

NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION

TOPIC 1: ECONOMY

BIDEN TO PROPOSE \$6 TRILLION BUDGET TO MAKE U.S. MORE COMPETITIVE



Competitive Supply Chain Infrastructure Initiative

President Biden will propose a \$6 trillion budget on Friday that would take the United States to its highest sustained levels of federal spending since World War II as he looks to fund a sweeping economic agenda that includes large new investments in education, transportation and fighting climate change.

Documents obtained by The New York Times show that the budget request, the first of Mr. Biden's presidency, calls for total spending to rise to \$8.2 trillion by 2031, with deficits running above \$1.3 trillion throughout the next decade. The growth is driven by Mr. Biden's two-part agenda to upgrade the nation's infrastructure and substantially expand the social safety net, contained in his [American Jobs Plan](#) and [American Families Plan](#), along with other planned increases in [discretionary spending](#).

The proposal for the 2022 fiscal year and ensuing decade shows the sweep of Mr. Biden's ambitions to wield government power to help more Americans attain the comforts of a middle-class life and to lift U.S. industry to better compete globally.

The levels of taxation and spending in Mr. Biden's plans would expand the federal fiscal footprint to levels rarely seen in the postwar era to fund investments that his administration says are crucial to keeping America competitive. That includes money for roads, water pipes, broadband internet, electric vehicle charging stations and advanced manufacturing research. But it also envisions funding for affordable child care, universal prekindergarten and a national paid leave program —

initiatives that Republicans have balked at bankrolling. Military spending would also grow, though it would decline as a share of the economy.

“Now is the time to build the foundation that we’ve laid, to make bold investments in our families, in our communities, in our nation,” Mr. Biden told a crowd in Cleveland on Thursday. “We know from history that these kinds of investments raise both the floor and the ceiling of an economy for everybody.”

Mr. Biden plans to finance his agenda by raising taxes on corporations and high earners, and the documents show budget deficits shrinking in the 2030s. Administration officials have said the jobs and families plans would be fully offset by tax increases over the course of 15 years, which the budget request also anticipates.

The documents forecast that Mr. Biden and Congress will allow tax cuts for low- and middle-income Americans, signed into law by President Donald J. Trump in 2017, to expire as scheduled in 2025. Mr. Biden has said he will not raise taxes on people earning less than \$400,000 a year. It is possible that he could propose to extend the Trump tax cuts for those earners in a future budget, potentially coupled with additional tax increases on high earners or businesses.

While his plan projects additional tax revenue down the line, the United States would run significant deficits as it borrows money to finance his plans. Under Mr. Biden’s proposal, the federal budget deficit would hit \$1.8 trillion in 2022, even as the economy rebounds from the pandemic recession to grow at what the administration predicts would be its fastest annual pace since the early 1980s. The deficit would recede slightly in the following years before growing again to nearly \$1.6 trillion by 2031.

Total debt held by the public would more than exceed the annual value of economic output, rising to 117 percent of the size of the economy in 2031. By 2024, debt as a share of the economy would rise to its highest level in American history, eclipsing a World War II-era record.

Republicans warned on Thursday that Mr. Biden’s spending and tax plans would saddle the economy with dangerous levels of debt and accused him of abandoning his pledge not to raise taxes on the middle class.

“President Biden’s budget blunder sets us up for an even worse economic recovery than the Obama-Biden record of the slowest in history,” said Representative Kevin Brady of Texas, the top Republican on the Ways and Means Committee. “Lower- and middle-income families are already suffering under the stealth tax of higher prices. Now the president wants their income taxes to go up as well.”

Some fiscal hawks also sounded a cautious note, welcoming Mr. Biden’s commitment to paying for new spending but warning that the nation faces daunting fiscal challenges.

“This proposal includes significant temporary spending within 10 years that’s paid for over 15 years with permanent revenues,” said Michael Peterson, the chief executive of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, which supports curbing the national debt over time. “While this certainly projects out more favorably than pure deficit spending, in the end it will only be as fiscally responsible as our future fortitude to actually stop the spending and continue the revenues.”

The budget is simply a request to Congress, which must approve federal spending. But with Democrats in control of the House and Senate, Mr. Biden faces some of the best odds of any president in recent history in getting much of his agenda approved.

Still, he must find a way to appease moderate Democrats like Senator Joe Manchin III of West Virginia, who has said he would not back as high a corporate tax rate as Mr. Biden's budget proposes, while not alienating House progressives who have pushed Mr. Biden to spend even more. With Republicans and the White House still far apart on the president's infrastructure proposal, the president will most likely need to secure votes from every Democrat in the Senate to get his spending plans through.

Mr. Biden's budget, like those proposed by his predecessors, includes assumptions about how the economy will perform if his policies are enacted. But in a break from the recent past, the Biden team is conservative in its forecasts — predicting small gains in economic growth even if Congress approves trillions of dollars in new spending.

Mr. Biden's aides predict that even if his full agenda were enacted, the economy would grow at just under 2 percent per year for most of the decade, after accounting for inflation. That rate is similar to the historically sluggish pace of growth that the nation has averaged over the past 20 years. Unemployment would fall to 4.1 percent by next year — from 6.1 percent today — and remain below 4 percent in the years thereafter.

Biden's 2022 Budget

- **A new year, a new budget:** The 2022 fiscal year for the federal government begins on October 1, and President Biden has revealed what he'd like to spend, starting then. But any spending requires approval from both chambers of Congress.
- **Ambitious total spending:** President Biden would like the federal government to spend [\\$6 trillion](#) in the 2022 fiscal year, and for total spending to rise to \$8.2 trillion by 2031. That would take the United States to its highest sustained levels of federal spending since World War II, while running deficits above \$1.3 trillion through the next decade.
- **Infrastructure plan:** The budget outlines the president's desired first year of investment in his [American Jobs Plan](#), which seeks to fund improvements to roads, bridges, public transit [and more](#) with a total of \$2.3 billion over eight years.
- **Families plan:** The budget also addresses the other major spending proposal Biden has already rolled out, his [American Families Plan](#), aimed at bolstering the United States' [social safety net](#) by expanding access to education, reducing the cost of child care and supporting women in the work force.
- **Mandatory programs:** As usual, mandatory spending on programs like Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare make up a significant portion of the proposed budget. They are growing as America's population ages.
- **Discretionary spending:** Funding for the [individual budgets](#) of the [agencies and programs](#) under the executive branch would reach around \$1.5 trillion in 2022, a 16 percent increase from the previous budget.
- **How Biden would pay for it:** The president would largely fund his agenda by raising taxes on corporations and high earners, which would begin to shrink budget deficits in the 2030s. Administration officials have said tax increases would fully offset the jobs and families plans over the course of 15 years, which the budget request backs up. In the meantime, the budget deficit would remain above \$1.3 trillion each year.



Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senator Chuck Schumer, Democrat of New York and the majority leader, at a signing ceremony in March. President Biden faces good odds in advancing much of his agenda. (Credit: Stefani Reynolds for The New York Times)

The forecasts continue to show his administration has little fear of rapid inflation breaking out across the economy, despite recent data showing a quick jump in prices as the economy reopens after a year of suppressed activity amid the pandemic. The budget projects that consumer prices will never rise faster than 2.3 percent per year and that the Federal Reserve will only gradually raise interest rates from their rock-bottom levels in the coming years.

Mr. Biden has pitched the idea that now is the time, with interest rates low and the nation rebuilding from recession, to make large upfront investments

that will be paid for over a longer time horizon. His budget shows interest costs for the federal government remaining below historical averages for the course of the decade. Interest rates are controlled by the Federal Reserve, which is independent of the White House.

Even if interest rates stay low, payments on the national debt would consume an increased share of the federal budget. Net interest payments would double, as a share of the economy, from 2022 to 2031.

If Mr. Biden's plans were enacted, the government would spend what amounts to nearly a quarter of the nation's total economic output every year over the course of the next decade. It would collect tax revenue equal to just under one fifth of the total economy.

In each year of Mr. Biden's budget, the government would spend more as a share of the economy than all but two years since World War II: 2020 and 2021, which were marked by trillions of dollars in federal spending to help people and businesses endure the pandemic-induced recession. By 2028, when Mr. Biden could be finishing a second term in office, the government would be collecting more tax revenue as a share of the economy than at almost any point in the last century; the only other comparable period was the end of President Bill Clinton's second term, when the economy was roaring and the budget was in surplus.

The documents suggest Mr. Biden will not use his budget to propose major additional policies or flesh out plans that the administration has thus far declined to detail. For example, Mr. Biden pledged to overhaul and upgrade the nation's unemployment insurance system as part of the American Families Plan, but such efforts are not included in his budget.

Administration officials have said the budget reflects the policies Mr. Biden has pushed Congress to enact this year and does not rule out future initiatives that are not included in this plan.

"What the budget will reflect is that he is going to continue to deliver on his priorities," Jen Psaki, the White House press secretary, told reporters on Thursday. "And those proposals — the American

Jobs Plan, the American Rescue Plan, the American Families Plan — will put us on better financial footing over time.”

Mr. Biden’s spending requests also do not include money for a so-called public option for health care, which would allow Americans to choose to enroll in a public health insurance plan like Medicare instead of a private plan. But Mr. Biden will call on Congress to create such a public option as part of his budget proposal, a document obtained by The Times shows.

HOUSEHOLD DATA						
Table A-5. Employment status of the civilian population 18 years and over by veteran status, period of service, and sex, not seasonally adjusted						
[Numbers in thousands]						
Employment status, veteran status, and period of service	Total		Men		Women	
	May 2020	May 2021	May 2020	May 2021	May 2020	May 2021
Unemployed	800	379	716	314	84	65
Unemployment rate	9.0	4.1	9.1	3.9	7.8	5.5

The national unemployment rate is 6.1 percent (May 2021). Gulf War II veterans' unemployment rate is 4.0 percent. Currently, Gulf War II women veterans' unemployment rate is 6.9 percent.

In April 2021, the veteran unemployment rate was 5.3%. The comparable non-veteran unemployment rate was 6.0% in April.

TOPIC 2: VIRTUAL MEETINGS & CONFERENCE CALLS

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division had a conversation with Georgia and Illinois State Approving Agencies (SAA) on abuses of veterans in accredited and unaccredited approved programs.

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division disseminated American Legion Job Fair invitations, flyers, and information and conducted outreach to Employment Advisory Board Contacts and Federal Departments.

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division contacted the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General's Defense Hotline to inquire whether or not the DOD has followed up on the 2017 recommendations made by the OIG.

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division participated with National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) West Region on a conference call on pending legislation and passage of the Thrive Act; had conversations with staffers on future hearings and pending legislation.

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division attended a meeting with the Bush Institute to discuss new ways to use data which the national firm Quantify is providing to them under contract.

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division had a meeting of subcommittee chairs of the VA Committee on Education to determine findings to report and to prepare for VACOE committee meeting next week.

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division had a conversation with National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) Executive Team on VA announcements on personnel and challenges to national roll out of the Risk Based Survey oversight model.

On Thursday, June 3, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division attended an Advisory Committee on Veterans Business Affairs meeting where the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, Isabel Guzman gave remarks. Topics discussed were:

- Office of Veterans Business Development.
- VA Small Business updates.
- Access to Capital.
- SBA Community Navigator Program.

Other topics that were of concern to The American Legion were:

- H.R. 2082 - VA Supply Chain Resiliency Act.
 - **Resolution No. 13:** Support “Buy American” Policy within the Federal Government to Create Opportunities for Veterans
- **Resolution No. 19:** Support the Creation of a Department of Veterans Affairs Small Business Advisory Committee
- Veterans should use their GI Bill for starting a business.
 - **Resolution No. 150:** Expanding Post-9/11 GI Bill for Entrepreneurship

On Friday, June 4, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division prepared a Power Point presentation for Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education (VACOE) on Education oversight and challenges.

On Friday, June 4, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division had conversations with Hill Staffers on plans for new legislation and congressional action for this month.

On Friday, June 4, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division attended weekly meetings with EdCounsel and Lumina Risk Based Survey Executive Team to discuss work on final report and national rollout plans; begin evaluation of Risk Based Survey pilot visit stage which ended on May 31.

On Friday, June 4, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division continued conversations with the Bush Institute on education quality and oversight.

