

# Happy Earth Day!



This year's Earth Day theme is "Invest in Our Planet." With that theme in mind, we think it's the perfect time to highlight how much the clean energy industry has invested in our Veterans!

According to the [2022 United States Energy and Employment Report](#) issued by the **U.S. Department of Energy**, over **650,000 Veterans** work in the Energy Sector, and within that, Veterans make up **9%** of the entire clean energy workforce.

In the Solar Sector, there are over [27,000 military Veterans](#) making up 8% of the workforce, while over [10,000 Veterans](#) work in the Wind Sector. According to the **American Clean Power Association**, Veterans are [hired 50% and 33% MORE](#) in the wind and solar industries.

If working in clean energy sounds like your calling, here are some resources for getting started, certifications, advancing your career, and finding work:

**Green Building Career Projection:** [Interstate Renewable Energy Council Green Building Map](#)

**Solar Career Projection:** [Interstate Renewable Energy Council Solar Map](#)

**Military Skill Translation:** [Get Into Energy's Troops to Energy Jobs Roadmap](#)

**Energy Jobs Search Tool:** [The Center for Energy Workforce Development](#)

**Solar Energy Job Board:** [Solar Energy Industries Association](#)

Clean Energy Classes Map/Search Tool: [North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners](#)

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## **Governor Hochul's SNAP Initiative: FreshConnect Fresh2You**



In case you skimmed past last week's *Veteran News* section, we wanted to take a moment to highlight **Governor Hochul's** new initiative--***FreshConnect Fresh2You***--which will double the buying power for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients at farmers' markets across New York State. **DVS** is standing by to assist you with your **SNAP application** process.

### **About Governor Hochul's Initiative**

- The FreshConnect Fresh2You initiative will now provide SNAP beneficiaries at participating farmers' markets with \$2 checks for every \$2 spent as part of the SNAP program, up from \$2 for every \$5 spent.
  - Allows families in need to purchase more healthy foods, including produce, dairy, and meats, helping to offset recent reductions in SNAP benefits and inflation costs.
  - Increases revenue for New York farmers
-

## SNAP Benefits Need-to-Know

### What is SNAP?

- The **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of families in need so they can purchase healthy food and move towards self-sufficiency. SNAP takes into account a family's overall financial status and provides individualized aid.

### How to apply

- Apply online at **ACCESS HRA**. Visit and download an application from [HRA's website](#). You may also call 311 or **HRA's Infoline** at 718-557-1399 and someone will send you an application and information on where you can *mail it in*, *fax* or *bring in person*. Also, an authorized representative can file an application for you online, at any Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Center, or at a participating community based organization.

### How benefits are determined

- Your benefits package is determined by **household size, expenses, and income**. Don't be discouraged from applying if you're employed, own a home and/or car, and have money saved; you may still be eligible for benefits!

### The Process

- Most applications are **processed within 30 days**, however expedited processing is available and emergency benefits can be distributed within 5 days. To learn more about expedited processing and eligibility, [click here](#).

Those who receive a benefits package will be given an **Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card** to use at food stores that **accept EBT**.

## Shop Online!

- Did you know that you can now use your Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to shop online for fresh produce and groceries? Participating retailers include Amazon, ShopRite, and Walmart!

## GrowNYC Greenmarkets

- Greenmarkets, Farmstands, and Fresh Food Box sites are part of a network of food access retail locations operated by GrowNYC.
- Visit [GrowNYC](#) for a list of Farmers' Markets in your area.

**DVS can help file your SNAP application!** If you or a Veteran community member you know is in need of food assistance, reach out to us and apply for your benefits today! To receive assistance, email our team at [claims@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:claims@veterans.nyc.gov) or fill out the form at **VetConnectNYC** and select "Food Assistance" as your preferred service.

[Apply through VetConnectNYC Here!](#)

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**Edge4Vets Spring 2023  
Career Workshop**



Edge4Vets<sup>SM</sup>

Vision • Values • Skills • Action



Take our **FREE**  
**WORKSHOP**



**NY EDGE4VETS**  
**Spring WORKSHOP SERIES**

Thursday, April 27, 1 to 4pm

Hosted by John Jay College



Register by  
phone here



**Free JOB and CAREER Workshop!**

**MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL** – Take our workshop and get business mentor support to prepare for jobs that can lead to great careers. Following the session, we'll give you access to our online Edge4Vets course to create a personal **PLAN4SUCCESS** for an "edge" to get hired. Special thanks to our partner companies, NYC Dept of Veterans Services and NYC-SHRM for support. **REGISTER TODAY!**

**3 STEPS TO LAND A JOB – LEADING TO A CAREER!**

**1. REGISTER:**

IN-PERSON Workshop  
Thurs, April 27  
1pm to 4pm  
Hosted by:  
**John Jay College**  
524 W. 59<sup>th</sup> Street  
NY, NY 10019

**2. PREP: Translate Military Skills**

Business mentors will provide you with in-person support and tips for an "edge" to get hired – join us, We'll start you on a pathway to land a good job that can lead to a great career in business, finance, transportation, pharma non-profit and more.

