, "I spent six months in a hospital 700 miles from my hometown recovering from combat injuries sustained while flying a helicopter in Vietnam. My healing began in earnest when my family was able to gather the resources to make a trip to visit me." To read more about the Veterans Airlift Command and their services, visit [www.veteransairlift.org](http://www.veteransairlift.org).

## Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

The National Guard Bureau is committed to eliminating incidents of sexual assault. NGB policy focuses on increased awareness and provides education, victim centered support, intimidation-free reporting, thorough investigation, and accountability for those who commit sexual crimes.

Victims of sexual assault are encouraged to seek support and care. The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) assists in coordinating sexual assault victim care and support and provides resources to the victim, both military and civilian, and ensures victims get the treatment they need. The SARC is located in your State Joint Forces Headquarters.

If you'd like more info on the Sexual Assault Program or wish to locate the SARC nearest you, call 866.601.0577 any time, day or night.

## National Guard Child Care Program - Free \$\$\$ for Child Care

You may be entitled to money to assist your family while you are activated or deployed. Advocates can help you determine eligibility requirements and which supplements are available to you, while also guiding you through the application process. The National Guard leadership is also made aware of the needs that are not met by supplements.

Supplement rates are based on several factors including child care costs and family income. All income levels may be eligible to receive a minimum of \$100 per child per month for full time child care while the spouse is working, going to school full time, or looking for work. Guardians may also apply.

Don't wait until child care costs and military commitment take a toll on your finances. The NGCCP can determine what supplements are available to help you pay for child care. Call now for more info - 866.642.2799.

Have you contacted the Transition Assistance Advisor (TAA) in your state or territory to help guide you access the benefits and entitlements you have earned or would you like to learn more about them? Call 703.607.5485 or go to [www.taapmo.com/TAAPProgram.htm](http://www.taapmo.com/TAAPProgram.htm) or email [warriorsupport@ng.army.mil](mailto:warriorsupport@ng.army.mil) to locate the TAA in your state.



**Website Especially For OEF/OIF Veterans**

**Log onto: [www.oefoif.va.gov](http://www.oefoif.va.gov)**