GLOSSARY OF FREQUENTLY USED ABBREVIATIONS

ACE: American Council on Education

ACP: American Corporate Partners, a veteran's support organization

ATLAS: Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations, a V.A. telehealth initiative
BLS: Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics
C&P: V.A.'s Compensation and Pension exam
CAVC: Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims
CCME: Council of College and Military Educators
COLA: Cost-of-living adjustment
CSAAVE: California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education
DIMO: Defense Security Cooperation Agency/Defense Institute for Medical Operations
DOD: Department of Defense
DOL-VETS: Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Services
EdCounsel: Higher education consulting firm
EIDL program. SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans
EIDL: Economic Injury Disaster Loan
GAO: Government Accountability Office
GPD: V.A.'s Grant and Per Diem Program for homeless veterans
GWB: George W. Bush Higher Education Policy Work Group
HEROES ACT of 2003: Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003. Grants the Secretary of Education the authority to waive requirements that impede military borrowers' access to critical repayment protection during the war, military operation, or national emergency.
HVAC: House Veterans Affairs Committee
MCAI: American Legion's Military Credentialing Advancement Initiative
MSLP: The Federal Reserve's Main Street Lending Program
MSO: Military Support Organization
NAICU: National Association of Independent Colleges & Universities
NASAA: National Association of State Approving Agencies. Responsible for approving school funding for GI Bill
NAVPA: National Association of Veterans Program Administrators
NCA: V.A.'s National Cemetery Administration
NDAA: National Defense Authorization Act
NLD: American Legion's National Legislative Division
OPM: Office of Personnel Management
PPP: Paycheck Protection Program
RBS: Risk-Based Survey Model
RPIC: Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge
S2S: Service to School, a veteran's organization
SAA: State Approving Agency, responsible for approving school funding for GI Bill
SBA: Small Business Administration
STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Medical
SVA: Student Veterans of America, a veteran's organization
SVAC Senate Veterans Affairs Committee
TAPS: Transition Assistance Program for Survivors, a nonprofit for Gold Star Families
TEAM Act: Senate Bill 4393, to improve the provision of health care for veterans who were exposed to toxic substances from burn pits
TFA: American Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance program
USAID: United States Agency for International Development
USDA: United States Department of Agriculture
USERRA: Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act
VA&R: American Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division
VACO: Veterans Affairs Central Office
VBA: V.A.'s Veterans Benefits Administration
VE&E: Veterans Employment and Education Division

VES: Veterans Education Success, a veteran's organization
VSO: Veterans Service Organization

TOPIC 3a: TRACKING LEGISLATION

Recognizing Military Service in Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Act: Would allow service members who pause their student loan payments while deployed or on extended active duty orders to count that period of time toward their PSLF progress – which is currently not allowed.

Status: Expected to be introduced within a month

H.R.1836 - Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2021: Would expand eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill to count every day that a servicemember is paid and in uniform toward benefit eligibility in order to achieve GI Bill parity for National Guard and Reserve members.

Student Veterans Transparency and Protection Act: Would improve veterans' access to information about higher education and allow the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to restore benefits that veterans use at schools subject to civil enforcement.

GI Bill Repair Act of 2020: To extend to black veterans of World War II, their surviving spouses, and direct descendants' eligibility for specific housing and educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs

[Resolution No.: None on file](#)

Status: Currently on hold, has not been introduced

Homeless Veteran Coronavirus Response Act: The bill allows V.A. to use existing funds for a broader range of services; authorizes the Department to collaborate with outside organizations to facilitate shelters on its properties; loosens restrictions on Grant and Per Diem (GPD) payments and requires V.A. to ensure veterans participating in V.A. homeless programs have access to V.A. telehealth services.

[Resolution No. 326: Support Funding for Additional Housing for Homeless Veterans with Families](#)

H.R.492: To amend title 38, United States Code, make permanent the Secretary of Veterans Affairs's authority to provide financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing.

[Resolution No. 340: Support Permanent Authorization for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families \(SSVF\) Program](#)

HR 1615: The American Legion supports legislation that would streamline and improve the verification process for veteran-owned small businesses and veteran-owned small businesses.

Status: Passed House Vote, received in the Senate, and referred to the Committee on Veterans Affairs. It did not pass by the end of the 116th Session, will need to be reintroduced.

HR 2224: To direct the Secretary of Labor to prioritize services to homeless veterans with dependent children in carrying out homeless veterans' reintegration programs and for other purposes.

Status: Did not pass by the end of the 116th Session.

HR 1196, Jobs for Veterans Act of 2019: This bill allows an increased work opportunity tax credit for employers who hire veterans who have been certified as discharged or released from active duty in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, and who begin working for the employer after

December 31, 2019, and before January 1, 2024. This increased credit is in addition to any work opportunity tax credit allowed to a veteran with a service-connected disability.

[Resolution No. 354: Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program](#)

HR 7010, Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020: This bill significantly changes the PPP loans' terms to be more advantageous to small businesses. Including more flexibility in applying the loan to other expenses besides payroll and benefits and extending the time frame for expending the loan.

Status: Became Public Law No: 116-142.

HR 4625: To require education programs to be approved by the V.A. to abide by the Principles of Excellence to include a ban on deceptive or misleading recruiting, clear information about total costs and program requirements, accommodation for deployments, ensuring a point of contact for veterans, and not being under a punitive action by an accreditor.

[Resolution No. 318: Ensuring the Quality of Servicemember and Veteran Student's Education at Institutions of Higher Education](#)

Status: Became Public Law No: 116-315

HR 6957: To direct the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs to treat a period of full-time National Guard duty, performed in response to the national emergency declared on March 13, 2020, by the President concerning COVID-19, as not shorter than 90 days.

[Resolution No.: Currently studying for appropriate resolution.](#)

HR 4920, Department of Veterans Affairs Contracting Preference Consistency Act of 2020: This is a bill that would allow AbilityOne companies to keep their preferential treatment at the Department of Veteran Affairs after 2016 with some compromises. The Senate initially sent it back to the House after it was passed for changes. Those changes have been reconciled, and the bill cleared its last hurdle before it is sent to the White House.

S. 2594: To amend title 5, United States Code, to modify specific requirements concerning service and retirement for veterans' Preference for federal hiring.

TOPIC 3b: ACTION TAKEN ON LEGISLATION

Building Credit Access for Veterans Act: A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to establish an automated process for obtaining alternative credit rating information and other purposes.

