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Fort Eustis

Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Bulletin



Hot Topics for Combat Veterans

Combat Veterans Eligibility for VA Health Care Benefits has been extended!

<http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility>

Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) / Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) Transition <http://www.seamlesstransition.va.gov/>

Combat Veteran Fact Sheet

<http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/Library/pubs/CombatVet/CombatVet.pdf>

DoD Definition of Combat Operations for Title 10 Service Members

<http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/Library/pubs/CombatOperations/CombatOperations.pdf>

Wounded Warrior Pay

<http://www.dfas.mil/militarypay/woundedwarriorpay.html>

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181) was signed by President Bush on January 28, 2008. This Act extends the period of enhanced enrollment opportunity for health care eligibility provided a veteran who served in a theater of combat operations after November 11, 1998 (commonly referred to as combat veterans or OEF/OIF veterans) as follows:

Currently enrolled combat veterans will have their enhanced enrollment period automatically extended to 5 years from their most recent date of discharge.

New enrollees discharged from active duty on or after January 28, 2003 are eligible for this enhanced enrollment health benefit for 5 years after their date of their most recent discharge from active duty.

Combat Veterans who never enrolled and were discharged from active duty between November 11, 1998 and January 27, 2003 may apply for this enhanced enrollment opportunity through January 27, 2011.

NOTE: Combat veterans who applied for enrollment after January 16, 2003, but were not accepted for enrollment based on the application being outside the previous post-discharge two year window will be automatically reviewed and notified of the enrollment decision under this new authority.

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Emergency Preparedness - Personnel Accountability and Structured Communication Processes

The top priorities during a natural or man-made crisis are to ensure the continuity of mission-essential functions and secure the safety and well-being of the workforce. Personnel accountability and structured communication processes are keys to achieving these goals. Personnel accountability involves both management and employee responsibilities. Management should maintain an up-to-date list of personnel assigned by unit or organization, as well as those serviced by the installation. Employees need to keep their emergency contact information current and accurate. During a crisis, they should report their status to their supervisor or a pre-designated call center. Structured communication processes must also be established in advance, to include one or more of the following:



- Telephone trees, i.e., structured lists of phone numbers (home, cell, and emergency contacts) for use to get the word out;
- Call-in systems for employees to report their status and availability for work;
- Live hotlines and recorded information lines for employees and/or customers to obtain information;
- Web sites with information on actions to take and report-in procedures; and
- Structured broadcasts with general information. DoD Components have established toll free phone numbers that employees can use to report-in. These are normally working numbers for other mission operations but are switched to serve as emergency numbers in an actual crisis. The number for the Department of the Army is 1-800-833-6622.

During an emergency or crisis situation, employees should report the following:

- Name;
- Status, e.g., safe, okay, need assistance;
- Location;
- Family information, e.g., location, safe, need assistance;
- Phone numbers (land and cell);
- Alternative phone numbers;
- Activity, Command, and organization;
- Name of supervisor and contact information;
- Nature of the emergency affecting the employee;
- Employee's ability to perform work either at the worksite or at an alternative location; and
- If at an alternative location, that address and contact information.

Everyone in the workforce should be prepared and know beforehand what to do and how to report in emergencies. The DoD Implementation Plan for Pandemic Influenza (PI) is on the PI Watchboard Web site, www.dod.mil/pandemicflu, along with pamphlets and brochures on individual preparedness. Preparedness information and the "800" numbers are available at www.cpms.osd.mil/disasters.

Its official, DD-214's are NOW Online.

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online:

(<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>)



This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.

Please pass this information on to former military personnel you may know and their dependents.

Employee Emergency Contact Card

Employees should be prepared to know who to contact and how prior to an actual emergency. An easy way to maintain this information is by completing emergency contact information using the following [card](#) and keeping the card in your wallet, purse and or vehicle.





Emergency Contact Card
Name: Home Address: Phone(s):
Workplace Emergency Contact Information
Defense Activity/Organization: Agency/Activity Emergency Report In or Locator Phone: 1-800-833-6622 (Army number for AF); 1-877-384-2340 (Army number for NAF). The numbers will be activated during emergencies. Supervisors Name and Emergency Contact Number(s):
Household Members Information
Out of Town Contact: Phone Numbers: Family meeting place outside neighborhood: Medical Conditions/Allergies:
Important Numbers and Websites
Fire, Police, Ambulance: Poison Control Center: 800-222-1222 DoD Disaster Information and Updates: www.cpms.osd.mil/disasters www.dod.mil/pandemicflu www.opm.gov/pandemic Other:



Feedback

This bulletin is designed to inform employees and supervisors of new civilian human resources issues and refresh their knowledge of existing policies and procedures.

We welcome your [feedback](#); contact your servicing Human Resources Specialist.

The bulletin is available on our web page, <http://www.eustis.army.mil/cpac> Request you print and post on Bulletin Boards throughout your organization for those employees who do not have access to our web page.