

Update on the Enhanced Outreach and Employment Services for UCX Claimants Initiative

Aka the UCX Initiative (Unemployment Compensation
for Ex-Service Members)

North Carolina Department of Commerce
Division of Workforce Solutions

THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR EX-MILITARY MEMBERS INITIATIVE:

A coordinated partnership among the Unemployment System, Public Workforce System, and the three branches of the Army (Active Army, the National Guard and the Army Reserves);

Improved sharing of UCX data for better outreach to UCX customers;

Improved outreach, exposure to jobs, and reemployment strategies for UCX customers that utilize existing resources, and a test population for new and/or innovative strategies.



UCX Initiative Update

The Army UCX Initiative Grant sponsored by the US Department of Labor selected four states in 2012; Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina and Texas to develop and model new strategies to reduce the unemployment claim duration.

In NC, since March 2013, over 5,100 unemployed Army veterans have been contacted via letter and/or email with instructions to report to a Career Center for transition assistance.

UCX Initiative Activities

- Training for our designated veteran staff and other professional staff,
- Purchase & distribute military transition guides for our Army UCX veterans,
- Website expansion with additional resources for veterans,
- Sponsored the Veteran Computer Resource Center for the Fayetteville Career Center,
- Even though the initiative targets Army veterans receiving UCX, there are several other benefits to all veterans built into the Initiative.

Statistics

- In April 2014 the seasonally adjusted UI rate in NC was 6.2%, and the national UI rate is 6.3% (Labor & Analysis Division, NC Dept. of Commerce)
- The overall UI rate for veterans in NC is 6.2% (average from 2013) USDOL/Bureau of Labor Statistics
- There are approximately 60,000 homeless veterans in the US, and approximately 1,100 in NC. (US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, 2013)
- Due to force realignment and the Afghanistan drawdown, the veteran population is expected to increase by 200,000 each year for the next five years.
- NC is home to almost 800,00 veterans

Pertinent links for veterans provided by the NC Division of Workforce Solutions:

-Our [NC DWS Veteran Resource Page](#) link.

-Our DWS agency Facebook page for veterans is at: <https://www.facebook.com/NCvets>.

-In addition to services provided in our workforce offices, veterans are also encouraged to register, search for jobs, create functional resumes, and find education and training using our virtual job search and referral system, [NCWorks Online](#).

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) Veterans Tax Savings (From July 2012 thru June 2013)

A total of 6,281 Veterans were hired-

	# Served	Tax Credit	<i>Potential Tax Savings</i>
➤ Qualified Unemployed Veteran (Group J)	2	2,400	4,800
➤ Qualified Veterans SNAP (Grp B)	516	2,400	1,238,400
➤ Qualified Veterans w/SCD (Grp S)	227	4,800	1,089,600
➤ Qualified Veteran unemployed 4 wks (Grp R)	1082	2,400	2,596,800
➤ Qualified Veteran unemployed 6 mos (Grp Q)	3280	5,600	18,368,000
➤ Qualified Veteran w/SCD unemployed (Grp W)	1174	9,600	11,270,400
Total Potential Tax Savings	6281		34,568,000

Recent Legislation

- **House Bill 322-- CDL Requirements/Military Experience (signed 26 June 2013)**
- Veterans meeting the required experience/criteria are eligible for a CDL skills test waiver, and only have to pass the written test to obtain a NC CDL, assuming other physical exam requirements are met.
- The CDL Waiver Guidelines has been posted to the NC DWV website: [The NC DMV Guidelines for the Military CDL Waiver Program](#)

Other activities

Scheduled for implementation in 2015, UNC-CH School of Medicine via sponsorship from Blue Cross Blue Shield will recruit Ft Bragg Special Forces Medics for their Physician Assistant Program.

[NC Health News --From Army Medics to Physician Assistants](#)

Questions?

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