**3. FOLLOW UP**

You'll get access to our "Edge4Vets" ONLINE course and we'll connect you to HR reps at our partner companies.

VISIT - [Edge4Vets.org](http://Edge4Vets.org)

Click here to **REGISTER online**

Or register on our website at [Edge4Vets.org](http://Edge4Vets.org)

See full details on how the program works at [edge4vets.org](http://edge4vets.org).  
Any questions? Contact Tom Murphy at [tom@edge4vets.org](mailto:tom@edge4vets.org).

Edge4Vets is offered by the Human Resiliency Institute at Fordham University (Gabelli School of Business)

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 27, 2023 @1:00 P.M.

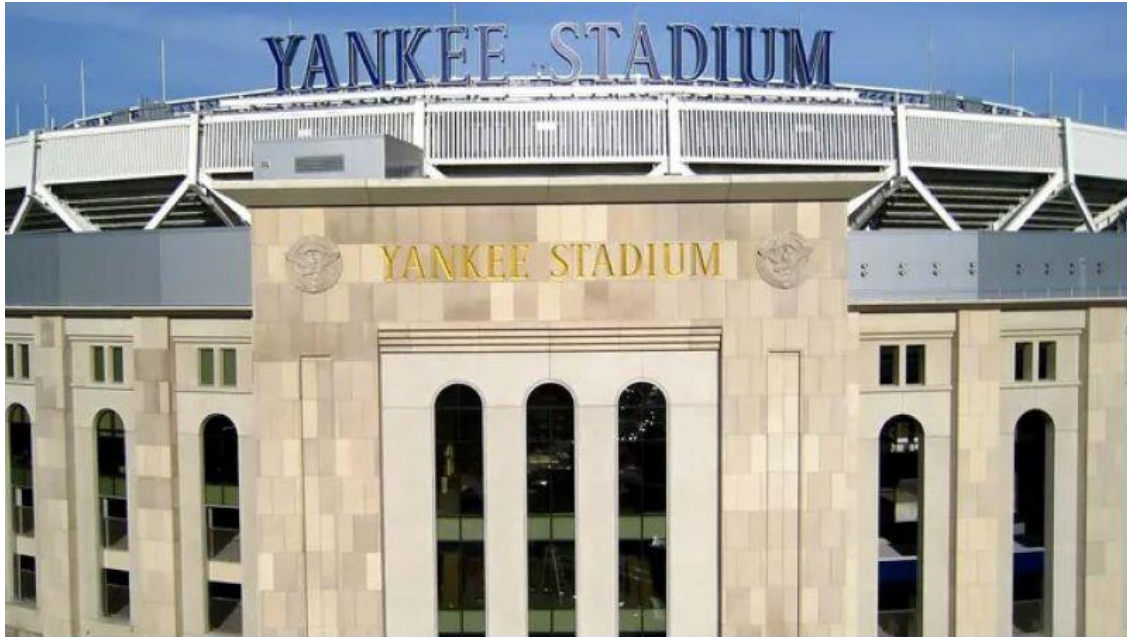
**WHERE:** *John Jay College of Criminal Justice*

524 West 59th Street  
New York, NY 10019

[Click Here to Register and Learn More](#)

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## **Yankee Stadium Behind-the-Scenes Tour**



*Behind-The-Scenes Tour!*

**FREE FOR MILITARY  
CHILDREN  
(And Their Parents)**

*Enjoy this special visit to Yankee Stadium — including parts  
of the ballpark that usually only the pros get to see!*

**April 29, 10 a.m.**

**RSVP:**

**[benjamin.pomerance@veterans.ny.gov](mailto:benjamin.pomerance@veterans.ny.gov)**

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 29, 2023 @10:00 A.M.