Status: Draft Bill / Letter of Support submitted on October 13

HR 8426: Protecting Apprenticeship Training for Veterans Act: Currently, veterans must meet a minimum number of apprenticeship hours to receive their Housing Allowance. Due to pandemic work shortages, veterans in those programs now face a reduction or suspension in their stipend. This would allow veteran apprentices who were laid off to roll over excess hours from a previous month to meet the hourly requirement.

[Resolution: Resolution No. 25: Support and Expand Apprenticeship Opportunities for Servicemembers](#)

Status: Letter of Support drafted

HR 4941, Veteran Employment Transition Act" or the "VET Act": Was sponsored by Representative Andy Kim. The bill's last action was in the House on 12/02/2019; it was referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity. The bill's goal is to improve the Transition Assistance Program. The bill would allow certain veterans' service organizations to contact veterans regarding

benefits and better inform veterans of employment opportunities. The Service groups would inform veterans of the benefits and employment opportunities with the Federal, State, and local governments. The groups inform veterans of events in the area.

[Resolution No. 70: Improve Transition Assistance Program](#)

Status: Letter of Support submitted

HR 7003: Is a bill sponsored by Rep. Takano, Mark D-CA-41, and was introduced 05/22/2020. The bill would authorize a pilot program in the Department of Defense to enhance efforts to provide job placement assistance and related employment services directly to the National Guard, Reserves, and veterans of the Armed Forces. The last action on the bill was 05/22/2020 and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

[Resolution No. 81: Transition Assistance Program Employment Workshops for National Guard and Reserve Members](#)

Status: Pending Letter of Support

Draft Bill: Veterans Educational Assistance Transparency and Accountability Improvement Act, improve the G.I. Bill Comparison Tool ensures veterans, servicemembers, and their families are better informed when choosing what educational institution is best for them.

Status: Letter of Support submitted

H.R. 711, West Los Angeles VA Campus Improvement Act of 2021: This legislation would direct the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) West Los Angeles Medical Center campus to use revenues from leases and easements as a dedicated funding source to build additional housing for homeless veterans, offset the high costs of housing construction, and help fund the provision of supportive services for veterans in the community.

[Resolution No. 141: Department of Veterans Affairs Enhanced-Use Leasing](#)

Status: This bill was submitted for the April 21, 2021 testimony.

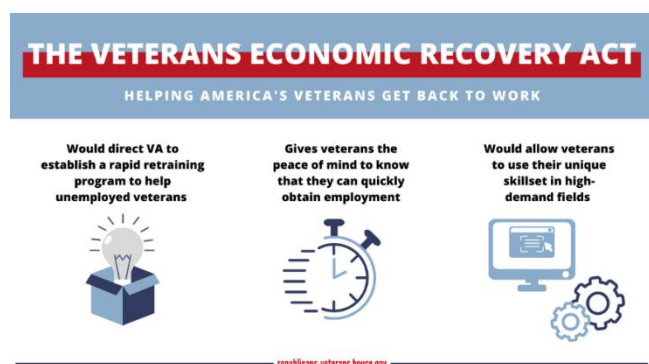
H.R. 2082, VA Supply Chain Resiliency Act: To make certain improvements relating to the supply chain of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

[Resolution No. 13: Support “Buy American” Policy within the Federal Government to Create Opportunities for Veterans](#)

Status: This bill was submitted for the April 21, 2021 testimony.

TOPIC 4a: EMPLOYMENT

U.S. Congressman Pat Fallon (TX-04) introduced bipartisan legislation to incentivize veteran employment following the devastating spike in veteran job losses during the COVID-19 pandemic. As businesses recover, reopen, and rehire workers following the pandemic, veterans are struggling to compete for positions in a job market that already tends to disproportionately affect them.



Congressman Fallon's bill, the "Veteran Employment Recovery Act," would expand both short-term unemployment and long-term unemployment tax credits under the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), which provides a tax break to businesses hiring veterans who have previously

received unemployment benefits. The legislation has been cosponsored by Republican Congressman Ronny Jackson (TX-13) and Democratic Congressmen Filemon Vela (TX-34) and Marc Veasey (TX-33).

“The courageous men and women who dedicated their lives to our nation can never be fully repaid for their service and sacrifice. Military service must never be a detriment to future employment, but rather an asset. I’m proud to introduce this bipartisan legislation prioritizing veteran employment following the COVID-19 pandemic. As we reflect on Memorial Day weekend, I truly hope this legislation will inspire further bipartisan initiatives to honor and watch over our military heroes,” said Congressman Pat Fallon (TX-04).

“This Memorial Day we honor heroes who gave their lives in service to our country and with that we renew our promise to take care of the many heroes who still walk this Earth. America’s service members and veterans represent the best among us, and I will never stop working on their behalf. Today, I am proud to co-introduce the Veteran Employment Recovery Act with a bipartisan group of my colleagues in Congress. This bill will be an essential step toward America’s economic recovery and will help veterans get back on their feet as we rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Congressman Ronny Jackson (TX-13).

“As we stand in memory of those we lost in service to our country this Memorial Day, I am honored to join my colleagues in introducing the bipartisan Veteran Employment Recovery Act. This important piece of legislation is a critical step in supporting our military families and economic recovery. By doubling the Veteran Work Opportunity Tax Credit for our Veterans and businesses, we support job growth for our nation’s heroes, and ensure that those who bravely served our nation are able to recover from the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Congressman Filemon Vela (TX-34).

“The best way we can honor our nation’s brave service members as Memorial Day approaches is by giving them the resources they need to support themselves and their families. That is why I am proud to support the bipartisan Veteran Employment Recovery Act because this legislation will bolster our economy by providing a crucial lifeline to our veterans looking for jobs as the country begins to reopen and businesses staff back up,” said Congressman Marc Veasey (TX-33).

TOPIC 4b: EMPLOYMENT



Veterans who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic can apply to the Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The retraining program covers education and training approved under the GI Bill and Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses, or VET TEC, that lead to high-demand jobs.

These include associate degrees, non-college degrees and certificate programs.

Job training for more than 200 specific high-demand occupations across the country are eligible for the VA program. Veterans who qualify can receive educational benefits equivalent to the Post-9/11 GI Bill for up to a year, to learn a new skill or attain certification in one of the listed careers. Veterans who have exhausted other education benefits are eligible.

