



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN SAFFAIRS**



## **THE VOW TO HIRE HEROES ACT OF 2011**

### **VETERANS MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL EDUCATION BENEFITS**

The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) offers up to 12 months of retraining assistance to Veterans who meet all the following criteria:

- Unemployed
- At least 35 but no more than 60 years old
- Have an other than dishonorable discharge
- Not eligible for any other VA education benefit programs (e.g., the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment)
- Not in receipt of VA compensation due to Individual Unemployability (IU)
- Not enrolled in a federal or state job training program

Applications for VRAP are currently being accepted. Participating Veterans may receive up to 12 months of assistance equal to the full-time Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty rate of \$1,564 per month, effective October 1, 2012. Assistance under this benefit program ends on March 31, 2014.

Programs must meet the following criteria to qualify for VRAP benefits:

- Be offered by a community college or technical school
- Lead to an Associates Degree or Certificate
- Train the Veteran for a high demand occupation

### **UNEMPLOYED VETERANS WITH A SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

To qualify, Veterans must:

- Have previously completed a VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program
- Apply within six months of exhausting initial claim for unemployment compensation
- Apply to VA by March 31, 2014

VA offers incentive payments to encourage employers to hire and train program participants.

- Veterans must apply and qualify for VA vocational rehabilitation benefits prior to being hired
- VA may reimburse up to one-half the Veterans annual salary for 6 months or longer
- Gives Veterans a competitive advantage with employers

**\*\*For more information on these great benefits and how to apply, please visit us online at [www.benefits.va.gov/VOW](http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW) or call toll free at 1-800-827-1000.**

