



Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 15.146

Policy Information

To: MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MDCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Beth Goguen, Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: March 12, 2026

Subject: **HIRE Vets Medallion Program - 2026**

Purpose: To provide guidance to MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other workforce partners for the promotion of the 2026 [HIRE Vets Medallion Program](#) to its local employer partners.

Background: The 2026 HIRE Vets Medallion Award Program is now accepting applications! Learn more and apply online at [HIREVets.gov](https://hirevets.gov).

- The award highlights companies and organizations committed to hiring and retaining America's Veterans in good, family-sustaining careers
- The HIRE Vets Medallion Award is the only federal-level Veterans' employment award that recognizes employers
- The application deadline is April 30, 2026
- Award recipients will receive a certificate and digital images of the medallion for use as part of their marketing and promotional activities

The purpose of the HIRE Vets Medallion Award Program is to recognize employers who hire and retain Veterans, along with their efforts to establish employee development programs and Veteran specific benefits to improve retention. Award recipients will have the opportunity to utilize the medallion in the marketing of their firm as a Veteran-ready business, valuable in both recruiting and promotion. Competition for the award should lead to an increased focus on hiring and retaining Veterans for the significant skill sets that they bring to the American workforce.

Applications from employers that meet the criteria established in the rule will receive a “HIRE Vets Medallion Award” for each year that they apply. Employers may apply every year. There are two award tiers, Platinum and Gold, for large (500-plus employees), medium (51-499 employees), and small employers (50 or fewer employees). Details on the award criteria may be found at HIREVets.gov. DOL will:

By taking a role in actively promoting the HIRE Vets Medallion Program, the public workforce system can ensure its local employer partners are recognized for their commitment to hiring Veterans, enabling states and localities to showcase their Veteran-ready communities. To expand awareness and promote the HIRE Vets Medallion Program, the public workforce system could:

- Leverage state and local business service teams, including the Local Veterans’ Employment Representative(s) (LVERs), to inform local employers about the program and its benefits;
- Leverage the business-led state and local workforce boards to develop strategies to expand the awareness of and participation in the program;
- Engage other WIOA-partner programs to expand awareness of the HIRE Vets Medallion Program.

Additionally, the public workforce system, including American Job Center staff, is encouraged to:

- Visit HIREVets.gov to become familiar with the program;
 - Visit the resource page to view and download as needed:
 - Program Fact Sheet
 - Detailed Program Criteria Table
 - Approved HIRE Vets Graphics
 - HIRE Vets Social Media “Widgets”
 - HIRE Vets Signature Block for use in emails
- Incorporate and promote program fact sheets and other materials found on the HIRE Vets and Workforce GPS websites with other employer-outreach materials at the state and local level.

Action

Required: Please share with managers, staff, partners and employers as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately

Inquiries: Inquiries, including how to apply for the program, should be referred to the [HireVets Program](#) or email HIREVets@dol.gov.