The retraining program was part of Congress' COVID relief package, and the Veterans Affairs Department began accepting applications this month.

Locally, Intellectual Point in Sterling is a participating technology school, and the department said the list will be updated as more schools sign up.

Qualifying veterans must be between 25 and 66 years old, have an honorable or less-than-honorable discharge, and not be eligible for any other VA educational benefits or government job training programs.

The VA said funding will continue through December 2022.

TOPIC 4c: EMPLOYMENT

VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT: FY 2022 BUDGET SUBMISSION

Veterans Clean Energy Job Training. This initiative supports the DOL in developing a clean energy job training program for eligible Veterans, Service members, and spouses that will provide the education, training, and credentials necessary to secure careers in high-growth clean energy sectors.

TOPIC 5a: EDUCATION

Veterans Affairs officials are pushing Congress to lift the funding cap on a popular pilot program focused on technology training for transitioning veterans, saying they expect to use up all available funds by mid-summer.



*Soldiers take part in a software development program run by Army Futures Command on March 22 in Austin, Texas.
(Credit: Luke J. Allen/Army)*

“This is an extremely important tool in our toolbox,” Ronald Burke, deputy under secretary for policy at the Veterans Benefits Administration, told lawmakers last week. “If we are really serious about better employment [for veterans], this is one that needs to stay in that toolbox.”

The program, Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses ([VET TEC](#)), was launched in 2019 as a five-year pilot program. VA officials said interest in it has exceeded expectations, with more than 13,500 applications and 3,000 enrolled this year alone.

The initiative links transitioning veterans and some still-serving troops with “industry-leading training providers” to learn in-demand technology skills. Classes currently offered through the program include software development, data science, network security and web development skills.

The program is free for veterans, but training companies receive only half of their costs when students enroll and complete the courses. The other half are delivered “once the student secures meaningful employment in his or her field of study,” an incentive designed to ensure the classwork turns into meaningful employment.

The VET TEC pilot was originally currently capped at \$15 million annually, but has already been boosted to \$45 million. Burke said he expects the fiscal 2021 money to run out in the next two months.

“It’s a very popular program,” he said. “In order to sustain this level of volume, we’re looking at someone in the range of \$125 million for VET TEC.”

In the White House’s just released budget plan for fiscal 2022, the program is still capped at \$45 million. But lawmakers on the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee appeared open to the idea of further plus-ups, especially in light of challenges surrounding veterans unemployment connected to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

“We know the economic impacts of the pandemic are going to be with us for some time,” said Rep. Chris Pappas, D-N.H., chairman of the committee’s economic opportunity panel. “I’m concerned about the recent rise in the veteran unemployment rate, what that says about transitioning at this tough time, and what opportunities are out there for veterans.”

Late last year, Congress approved a new rapid retraining program for veterans who lost their job because of coronavirus closures and layoffs. Applications for that program opened last month. Burke said about 3,500 applications have already been submitted.

But he also warned that if that program proves as popular as the technology training, department officials could similarly ask more more support there.

The program has a cap of 17,000 participants but also \$386 million in funding, a figure that department officials say will likely support about half of that student total.

More information on the VET TEC program is available [at the VA web site](#).

The American Legion supports the development and implementation of on-the-job (OJT) training programs for eligible veterans in the public and private sectors and efforts to eliminate employment barriers that impede the timely and successful transfer of military job skills to the civilian labor market as found in our Resolution **No. 305: Support the Development of Veterans On-The-Job Training Opportunities** and **Resolution No. 338: Support Licensure and Certification of Servicemembers, Veterans and Spouses.**

TOPIC 5b: EDUCATION

VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT: FY 2022 BUDGET SUBMISSION

Digital GI Bill Modernization Effort. An additional 81.5 million supports the modernization of the Education Service business platform. The modernization will enhance Education Service's ability to process claims, collaborate with stakeholders and improve communications and service via an online portal. This will enable easier collaboration between external stakeholders (including schools and State Approving Agencies) and VBA for a more seamless Veteran experience.

TOPIC 6a: VETERAN HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

The U.S. Department of Labor announced on Tuesday that more than \$52 million in grants will be awarded to help homeless veterans.

The grants are meant to help homeless veterans re-enter the workforce and to address the problems homeless veterans are facing.

Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program funding also supports Homeless Female Veteran's and Veterans with Families program and the Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program grants.

VETS designed these programs to provide training, skills development and career support.

"As the nation continues its recovery from the pandemic, initiatives like these are more important than ever," said Marty Walsh, Secretary of Labor. "Our veterans deserve our best efforts to ensure they have a safe place to live, means to support themselves and their families and opportunities to pursue a fulfilling career."



Helping Homeless Veterans

The department will award 119 continuation grants totaling more than \$40 million and 36 new three-year grant awards totaling more than \$12 million to provide a wide range of services to veterans currently homeless or at risk of homelessness.

To learn more about VETS' Homeless Veterans Reintegration Programs, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to see a list of HVRP recipients.

The American Legion support legislation that calls for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the state workforce agencies to share responsibilities for all Title 38 veterans employment services as found in our **Resolution No. 319: Expanding Veterans Employment and Homeless Services within the Department of Veterans Affairs**

TOPIC 6b: VETERAN HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Senator Dianne Feinstein today applauded unanimous Senate passage of the [West Los Angeles VA Campus Improvement Act](#). Senator Feinstein introduced the Senate version of the bill in January and has long championed the West LA VA campus as a key resource to reduce veteran homelessness in Los Angeles.

The bill would allow the Department of Veterans Affairs to contribute land-use revenues generated at the West LA VA campus to the development of supportive housing and services for homeless veterans. Currently, the VA can only use lease proceeds for campus beautification.

The bill would also allow the VA to enter into longer-term leases on campus to help facilitate housing construction and reduce financing costs.

Because the Senate amended the House bill introduced by Congressman Ted Lieu (D-Calif.) to include annual assessments of the expenditure of funds and the direct benefits those expenditures provide to veterans, the bill must now return to the House for a final vote before it can be signed into law.

“There are approximately 4,000 homeless veterans in Los Angeles County. That’s more than any other region in the nation, and in fact makes up about 10 percent of all homeless vets in our country. Simply put, we have to do more for these men and women who sacrificed so much for our country,” said Senator Feinstein.