**WHERE:** Yankee Stadium

To RSVP email: [Benjamin Pomerance](#)

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## VETERAN NEWS

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### **GOP resolution seeking to halt abortion care at Veterans Affairs fails in the Senate**



Pictured is the James J. Peters VA Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y. (Photo by James J. Peters VA Medical Center)

April 19, 2023, 5:12 PM EDT

By [Rebecca Shabad](#) and Julie Tsirkin

WASHINGTON — The Democratic-controlled Senate on Wednesday blocked a resolution that sought to halt abortion services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

A motion to proceed to the GOP-sponsored measure, which was introduced by Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-Ala., failed in a 48-51 vote.

At a news conference before the vote, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said that Democrats would defend veterans' rights.

"We all know it's up to veterans to step up to protect us," Schumer said. "They risked their lives for us. They're always there for us. And now, when these same



veterans have their health care attacked, Senate Democrats are stepping up to protect their rights." [\[READ MORE...\]](#)

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## **More Veteran-related Headlines**

**Military Times:** [White House pledges caregiver support, but VA program's future unclear](#)

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**Military.com:** [Bronze Star Recipient and VA Chief of Staff Nominated for No. 2 Job at VA](#)

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**silive.com:** [NYC can offer veterans a property tax break, but City Council has yet to opt in](#)

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**NIH (National Institutes of Health):** [VA, NIH launch study of Gulf War Illness](#)

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**silive.com:** [A letter from 2023 Woman of Achievement Linda Ollis](#)

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We are looking to highlight Veterans in the arts community! Whether it's an upcoming free exhibition, performance, or piece/installation you've created, we want to showcase your work and help spread the word. Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis and promoted at our discretion. We want this to be a space for Veteran artists to express themselves in an authentic way.

Please email submissions to [connect@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:connect@veterans.nyc.gov) with a brief bio, an artist statement, art medium, and your affiliation to the Veteran community.

## The Neon Nutrition Kitchen: Veteran-Only Pantry Days

Attention NYC Veterans! [The NeON Nutrition Kitchen](#) will be hosting Veterans-only Pantry days on Staten Island and The Bronx, providing non-perishable foods as well as a meat/fish to Veterans and their families.

There will also be a Veterans Benefit Coordinator on site to help with claims and benefits.



The flyer for Staten Island features a blue background with orange accents. It includes a circular photo of a person packing groceries, the NeON Nutrition Kitchen logo, and the text 'The NeON Nutrition Kitchen'. Below this, it says 'FREE HEALTHY FOODS' and 'NeON Nutrition Kitchen Veterans Only Day Free Packaged Groceries, Produce and Dairy'. A 'WHAT' icon is next to this text. The 'WHERE' section lists 'Staten Island' and '340 Bay Street'. The 'WHEN' section lists 'Every Friday - 10am to 1pm from March 3 - May 26'. Logos for NYC Department of Veterans' Services, NYC Young Men's Initiative, Food Bank, and NeON are at the bottom. A small accessibility icon and text are at the very bottom.

**NeON<sup>™</sup> Nutrition Kitchen**

**The NeON Nutrition Kitchen**

**FREE HEALTHY FOODS**

**WHAT** NeON Nutrition Kitchen Veterans Only Day  
Free Packaged Groceries, Produce and Dairy

**WHERE**  
**Staten Island**  
340 Bay Street

**WHEN** Every Friday - 10am to 1pm  
from March 3 - May 26

**NYC** **NYC** **YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE**  
Department of Veterans' Services  
Department of Veterans' Services  
FOOD BANK  
NeON<sup>™</sup>

For requests regarding accessibility or language interpretation services please email [disability/facilitator@probation.nyc.gov](mailto:disability/facilitator@probation.nyc.gov) or call 212-510-3862.

Staten Island:

 Fridays, March 3 - May 26

 340 Bay Street

 10a-1p



The flyer for The Bronx features a blue background with orange accents. It includes a circular photo of a person packing groceries, the NeON Nutrition Kitchen logo, and the text 'The NeON Nutrition Kitchen'. Below this, it says 'FREE HEALTHY FOODS' and 'NeON Nutrition Kitchen Veterans Only Day Free Packaged Groceries, Produce and Dairy'. A 'WHAT' icon is next to this text. The 'WHERE' section lists 'Bronx' and '198 East 161st'. The 'WHEN' section lists 'Every Monday - 9:30am to 12:30pm from March 13 - June 6'. Logos for NYC Department of Veterans' Services, NYC Young Men's Initiative, Food Bank, and NeON are at the bottom. A small accessibility icon and text are at the very bottom.

