

Dear Young Veterans:

I work for the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment as a LVER (Local Veterans Employment Representative). My colleague, Tom Stiller, is a DVOP (Disabled Veterans Outreach Program). Our mission is to assist Veterans in finding jobs and we are embedded into your local workforce centers to best facilitate this effort.

We build relationships with local employers, promote the benefits of hiring Veterans, and match qualified Veterans to employers'. Benefits that we and the Larimer County Workforce Center can provide to you are FREE classes on resume and cover letter preparation, introduction to social media, how to leverage LinkedIn (a business networking site), how to apply for a Federal job, and jump starting your job search to name a few. If you would like to research other workshops that we have available you can go to [www.larimerworkforce.org](http://www.larimerworkforce.org), click on "Other Services," then "Workshop Calendar."

President Obama recently signed a Federal Veteran hiring initiative, stating that all Federal agencies will hire more Veterans in the future. Due to the Federal Veteran hiring initiative, and the number of baby boomers retiring in the next 3-8 years, working for the Federal government could be an excellent option for young Veterans. However, the Federal hiring process can be a complicated and confusing process. As you near graduation, taking the Federal Job workshop will explain the process, reduce time spent on your application, and minimize frustration. And, for those of you who spend the summer in the area, there may be internships available due to the strong Federal presence in the Fort Collins area. Veterans receive five extra points on the entrance examination and Veterans with a service connected disability of 10% or greater receive 10 points which gives you a competitive advantage.

Like most of you, I knew I was going to college when my contract was completed. After serving in the military and four years of college, writing a resume can seem like a daunting task. We can teach you how to write an effective resume and cover letter that will market your military skills in ways that are meaningful to civilian employers.

We also network with local professionals dealing with TBI and PTSD. If you are having issues with either of these situations we can put you in touch with local resources to assist you in the recovery process. If you want to check the status of your service connected disability rating or file a claim our Veterans Service Officer, Debbie Pierson, 970.498.7390 is very knowledgeable on the process and can assist you.

If you would like assistance with any employment related service, let me know and we will do our best to meet your needs.

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