“Building more units to house veterans experiencing homelessness and providing the wraparound services they need to get back on their feet is essential to getting this crisis under control. I’m proud to have worked with Congressman Lieu and many others over the years to make sure the West LA VA campus supports as many veterans as possible. This bill is another step toward that goal.”

Key provisions in the bill:

- Authorizes the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to use funds collected from leases and other use-agreements on the West LA VA campus for the development of supportive housing and services on campus.
- Increases the time period for enhanced use leases on the campus from 75 to 99 years. Increasing the length of leases will help streamline the construction of 1,200 units of supportive housing on campus while reducing long-term costs.

Support for the bill

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti: “With Memorial Day around the corner, we are reminded of our ongoing commitment, in Los Angeles and across the country, to never leave any veteran behind. Senator Feinstein’s tireless work on the West Los Angeles Veteran’s Affairs Campus Improvement Act means we can get closer to making that promise a reality – delivering hope and a home to

nearly 4,000 veterans experiencing homelessness in L.A. County and bringing much-needed relief to our nation's heroes. Our veterans deserve nothing less."

LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl: "We have an absolute obligation to meet the needs of veterans who have served and sacrificed so much for this country. The West LA VA Campus Improvement Act will help us to meet this important obligation by ensuring that VA lease revenue is directed to housing and services for our LA vets. Over the last 10 years, we have made great progress in housing veterans who are experiencing homelessness, but much more remains to be done, and the passage of this legislation will help us with the crucial work of continuing to reduce the number of vets who are homeless."

Steve Peck, CEO of U.S. VETS, and a member of the team that will be constructing more than 1,450 housing units for homeless veterans on the West LA VA campus: "I want to thank Senator Feinstein for her commitment to Los Angeles veterans and her determination to get this legislation through the Senate so quickly. The Senate action today will help put a roof over the heads of veterans in need and promote their housing stability, long term health and recovery."

Anthony Allman, Army veteran and executive director at Vets Advocacy, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit created to fulfill the promise of a veterans community at VA West Los Angeles: "This is a win for homeless veterans. The Improvement Act reinforces the clear intent of the West LA Leasing Act of 2016 and permits investing campus revenues in long overdue infrastructure projects, housing construction and services on campus. Senator Feinstein's ongoing commitment to making sure VA is resourced to accomplish this mission deserves our highest praise."

Background

In 2015, Feinstein, then-Senator Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Representative Ted Lieu (D-Calif.) introduced the Veterans Care Agreement and West Los Angeles Leasing Act to restore the Department of Veterans Affairs' leasing authority at the West Los Angeles Campus.

Leasing authority allowed the department to partner with nonprofits to build housing for homeless veterans and expand veterans' services. The Veterans Care Agreement and West Los Angeles Leasing Act was signed into law in 2016 and facilitated 1,200 new units of homeless housing.

The West Los Angeles VA Campus Improvement Act that passed today amends the original act to clarify that leasing proceeds may be used for the construction of additional housing.

TOPIC 6c: VETERAN HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT: FY 2022 BUDGET SUBMISSION

Working to eliminate Veteran homelessness. VA remains committed to ending Veteran homelessness. VA requests \$2.2 billion for Veteran homelessness programs, an increase of 8.4% over the 2021 enacted level (base funding only). In addition, VA will obligate \$486 million in American Rescue Plan funding in 2022, for a total of \$2.6 billion dedicated to reducing homelessness in 2022. VA has made significant progress to prevent and end Veteran homelessness, in close collaboration with our Federal agency partners, leading national organizations, and State and local government agencies, and with VSOs and other nonprofit partners in communities across the country. The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States has declined by nearly half since 2010. On any given night in January 2020, an estimated 37,252 Veterans were experiencing homelessness. Since 2010, over 850,000 Veterans and their family members have

been permanently housed or prevented from becoming homeless. Efforts to end Veteran homelessness have resulted in an expansion of services available to permanently house homeless Veterans and the implementation of new programs aimed at prevention, including low-threshold care/engagement strategies, and monitoring homeless outcomes. VA offers a wide array of interventions designed to find Veterans experiencing homelessness, engage them in services, find pathways to permanent housing and prevent homelessness from reoccurring.

Homeless Programs

VA will devote approximately \$2.6 billion (from all funding sources) for homeless programs in 2022, \$335 million (+14.5%) above 2021. VA is committed to the objective of ending Veteran homelessness and pursues that objective in close collaboration with our Federal agency partners, leading national organizations, and State and local government agencies, and with VSOs and other nonprofit partners in communities across the country. Program goals include assisting homeless Veterans and their families in obtaining and maintaining housing stability while promoting maximum recovery and independence in the community.



The 2022 request includes case management funding for the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development -VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program. HUD-VASH is a collaborative program between VA and HUD that provides eligible homeless Veterans a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) from HUD paired with case management and supportive services from VA. These services are targeted to assist HUD-VASH Veterans in obtaining and sustaining housing stability while recovering from physical and mental health problems, substance use disorders, and functional concerns contributing to or resulting from homelessness.

HUD-VASH targets Veterans with the greatest needs first, ensuring that the most vulnerable Veterans are moved into housing as quickly as possible. HUD awards HUD-VASH vouchers based on geographic need to public housing authorities (PHAs) who self-identify to HUD their interest in receiving an allocation. HUD announced its 2020 allocation of 4,875 new vouchers in December 2020 and anticipates an additional voucher award of up to 5,000 vouchers will be made prior to the end of 2021. In 2022, VA will maximize the use of existing and additional vouchers, evaluate options for targeting HUD-VASH vouchers to additional populations, and promote strategies to increase the stock of affordable housing.

In 2020 Supportive Services for Low Income Veterans and Families (SSVF), in partnership with HUD and United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), implemented the Rapid Resolution Initiative. This initiative reunifies imminently at-risk or homeless Veterans with Family or friends as an alternative to entering the homeless system. This initiative seeks to reduce overall demand for traditional affordable housing resources while simultaneously reducing trauma for Veterans and their families who would otherwise become or remain homeless. In 2020, SSVF assisted 112,070 individuals of which 77,590 were Veterans and 19,919 were dependent children.