**NeON<sup>™</sup> Nutrition Kitchen**

**The NeON Nutrition Kitchen**

**FREE HEALTHY FOODS**

**WHAT** NeON Nutrition Kitchen Veterans Only Day  
Free Packaged Groceries, Produce and Dairy

**WHERE**  
**Bronx**  
198 East 161st

**WHEN** Every Monday - 9:30am to 12:30pm  
from March 13 - June 6

**NYC** **NYC** **YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE**  
Department of Veterans' Services  
Department of Veterans' Services  
FOOD BANK  
NeON<sup>™</sup>

For requests regarding accessibility or language interpretation services please email [disability/facilitator@probation.nyc.gov](mailto:disability/facilitator@probation.nyc.gov) or call 212-510-3862.

The Bronx:

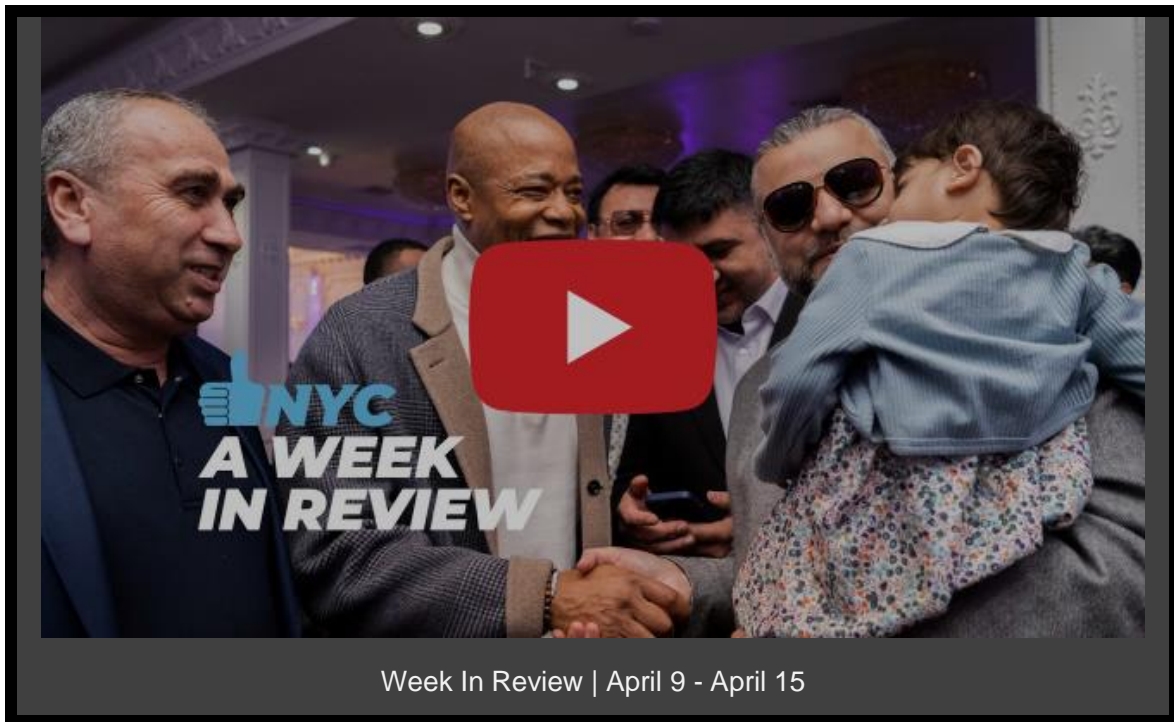
 Mondays, March 13 - June 6

 198 East 161st

 9:30a-12:30p

## A Message From Mayor Adams:

Each week DVS will share a short update about how our administration is getting stuff done for New Yorkers.



*The Adams administration is dedicated to cutting through the noise and delivering information directly to you and all New Yorkers.*

*Sign up to "Hear From Eric" and get direct messages from City Hall, tailored to your interests and neighborhood, sent directly to your inbox – at [nyc.gov/hearfromeric!](https://nyc.gov/hearfromeric)*

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## **Critical Financial Assistance Programs**



## Financial assistance support for post-9/11 New York veterans and their families

We believe warriors can thrive with access to integrated services focused on their individual and collective well-being.

### Critical Needs Program

Hope For the Warriors Critical Needs program serves as a short-term financial bridge for post 9/11 veterans and their families, and for survivors of traumas as they navigate through long-term recovery.

