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Revenue values its veteran workforce

Gov. Jay Inslee proclaims November “[Hire-A-Veteran Month](#).”

OLYMPIA – Nov. 21, 2016 – Veterans have plenty to offer employers: professionalism, accountability, teamwork, leadership and a strong drive for excellence.

That’s why the Washington State Department of Revenue (Revenue) is committed to attracting veterans and providing them a quality workplace where they are valued and can grow their careers. Veterans make up nearly 8 percent of the agency’s workforce.

“Our veterans have already done so much to serve our country,” Revenue Director Vikki Smith said. “When we hire service members, we bring people into our workforce who are hard-working and motivated.”

Revenue has been working to recruit and retain veterans by:

- Visiting local job fairs and offering assistance to transitioning service members preparing for job interviews.
- Establishing an internal volunteer Veterans Employment Team to help support agency strategies for recruiting and retaining veteran employees, and to provide those employees and their families with assistance.
- Participating in the statewide [Veterans Employee Resource Group](#) (VERG) to support veteran employees who are transitioning from the military and build career development resources for veterans in Washington.

Revenue is a proud supporter of [YesVets](#), a partnership campaign through the Washington State Employment Security Department, the Department of Commerce, the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs and the Washington State Military Transition Council. The campaign connects employers to veterans with the skills they need.

In another step toward boosting veteran employment, businesses hiring unemployed veterans for full-time employment in Washington can receive credit against their Business and Occupation (B&O) or Public Utility Tax (PUT). [This tax break](#) became effective Oct. 1, 2016. Businesses can earn credits through June 30, 2022.

Businesses can also check out other state and federal tax credits and programs available to support veteran employment:

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

This federal tax credit is available to employers who hire veterans who meet the criteria at the time of hire. Find out more about this credit: <https://esd.wa.gov/about-employees/WOTC>.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

This program offered by the U.S. Department of Labor can provide training assistance and supportive service to eligible job candidates. Some jobs may qualify for On the Job training opportunities that can reimburse an employer half of a trainee's wages, up to \$5,000. Find out more about this program: <https://www.doleta.gov/wioa/>.

Veteran Owned Business Certification

Veteran- or service member-owned businesses can become certified to do business with state agencies and have their businesses added to a statewide list of veteran-owned businesses. The list provides state agencies and other private businesses easy access to veteran-owned businesses' information. For more information on this program: <http://www.dva.wa.gov/program/veteran-owned-business-certification>.

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About Revenue

The Department of Revenue is Washington state's primary tax administration agency, nationally recognized for innovation and service quality. Revenue collected \$22.4 billion in tax revenues in Fiscal Year 2016. These funds support education, social services, health care, corrections, public safety, natural resources conservation and other public services.