

SkillBridge (SB) / Career Skills Program (CSP)

Spotlight Presentation for the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board April 6, 2022

KWIB Sub-Committee: Veterans and Transitioning Servicemembers (VATS)

Transitioning Servicemembers to Civilian Employment

Military Members

Looking for your next step after your military service? You are in the right place.



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!

What is SkillBridge?

Connecting returning Service members to career job training opportunities.



- 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 <u>high probability</u> 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



Benefit from the unique experience, skills, and unmatched work ethos military members bring to the workforce.



How do you become a partner?

- To get started visit 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



