Capitalizing on Employing Military Servicemembers

• Every year over 200,000 **Servicemembers** leave the military

  ▪ Some return to their home states, others are looking for opportunities where they currently live

  ▪ They may be leaving the service after a short term or they may be retiring

  ▪ All have had some level of professional development and technical training

▪ Approximately **3,000 to 4,000** will return to or stay in Kentucky

Our challenge: Make Kentucky a great choice for employment!
SkillBridge (SB) is a program developed by the U.S. Department of Defense. It allows civilian businesses to provide job skills training to service members during their last six months of their military service – mainly through conducting an internship program.

Career Skills Program (CSP) is the Army’s version of the DoD SB program. There are a few slight differences but overall it is very similar.

All Branches of the active-duty military are eligible to participate in these programs, but first must have approval from their Chain of Command.
What are benefits to the Transitioning Servicemembers?

* Opportunity to work in the civilian sector before they leave the service (up to the last six months prior to leaving the military)

* Gain valuable insight into career opportunities and showcase the skills they learned in the service

* Chance to have employment immediately upon leaving the service in a career field they are interested in
What are benefits to the Employer?

• Opportunity to engage servicemembers as they are transitioning out of the military and to learn what they can bring to your workforce

• Value of hiring dependable, highly skilled, servicemembers

• Not committed to hire the participant – intent is to help servicemembers to better understand civilian work and life
General information for Skillbridge partners

* The employer needs to have a plan on what their internship will provide in the way of training and learning opportunities

* The Servicemember must have a high probability of employment

* Servicemembers can not be paid by the SkillBridge partner during the internship, they still receive full benefits from the military

* Each branch of service have their own processes and procedures for entering into an agreement – there is a Memorandum of Agreement between the employer and the DoD
How do you become a partner?

• To get started visit - [skillbridge.osd.mil](http://skillbridge.osd.mil)
• Click on Industry Partners/Employers
• Fill out the requested information and submit it for approval
• A member of the SkillBridge program will contact you with further details

Please keep me in the loop on your submission so I can be your advocate with the SkillBridge DoD Team – they receive hundreds of requests every week.
How do Transitioning Servicemembers find you?

- Transition Assistance Program – part of last 12 months of service
- SkillBridge website – CSP opportunities are listed here as well
- They reach out to prospective employers
Thank You

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