



**American Hospital
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NEWS RELEASE

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AHA UNVEILS TOOLKIT TO HELP HOSPITALS RECRUIT VETERANS FOR HOSPITAL JOBS

WASHINGTON (November 10, 2014) – Today, the American Hospital Association (AHA) issued a toolkit for hospitals with guidance on recruiting veterans into hospital careers. Titled “Hospital Careers: An Opportunity to Hire Veterans,” the new resource aims to assist hospitals hire veterans with clinical experience, as well as talent and leadership skills beyond their medical credentials.

“America’s hospitals know that hiring military veterans is more than just the right thing to do – it’s the smart thing to do,” said AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock. “The veterans we hire contribute much more than clinical skills; they have leadership experience that may prove critical for patient care.”

Many veterans have the necessary credentials and licensure to practice immediately on separating from the military. Veterans with medical backgrounds can be excellent hospital employee candidates due to the numerous skills instilled through military training, including proactive leadership, strategic problem solving and ability to adapt and work under crisis conditions.

Nearly 20 health groups representing hospitals, nurses, physician assistants, community health centers, the federal government, as well as veteran and active military members provided insight

and expertise to develop the toolkit as part of AHA's support of the Joining Forces Initiative and continued efforts to help hospitals recruit and hire veterans in health care professions. The toolkit includes:

- List of enhanced skills that veterans bring to the workplace above and beyond their clinical expertise;
- Listings of transition assistance programs for hospital employers;
- Best practices for successful employee recruitment within veteran and military communities;
- Recommended organizations that can partner locally with hospitals to recruit and support veteran employees; and,
- Education opportunities for veterans without medical backgrounds to train and gain hospital employment.

“Skills so essential to hospital leadership – the ability to lead through crisis, to build a team, to think strategically and creatively – military women and men have mastered,” said AHA Senior Vice President for Nursing Pam Thompson, MS, RN, CENP, FAAN. “This toolkit gives hospitals the tools they need to more effectively hire and retain veterans as well as connects hospitals with local organizations for potential partnerships to tap into that talent.”

To access the toolkit, visit www.aha.org/hiringveterans.

About the AHA

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the improvement of health in their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which include nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks and other providers of care. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information visit the website at www.aha.org.