

Fall In

Hire the Heroes

To help decrease the shortage of qualified auto repair technicians, a leading automotive industry group is joining forces with the U.S. military to match qualified military veterans with available jobs.

The Hire the Heroes initiative will give thousands of automobile dealers the opportunity to network with military outplacement personnel to develop relationships and ease the transition for veterans into service technician careers.



Statistics show the auto industry will need 35,000 people annually for new high-paying auto technician jobs and tens of thousands more for sales, finance and other jobs in auto dealerships in this decade alone.

Many of the dealers offer to train potential job seekers with the necessary ASE certifications.

For more information on Hire the Heroes, Soldiers may visit the ART Web site at <http://www.autoretailing.org/military> or the NADA Web site at <http://www.nada.org>.

Discount software for Soldiers

Computer savvy Soldiers and Army employees can now increase their software collections a little easier with help from the Army Small Computer Program's (ASCP) Employee Purchase Program.

Army announces new initiative for disabled Soldiers

The Department of the Army announced recently a new initiative that gives Soldiers wounded during the Global War on Terrorism an additional means of getting help once they are medically retired from the Army. The program is called the Disabled Soldier Support System, or DS3.

Through DS3, the Army provides its most severely disabled Soldiers and their families with a system of advocacy and follow-up to provide personal support and liaison to resources and to assist them in their transition from military service. DS3 links the Army and organizations such as the Department of Veterans Affairs and the many veterans' service organizations to the Soldier.

Through DS3, severely disabled Soldiers and their families are able to better understand what their future holds and how to access the services they may require with a phone call to (800) 833-6622 or online at <http://www.armyds3.org>.

Disabled Soldier Support System



New VA site assists OEF/OIF veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently launched a new Web site which contains valuable information for Soldiers returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The site contains a wide range of benefits offered by the VA for returning veterans. Additionally it contains numerous links to other federal agencies and organizations that offer related benefits and services.

A selection of quick tips in the areas of benefits, transition assistance, medical, active-duty, family members and National Guard/Army Reserve are offered on the site. Visitors may also send questions about Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom veterans' benefits via e-mail to freedom@vba.va.gov. A selection of toll-free VA telephone numbers is also listed. Check out the site at <http://www.vba.va.gov/EFIF/>.



The ASCP expanded its program by increasing the products available for purchase by including Microsoft software. Soldiers can now buy Microsoft products at discounted rates.

The ASCP allows active-duty Soldiers, National Guard Soldiers, Reservists and civilian employees to buy personal computers and software at discounted rates.

Microsoft is not the only company offering specials.

The program includes Apple, Dell, IBM, Hewlett Packard and Micron.

Products available for purchase range from top-of-the-line desktops and notebooks to I-Pods, digital cameras and printers.

All information needed to order through the ASCP is available on the Web site, <https://ascp.monmouth.army.mil>.

To participate in the program through ASCP, buyers need an AKO e-mail account and verification of being employed by the Army.

Did you know?

That the AH-64 Apache first came into service in 1984. It conducts rear, close and shaping missions including deep strike. It has a combat mission speed of 167 m.p.h., combat range of 300 miles, combat endurance of 2.5 hours, mission weight of 16,600 lbs. and carries HELLFIRE missiles, 2.75 inches rockets and a 30mm chain gun. The AH-64 is 49 feet 5 inches in length and has a crew of two.