VA has made significant progress to prevent and end Veteran homelessness. The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States has declined by nearly half since 2010. On any given night in January 2020, an estimated 37,252 Veterans were experiencing homelessness. Since 2010, over 850,000 Veterans and their family members have been

permanently housed or prevented from becoming homeless. Efforts to end Veteran homelessness have resulted in an expansion of services available to permanently house homeless Veterans and the implementation of new programs aimed at prevention, including low-threshold care/engagement strategies, and monitoring homeless outcomes. As of March 10, 2021, there were 84 areas (81 communities and 3 states: Delaware, Connecticut, and Virginia) that have publicly announced an effective end to Veteran homelessness.

TOPIC 7a: SMALL BUSINESS

WHAT ENTREPRENEURS WANT FROM THE SBA



Small-business advocates are calling on the SBA for more aid to firms devastated by the pandemic.
(Credit: Cengiz Yar/Getty Images)

With millions of small companies reeling from the pandemic, owners and advocates hope the Small Business Administration under President Biden will offer more solutions to their troubles.

But what is it small businesses actually want from the SBA?

In the short term, advocates say, more needs to be done to protect and rebuild businesses devastated by Covid-19, such as loosening standards to obtain loans and making it easier to get access to advice and information. Long term, some advocates say, systemic changes are needed to strengthen the small-business community and better serve groups of entrepreneurs who aren't getting the help they need right now.

After Covid recedes as a threat, "more attention can be paid to the inadequacies exposed by Covid that are ripe to be fixed," says Scott Gerber, CEO of the Community Company, which builds and manages professional associations for C-suite and senior-level executives.

Strategies might include expanding the agency's outreach efforts to smaller, newer businesses, as well as giving more support to businesses in minority, rural and disenfranchised communities, says Mr. Gerber.

In a statement, SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman says, "My number-one priority for the SBA under my leadership is to ensure we're doing everything we can to help bring businesses back, create jobs and build an equitable economy that works for everyone."

To that end, she says in the statement, the SBA staff is reviewing its programs, resources and services to see how each can be more readily available to all entrepreneurs—including those without typical business structures, or for whom English is not their native language. In addition, thanks to additional government funding, the SBA is designing pandemic-relief programs focused on businesses that are most in need.

The SBA recently began accepting applications for a new Community Navigator pilot program to help it partner with community-based groups and local organizations to connect with small businesses that have historically been left behind.



*President Joe Biden—shown with SBA Administrator Isabel Guzman—signs the PPP Extension Act, which aids small businesses affected by Covid-19. Some advocates are calling for other assistance, such as easing requirements for loans.
(Credit: Evan Vucci/Associated Press)*

Freeing up cash

One critical issue in both the near and short term is improving access to capital, advocates say. Even as the need for cash grows more urgent in the wake of Covid, traditional SBA loans could grow harder to obtain—because many owners have scars on their credit due to pandemic-related issues, says Leith Martin, executive director at the Troesh Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

To accommodate this need, he says, the SBA should relax its rules for those loans. "If we use the same criteria that we used before the pandemic, many small-business owners won't qualify for an SBA loan as the rules are now written," Mr. Martin says.

Didier Trinh, government-affairs director at the Main Street Alliance, which focuses on small-business public-policy initiatives, sees a need for the SBA to broaden partnerships with community banks and community-development financial institutions to help businesses that need funds but may not be aware of all the SBA has to offer. Also, he says, the SBA should do more and better data collection and reporting, to better target outreach and education to small businesses that need support the most, particularly in underserved communities.

Another concern among advocates is how the SBA presents information to entrepreneurs. The agency offers a plethora of resources on its website, but it can be difficult to navigate, especially if owners don't know where to look, or what they are looking for. One solution could be for the SBA to offer industry-specific websites to help put these resources into the proper context, says Mr. Gerber.

Likewise, many business owners say they are confused by current SBA processes for applying for funding and would like the process to be clearer. "The forms seem intentionally obtuse and difficult," says Lionel Felix, CEO of Felix Media Solutions Inc., a videoconferencing provider in Austin, Texas. "I ended up having to hire someone to fill it all out because of the jargon, unclear options, unclear instructions and unclear directions."

Julie Kikla, executive director of Ladies Who Launch, an organization that empowers women entrepreneurs, wants the SBA to help clear up another kind of confusion. Small businesses, she says, need more guidance in understanding their options with the Small Business Investment Company financing program, she says, such as what qualifies as a small business and how to best connect with accountants, attorneys and executives.

Additionally, Ms. Kikla would like the SBA to beef up existing resources designed to help business owners calculate their startup costs. For example, if you are a restaurant owner in Philadelphia, being able to find expected costs and benchmark data—like rent and permits—for other restaurant owners in the area would help you plan out your budget.

"It would provide you with a more accurate understanding of how much money it will cost to operate your business, as well as insights into how much you should be expected to pay for certain services," she says.

Broadening its reach

Beyond these immediate concerns, some advocates say, the SBA must address broader issues. Jared Lewis, an entrepreneur and board member of the Social Enterprise Alliance, would like to see changes to some of the SBA's leadership-training programs specifically for minorities. Consider the SBA's Emerging Leaders Initiative, a federal training program that focuses on executives of businesses poised for growth in historically challenged communities. To take part, businesses must have annual revenue of at least \$250,000, among other factors.

A program that targets companies that are less than two years old but generating \$50,000 to \$75,000 could be a great secondary demographic for this program to target, Mr. Lewis says.

Stephen Nunes, a partner at advisory firm Next Street, would like to see the Community Advantage pilot loan program made permanent and expanded through legislation. Currently, it's designed to help qualifying for-profit businesses in underserved markets with loans up to \$250,000.

"We need to make it easier, particularly for Black and Latinx business owners who have faced systemic barriers to equitable capital and support services for decades," he says.

The American Legion supports Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Veterans Business Development in its initiatives to provide enhanced outreach and specific community-based assistance to veterans and self-employed members as well as the Veterans Entrepreneur Training Program grants to help those who are in need to return to productive civilian professions

as found in our **Resolution No. 26: Support Effort of the Small Business Administration's Office of Veterans Business Development and Veterans Business Outreach Centers** and **Resolution No. 156: Veterans Entrepreneur Training Program**

TOPIC 7b: SMALL BUSINESS

\$800 MILLION SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

Governor Andrew Cuomo recently announced an \$800 million Small Business Recovery Grant Program for economic hardships suffered as a result of the pandemic. Applications for the program will be accepted starting June 10.

