Military Outreach Plan Targeted at Veterans

The Military Outreach Plan Targeted at Veterans developed by Technical Retraining to Achieve Credentials (TRAC-7) is a program support document used to guide and document the TRAC-7 Military Transitions Program outreach activities. This military outreach plan was developed for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) Grant Program Round 1 Grant, Technical Retraining to Achieve Credentials (TRAC-7): TC-22513-11-60-A-20.

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Technical Retraining to Achieve Credentials

Military Outreach Plan

Technical Retraining to Achieve Credentials (TRAC-7) is a Round 1 Department of Labor (DOL) Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant program. TRAC-7 is a consortium of seven technical and community colleges in Kansas offering signature programs to prepare skilled graduates for high-demand, high-wage careers in growing industries.

The purpose of TRAC-7 is to facilitate the delivery of career training programs that a) can be completed in two years or less, b) are adaptable across a wide skills and experience range for TAA-eligible, unemployed, and under-employed individuals, and c) prepare workers for employment in high-wage, high-skill occupations. TRAC-7 meets the needs of the target population and employers by providing access to a variety of training opportunities that are tailored to individual needs and aptitudes, and career pathways that have multiple entry and exit points through flexible learning environments.

TRAC-7 identified Veterans and Service Members (SMs) as a growing population sector in need of technical training. TRAC-7 sought to develop a Military Transitions Training Program to assist Veterans and SMs with transitions from military careers into high-wage, high-demand jobs. The TRAC-7 Military Transitions Program primary goal was to assist unemployed/ underemployed Veterans and SMs in meeting their educational or career training needs. The primary focus of the Military Transitions Program is on Veterans and SMs who are looking for training and skills for employment in high-wage, high-demand jobs in the civilian sector.

Most Veterans and SMs have unique skills such as the ability to work in teams, professional communication skills, problem solving abilities and other workplace skills needed by employers, but need assistance translating these military skills to meet civilian requirements. Many Veterans and SMs need assistance to identify an educational path that could lead to a stable career or pre-employment training to help them compete for and land high wage, high skill jobs. Some Veterans and SMs do not know what educational benefits are available or where to find assistance.

The TRAC-7 Military Transition Program Outreach Plan was implemented by a full-time Military Transitions Coordinator funded through the TRAC-7 TAACCCT grant. The following Outreach Plan can be broadly adapted for Veteran and Service Member support services at post-secondary higher education institutions.

The TRAC-7 Military Transition Program Outreach Plan was implemented through five areas:

**1. Consortium Program Awareness and Relationship Building**

1.1 Foster positive relationships between state military agencies and consortium partners

1.2 Inform military leaders on consortium programs and services

1.3 Participate in consortium leadership meetings

**2. Military Outreach Efforts**

2.1 Visit Kansas military offices to promote consortium programs and services

2.2 Attend Military Job and Education Fairs

2.3 Attend Kansas National Guard Yellow Ribbon Ceremonies

2.4 Request opportunities to brief military personnel concerning consortium programs and services in accordance with Education Service Office guidelines and directives

**3. Continuous Research, Improvement and Training**

3.1 Identify gaps in the Veteran’s employment efforts and determines ways to close them

3.2 Research and share Veteran programs and services with Veterans and SMs

3.3 General knowledge of the GoArmyEd System

3.4 Join Veteran LinkedIn Groups to stay current on programs, services and issues
3.5 Remain knowledgeable of consortium school programs and services

3.6 Research, document and share websites that provide Veterans benefits and services

3.7 Remain knowledgeable of policies that help Service Members pursue education opportunities

3.8 Maintain general knowledge of the following:

* Federal Tuition Assistance
* State Tuition Assistance
* GI Bill Programs (Chapters 30, 1606, 1607, 33)
* National Guard State-funded Education Programs
* Federal Loans
* Scholarships
* Grants

3.9 Assist Veterans and Service Members with identifying civilian credentials related to their enlisted Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) or Military Occupation Specialty (MOS)

**4. Collaboration with Industry, Businesses, Educational Institutions and Employment Agencies**

4.1 Educate area industry and businesses on consortium programs and services

4.2 Join and participate with the Advisory Council of Military Education (ACME)

4.3 Contact area Chamber of Commerce offices to inform them of consortium programs and services

4.4 Contact area Economic Development Offices to determine employment opportunities

4.5 Form partnerships with area temp-to-hire agencies

4.6 Assist consortium partners with actions to make institutions Veteran-friendly

4.7 Establish professional relationships with the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) and Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs (KCVA)

4.8 Provide support for KBOR and KCVA Veterans Initiatives (e.g., KanVet)

**5. Job Placement Assistance and Follow-up**

5.1 Help Veterans and SMs overcome barriers to identifying educational paths and employment opportunities

5.2 Refer Veterans and SMs to agencies that provide self-marketing and networking skills

5.3 Refer unemployed/underemployed Veterans and SMs to Kansas Works Veteran services

5.4 Refer unemployed/underemployed Veterans and SMs to services provided by the Kansas Commission on Veteran Affairs (KCVA)

5.5 Encourage unemployed/underemployed SMs to register with local temp-to-hire agencies

5.5 Email unemployed/underemployed Veterans and SMs job announcements received from industry partners

Military Transition Program

Primary Goal of our Military Transition Program: To assist unemployed/underemployed Veterans and Service Members (SMs) in obtaining a high demand, high paying careers via education paths and/or employment assistance.

 Relationship Building Links to additional information: ­­­­

KanVet provides direct access to State of Kansas veteran-specific resources & benefits [kcva.ks.gov/kanvet](http://kcva.ks.gov/kanvet). Information can also be found at the TRAC-7 web site.

[trac7.org/kanvet](http://www.trac7.org/kanvet)

2015---**Continued to Participate & Share Services, Employment Announcements, Interviews & Resources**

Five Stage Model

1. **Consortium Program Awareness & Relationship Building**
2. **Military Outreach Efforts**
3. **Continuous Research, Improvement & Training**
4. **Collaboration with Business, Industry, Educational Institutions & Employment Agencies**
5. **Job Placement Assistance & Follow-up**

2014---**Enhanced a questionnaire for veterans: intent was to identify barriers with solders finding educational and training opportunities**

**Shared and assisted with Outreach materials**

 **& continued to promote TRAC-7 Programs**

**2012---Began the TRAC-7 Military Transition Process**

**Briefed solders about TRAC-7 programs**

2013---**Established a partnership between TRAC-7 and KanVet**

**Participated & Briefed solders, partners & businesses about TRAC-7**

**Created transition program for Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)**

TRAC-7 signature program information can be found at [www.trac7.org](http://www.trac7.org)

American Council on Education (ACE) website provides a tool to convert Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marines MOS/Occupations into job descriptions <http://www.militaryguides.acenet.edu/OccupationSearchResults.asp>

Military newletters