

# Hiring Our Heroes

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

## Career Summits

Hiring Our Heroes (HOH) Career Summits connect transitioning service members, veterans, military spouses, and military caregivers with employers who are looking to hire from the military community. These on-installation hiring fairs feature local, regional, and national employers and typically include industry-focused workshops and interactive panel discussions.

### Navigating the Event

#### BEFORE THE EVENT

- ✓ Register for an event at [hiringourheroes.org/events](http://hiringourheroes.org/events)
- ✓ Meet with an HOH Career Connector for details & guidance
- ✓ Set up your event platform profile and upload your resume
- ✓ Research employers and create a plan to engage - employers will be listed on the registration page one week prior to the event
- ✓ Create/update your LinkedIn profile

#### EVENT DAY

- ✓ Dress professionally, business attire is recommended
- ✓ Bring several copies of your resume
- ✓ Networking is the most valuable asset of a hiring fair, be prepared to speak with employers
- ✓ Visit the HOH Career Services booth to connect with team members

#### KEY FEATURES OF A CAREER SUMMIT

- ✓ **Hiring Fair:** companies set up booths to showcase job openings and highlight available resources
- ✓ **Networking Opportunities:** a setting to meet company representatives and the opportunity to make a strong impression, ask questions about roles, and discuss how your experience applies to the employer's needs
- ✓ **Workshops & Seminars:** programming includes engaging sessions on personal branding, interviewing skills, employer benefits, negotiating, LinkedIn, and industry spotlights
- ✓ **Ready-to-Hire Employers:** participating companies recognize the talent of military community members and events are open to transitioning service members, veterans, military spouses, and military caregivers

### Best Practices

#### KNOW YOUR VALUE

- Where do I want to live?
- What industries am I interested in?
- When am I available to work?
- What are my top skills?
- Is my elevator pitch ready?

#### RESEARCH EMPLOYERS

Visit company websites to learn:

- Company mission, values, and culture
- Careers and open positions
- Military recruiting resources

#### RESUMES

- Two pages or less (Need a resume? Check out [resumeengine.org](http://resumeengine.org))
- Tailor your resume to the industry or the specific roles you are interested in
- Avoid first person pronouns (begin bullet points with an action verb)

#### NETWORKING/INTERVIEWING

- Be engaging (smile, firm handshake, eye contact)
- Use the STAR technique (Situation, Task, Action, Result)
- Follow up post-hiring fair with an email or LinkedIn message