The small business recovery grant program will provide funding to small and micro businesses and small for-profit independent arts and cultural organizations to help them recover from the economic impact of the pandemic, with priority being given to socially and economically disadvantaged business owners, including minority- and women-owned business enterprises, service-disabled veteran-owned businesses, and veteran-owned businesses, and businesses located in economically distressed communities.

Grants will be for a minimum award of \$5,000 and a maximum award of \$50,000 and will be calculated based on a New York State business' annual gross receipts for 2019. Reimbursable COVID-19 related expenses must have been incurred between March 1, 2020 and April 1, 2021 and can include:

- Payroll costs
- Commercial rent or mortgage payments for NYS-based property
- Payment of local property or school taxes
- Insurance costs
- Utility costs
- Costs of personal protection equipment (PPE) necessary to protect worker and consumer health and safety
- Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) costs
- Other machinery or equipment costs
- Supplies and materials necessary for compliance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols

Additional information on the Small Business Recovery Grant Program, including how to apply, can be found by visiting <https://esd.ny.gov/pandemic-small-business-recovery-grant-program>.

Empire State Development (ESD) has created a website to help businesses navigate all of the financial recovery programs currently available. Find the programs designed to assist your business. <https://esd.ny.gov/business-pandemic-recovery-initiative>.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, call Mike Lipari at the Finger Lakes Economic Development Center, 315-536-7328.

TOPIC 7c: SMALL BUSINESS

Halfaker and Associates, LLC (Halfaker), *[A Small Business Task Force member since the beginning, she attended several VE&E's Small Business conferences when she started her firm. We congratulate Ms. Halfaker for all her accomplishments and for being a loyal and committed*

advocate for Veterans], attended a technology solutions provider within the Federal Government's health, intelligence, defense, and security sectors, announced today that the company has entered into a definitive agreement to be acquired by Science Applications International Corp. (NYSE: [SAIC](#)).

With advanced end-to-end digital solutions designed to transform government mission delivery and optimize customer decision-making, Halfaker is a leader in value-based software delivery using modern implementation practices like DevSecOps, automation, and product line management. Halfaker is also a Top 5 IT provider on the



Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Transformation Twenty-One Total Technology Next Generation (T4NG) acquisition program, with experience leading large-scale technical Agile development initiatives across multiple task orders at VA as well as the Department of Defense (DoD), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and other Federal agencies.

"I am excited to embark on this next chapter of Halfaker's mission to continue to serve," said Halfaker President and CEO Dawn Halfaker. "The alignment of SAIC's culture and values with this important mission has been critical in making the decision to join forces and successfully bolster the services we provide our customers with even greater digital transformation capacity and scalability. This acquisition enables our delivery teams to maintain our customer-centric focus while exponentially increasing our ability to provide the technical depth and top technical talent needed to meet the government's most pressing challenges."

"The addition of Halfaker's proven team and capabilities reinforces SAIC's commitment to supporting the government healthcare mission, including our strong support for the health and wellbeing of Veterans," said SAIC CEO Nazzic Keene. "This acquisition enhances our ability to support our customers' digital transformation needs and continue to be the innovative technology solutions provider our customers expect."

Advisors

Robert W. Baird & Co. acted as the exclusive financial advisor to Halfaker and Associates on this transaction, and Crowell & Moring LLP served as legal counsel. King & Spalding LLP served as legal counsel to SAIC.

About Halfaker

At Halfaker, we design, create, modernize, integrate, and secure mission critical systems and business applications for government organizations to improve the health, security, and well-being of all Americans. We are proud to be a service-disabled Veteran-owned, woman-owned, small business. To learn more about Halfaker, please visit www.halfaker.com.

About SAIC

SAIC® is a premier Fortune 500® technology integrator driving the nation's technology transformation. Driven by mission, united by purpose, and inspired by opportunities, SAIC's offerings span the defense, space, civilian, and intelligence markets with a portfolio that includes secure high-end solutions in engineering, digital, artificial intelligence, and mission solutions. Headquartered in Reston, Virginia, SAIC is home to more than 26,000 employees and realizes annual revenues of approximately \$7.2 billion. To learn more about SAIC, please visit www.saic.com.

TOPIC 8: CAREER FAIRS

Virtual Job Fair

June 10, 2021, 10am - 3pm

VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

10-11am CDT: Honoring **women veterans** with a 1-hour early entry

11am-3pm CDT: Open to all transitioning servicemembers, veterans, military spouses and their dependents

Presented by [American Legion Department of Texas](#), [Texas Veterans Commission](#), and [Texas Workforce Commission](#)

[More information](#)

Virtual Job Fair

June 17, 2021, 1pm - 5pm

RECRUITMENT FOCUS: VIRGINIA

1-3pm: Reserved for job seekers with active security clearances

3-5pm: Open to all job seekers

Presented by [JobZone](#)

[More information](#)

Virtual Job Fair

June 17, 2021, 1pm - 3pm

VIRTUAL HIRING EVENT: TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1-3pm: Military community job seekers from around the globe will meet, network, and interview with telecommunications industry employers at this interactive virtual hiring event.

Presented by [Hiring Our Heroes](#)

[More information](#)

Virtual Job Fair

June 24, 2021, 1pm - 3pm

VIRTUAL HIRING EVENT: RETAIL & HOSPITALITY

1-3pm: Military community job seekers from around the globe will meet, network, and interview with retail & hospitality industry employers at this interactive virtual hiring event.

Presented by [Hiring Our Heroes](#)

[More information](#)



THE AMERICAN LEGION VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR



JUNE 10, 2021

 **10am - 11am Central:** Honoring Women Veterans with a 1 hour early entry
11am - 3pm Central: Open to all Transitioning Service Members, Veterans, Military Spouses and their dependents.

Job Seeker Registration:
<https://tinyurl.com/3j5td23a>



Employer Registration:
<https://tinyurl.com/recshb>





The American Legion's National Veterans Employment & Education Commission's Mission is to take actions that affect veterans' economic well-being, including issues relating to veterans' education, employment, home loans, vocational rehabilitation, homelessness, and small business.

Joseph C. Sharpe, Jr., Director
Veterans Employment & Education Division
202.861.2700 ext. 2989
Week Ending: 6/4/2021