**Support includes financial education and financial assistance to help offset income loss due to:**

- Delays in disability claims processing
- Combat related loss of income
- Homelessness and homeless prevention
- Increased care due to injury progression
- Housing support for veteran to engage in intensive outpatient and/or inpatient psychiatric treatment for PTSD, MST, depression, anxiety, or equivalent mental health diagnoses
- Assistance in the form of financial grants, resource referrals, supportive counseling and financial literacy training



To learn more about these services visit [hopeforthewarriors.org/connect-to-services](https://hopeforthewarriors.org/connect-to-services)

For questions, please contact: [jsooklal@hopeforthewarriors.org](mailto:jsooklal@hopeforthewarriors.org)



This program is supported by a grant from The Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

The Mother Cabrini Health Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of New Yorkers, bolster the health outcomes of vulnerable communities, eliminate barriers to care, and bridge gaps in health services. Named after a tireless advocate for immigrants, children, and the poor, the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation funds programs and initiatives across New York State that either provide direct healthcare services or address the social determinants of health. For more information, visit [www.cabrinihealth.org](http://www.cabrinihealth.org).



# Elizabeth Dole Foundation

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## CARING FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

**Goal:** The Hope Fund for Critical Financial Assistance provides financial relief to all eras of military and Veteran caregivers through a grant that aims to put you and your family on the path to financial wellness. These grants aim to provide high-impact financial assistance to prevent or address a significant crisis or to improve the quality of life of the caregiver family. These grants fill the gaps that other programs may not cover.

### **Who is eligible for the grant program?**

- Adult caregiver, (18 years and older), for a military service member or veteran
- Demonstrates financial assistance need
- Vendor or name of Company is legally able to receive taxable income in the U.S., this includes they're being a citizen, green card holder, and/or permanent resident who can provide a W9 and SSN or (TIN)

**Amount:** Depending on need, grants will be made on a case-by-case review at the discretion of EDF staff. These are grants that aim to assist with larger needs to put you on a path of financial wellness.

### **How do you define “financial assistance needs”?**

If you are experiencing an unforeseen emergency with life-changing consequences, we encourage you to apply.

### **Examples of grants:**

Natural Disaster Assistance

Medical/Dental bills not covered by insurance

Home repairs/additions due to safety of Veteran

Car modifications needed for the Veteran

Certificate program to build job readiness skills for caregiver

Transportation

Hope Fund for Critical Financial Assistance Program through the  
Elizabeth Dole Foundation

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## **April 2023 - Citywide Hiring**



# NYC Government Hiring Hall

Serve Your City, Fulfill Your Dreams!

**Saturday, April 22, 2023**  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Monroe College, Mintz Auditorium,**  
2501 Jerome Ave, Bronx, NY 10468



On-the-spot interviews for select jobs in City government including inspectors, case managers, clerical associates and more.

Register to attend at [bit.ly/april22nychiringhall](https://bit.ly/april22nychiringhall).



Get the latest from Mayor Adams directly in your inbox: [HearFromEric.com](https://HearFromEric.com).



If you need a reasonable accommodation, please email [Citywidejobs@dcas.nyc.gov](mailto:Citywidejobs@dcas.nyc.gov) by Friday, April 14th.

**Join Our Team! Be Part of the Mission!**



## **Current DVS Job Openings**

Being part of our team is a great way to continue to serve.

[Visit NYC.gov/jobs and select "Veterans' Services" from the agency menu to learn more about and apply to the job below.](#)

**Veteran Housing Coordinator** - The NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) Veteran Housing Coordinator (VHC) program provides peer-to-peer housing assistance for homeless veterans living within the five boroughs of New York City. This program is designed to help NYC reach and sustain "functional zero", the point at which veteran homelessness has effectively ended and there is a system in place to rapidly rehouse any new veteran entering the homeless system. The VHCs are at the front line in the ongoing citywide commitment to providing safe and affordable housing to every veteran that becomes homeless.

## **VA Work Study Positions at DVS**

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) supports VA Work-Study Positions! Here is a current list of available VA Work-Study openings:

- [Administrative Intern](#)
- [Benefit Intern](#)
- [Care Coordination Intern](#)
- [Data Analyst Intern](#)
- [Information Technology Intern](#)
- [IT Support Intern](#)



- [Legal Intern](#)
- [Outreach Coordinator Intern](#)
- [Veteran Business Promotion Intern](#)

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If you are interested in applying for a DVS-specific Work-Study position and meet eligibility requirements, please submit the following to [VAWorkStudy@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:VAWorkStudy@veterans.nyc.gov):

- Resume
- Job Specific Cover Letter
- Supporting Documents found in the Job Description

[Check Here for VA Work-Study Postings](#)

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## **NYC Civil Service Job Openings and Exams**



**Open Competitive Exams**

**Forensic Mortuary Technician** - Forensic Mortuary Technicians oversee the administrative disposition of deceased persons; may supervise and assist a group of City Mortuary Technicians who retrieve and receive deceased persons, and who prepare for and assist in autopsies.

