Military Spouse Appreciation

In honor of Military Spouse Appreciation Day on May 8, the Department of Defense will highlight military spouse and MSEP employer celebrations throughout the month of May. Follow the SECO social media channels to show your support. If you would like to share how your organization is showing appreciation for military spouses, please reach out to your MSEP specialist.

Growing Through Adversity

COVID-19 continues to impact our daily way of life and doing business, making adaptability an essential skill. But in the face of adversity, MSEP employers are rising to the occasion and doing great things in response to the challenges created by this pandemic. Here are some examples:

ADP developed an Employer Preparedness Toolkit to assist companies with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Engage2Excel developed a Protecting Health & Maintaining Productivity During the COVID-19 Crisis: A 10-Point Checklist, along with several other resources to assist with working remotely.

Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (HERC) and FlexJobs co-hosted a webinar titled Remote Work: Top 5 Challenges and Solutions for Team Success During COVID-19.

Instant Teams (previously known as MadSkills) shares a regular blog and focused the following recent posts on challenges created by COVID-19: Learn How Communication Will Make Your Remote Team Successful and Help Is On the Way, Engage Your Kids While You Work

National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) along with DirectEmployers Association recently launched NeedaJobNow.USNLx.com, a job site providing a central location for workers displaced by COVID-19 to access employment opportunities from verified employers looking to fill positions immediately.

National Military Family Association created a page dedicated to What Military Families Need to Know About COVID-19, which is updated daily.

In addition, other MSEP employers have increased hiring in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of those are Amazon.com Inc.; Aetna; Concentrix; Equinix, Inc.; Sedgwick Claims Management Services Inc.; TTEC; Walgreens Co., Member of the Boots Alliance; Walmart; The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and The U.S. Small Business Administration.

MSEP employers continually demonstrate an aptitude for overcoming obstacles to achieve success in both business and in military spouse employment. We applaud you all! Please share the innovative ways your organization is adapting to this crisis with your MSEP specialist. Also remember, if your organization would like to connect with other MSEP partners who are successfully navigating working remotely during these unprecedented times, please let your MSEP specialist know. We’re all in this together!
**Annual Survey**

As an active partner with the Military Spouse Employment Partnership and the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program, we invite you to participate in a survey about your experiences with MSEP and SECO. The purpose of this survey is to obtain valuable information about the current state of the programs and to identify ways to improve. The survey starts on May 1 and will close on May 31. We appreciate your support and feedback!

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**MSEP Spotlight: Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.**

In honor of Military Spouse Appreciation Day, we highlight Booz Allen Hamilton’s well-established internal Military Spouse Network created in 2013 to provide peer support and advocate for resources to help military spouse employees successfully relocate with the firm. The network has developed a Military Spouse Handbook, holds annual PCS proof-your-career events and facilitates military spouse mentoring circles. Military spouses endure multiple physical moves in support of their spouse’s military careers, and this is where Booz Allen steps up their support, often allowing for remote delivery or job transfer to another office in a new location. The firm understands the immense potential of military spouses, appreciates how they are able to apply life lessons to solving client’s toughest needs and acknowledges their agility in a changing business climate. Booz Allen Hamilton’s Military Spouse Network currently supports more than 750 military spouse employees around the world.

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**Free Tax Services For Military Families**

Tax season can be especially stressful for military families due to the unique circumstances they face, such as deployments, combat and training pay, multistate filings and more. MilTax offers free tax preparation and e-filing software designed to assist with situations specific to military life.

For more information, please visit [https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/tax-resource-center/miltax-military-tax-services](https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/tax-resource-center/miltax-military-tax-services) or contact a MilTax consultant at 800-342-9647.

- Due to the impact of COVID-19, the Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service extended the filing and payment deadline for federal taxes from April 15 to July 15, 2020. Please note, this extension does not apply to individual state tax deadlines. MilTax services are available through mid-October.

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**Facebook**

- If your organization is interested in participating in an upcoming Facebook live event, please contact Ms. Mininia Hawkins at Mininia.R.Hawkins.civ@mail.mil.
- The DoD will continue the Military Spouse of the Week campaign to spotlight dynamic military spouses. To submit a testimonial and photo of a military spouse that works at your company or organization, please download the spouse testimonial form ([https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Content/View/2676](https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Content/View/2676)) and submit it to osd.msepjobs@mail.mil.
- Thank you to Black & Veatch, Starbucks and The Chris Kyle Frog Foundation for participating in the April Facebook live events!
- May will feature two Facebook live events. The first will be hosted by ACP (American Corporate Partners) on May 21 and the second will be on May 28 hosted by Military Spouse Advocacy Network. Both sessions begin at 3 p.m. ET.
LinkedIn

MSEP LinkedIn Spouse Group - https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4159976/profile

- Please join our MSEP LinkedIn Spouse Group page and share your open positions. This is an excellent way to share hot jobs directly with our military spouse population! In addition to sharing information about vacancies, the SECO program office hosts MSEP networking series discussions for military spouses to connect with MSEP employers’ human resources professionals and hiring managers. To join, please visit https://www.linkedin.com/company/military-spouse-employment-partnership-msep/

- Spouses of military members are eligible for a free upgrade to LinkedIn Premium. To learn more about this program, please visit https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Media/Default/PDFs/seco-linkedinfactsheet.pdf.

- Thank you to CVS Health for participating in the April LinkedIn Live event!

- The May LinkedIn Live event will be hosted by Amada Senior Care on Thursday, May 7 at 1 p.m. ET.

MSEP LinkedIn Partner Group - https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4445979/profile

- New and enduring partners use the MSEP LinkedIn Partner Group page to share lessons learned, recruitment strategies, resources and tools, and engage on hot topics of interest.

- If your organization is interested in hosting a group discussion, please contact Ms. Mininia Hawkins at Mininia.R.Hawkins.civ@mail.mil.

SECO Social Media Platforms

Follow the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program:

https://www.facebook.com/DODMilSpouse
https://twitter.com/DoDMilSpouse
https://www.instagram.com/dodmilspouse/

- Remember to use the hashtags #MSEPJobs and #MilSpouse to increase your organization’s exposure and build your military-friendly brand.

Additional Useful Links

SECO Event Calendar: https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/home/eventdetails
Career Coaching Packages: https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Content/View/3898
Military Installations: https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/
Spouse Ambassador Network: https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Content/View/1494

Program Improvement

Please share your program feedback online at