**Oiler** - Oilers, under direct supervision, are responsible for the lubrication of power plant, pumping and/or construction equipment. They lubricate and clean pumps, engines, blowers, compressors, motors, gears, ejectors, bridge cables and other operating equipment; assist in the operation, maintenance and repair of this equipment; read meters and gauges; keep logs; operate lubricant filtering and purifying equipment; maintain lubricant inventory; and may operate a motor vehicle in the performance of assigned duties.

**School Computer Technology Specialist** - School Computer Technology Specialists (DOE) perform work related to the instructional and administrative information systems located within a school in the areas of computer maintenance and repair, mainframe, server and/or mini computer operations, software and technical support, and training. School Computer Technology Specialists (DOE) may drive a motor vehicle.

To receive monthly updates on upcoming civil service exams click the button below to be directed to the Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter page. On the registration form, select "City Jobs and Civil Service Announcements".

[Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter Here](#)

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## **Programs and Initiatives**

**[Affordable Housing For Veterans](#)**



The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) maintains a list of federal, state, and city programs that offers a limited, but selective list of affordable housing options for veterans seeking financial relief for their housing arrangements. Visit our [Affordable Housing for Veterans](#) page to learn more.

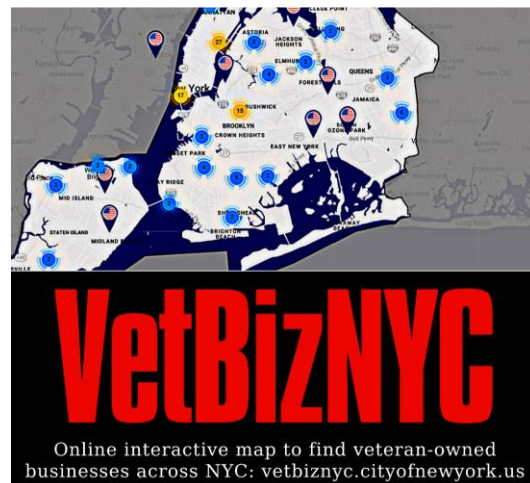
## **Empowering Veteran Business Owners**



The primary mission of the [VBLA](#) is to serve Veterans seeking support and assistance with running a business and in their pursuit of New York City Government contracting opportunities. Our leadership association engages with the private sector, government, advisory board, and local partners to build a consortium that facilitates the growth and development of Veteran Businesses.

## **VetBizNYC: Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurship**

DVS has launched [VetBizNYC](#), an interactive map that identifies Veteran-owned businesses across the five boroughs. New Yorkers can use our interactive map to find and support Veteran-owned businesses in their community.



## **Are You Getting the Benefits You Deserve?**

The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) represents NYC Veterans in claims for benefits from the [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs](#). Our team is also qualified to assist with PACT Act related claims. If you had a toxic exposure during your service, time is crucial for you to get the benefits you deserve. To file a claim, fill out the [VetConnectNYC.org](#) form and select **Benefits Navigation** as your preferred service.



## **VetConnectPro: A First-in-the-Nation Employment Tool**



[VetConnectPro](#), is a new employment tool designed to help Veterans find employment within NYC government. The platform features a military skills translator that can match your service experience and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to City jobs and civil service exams. Upload your resume and get started today: [nyc.gov/vetconnectpro](https://nyc.gov/vetconnectpro).

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## **Newsletter Sign-up**

If you received this newsletter by way of a friend or colleague and have yet to sign-up on your own, click [here](#), and stay up-to-date with the latest news impacting the

community, updates on city services, info on DVS programs, Veteran-specific resources & more.

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## **Contact Us**

- Complete a service request form at [vetconnectnyc.org](http://vetconnectnyc.org)
- [Message the Commissioner](#)
- [Partner with DVS](#)
- [Press Inquiries](#)
- [Event Request Form](#)

Stay tuned on our website [www.nyc.gov/vets](http://www.nyc.gov/vets) and social media platforms [@nycveterans](#), or via email at [connect@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:connect@veterans.nyc.gov).