

## Why we will be successful in meeting your needs.



- We care about you and your family.
- Over 98% of us are veterans or spouses of military members.
- Many TAAs have worked through the disability process and received disability compensation.
- We have built strong partnerships and coalitions within the Department of Defense TRICARE, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), State Directors of VA, Veterans Services Organizations, and State Headquarters groups, such as Family Support, Chaplains Offices, Department of Labor (DoL), and Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).



## Who we are.

The purpose of the Transition Assistance Advisor (TAA) program is to provide a professional in each state/territory (some states have two TAAs) to serve as the statewide point of contact to assist Service Members in accessing Department of Veterans Affairs' health care services and benefits. Each TAA also provides assistance in obtaining entitlements through the Military Health System and access to community resources. The TAA initiative started in May 2005 when the National Guard Bureau (NGB) signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the VA. The TAA program is staffed by 65 contract positions and four (4) state employees.

## Who we serve.



The program is designed to serve National Guard members and their families. Additionally, we gladly provide services to members in all components.

## Where we may travel to.

- Mobilization and demobilization sites.
- Reintegration meetings.
- Community Based WTUs.
- Unit events/drill weekend gatherings/Guard Fairs.
- Sponsored Guard leadership conferences at the national and state levels and specialized organizational agency meetings.
- Post Deployment Health Reassessment sites.
- Transition Assistance Program (TAP) events.
- AND ANYWHERE ELSE YOU WANT US TO BE!

## What we can do for you as an individual Service Member.

We help you navigate through the numerous benefits and entitlements in the DoD and VA system. We take the time to assist you and not toss you into the *800 number desert!* We will educate you so you will understand the benefits you have earned, such as:

- Guard entitlements and access for health care in both the DoD and VA medical facilities.
- TRICARE benefits while you are on active duty and when you return as an OIF/OEF Veteran.
- Important deadlines that require your action while still on active duty and as a Veteran so you do not miss these time-sensitive opportunities.
- VA dental care programs (time-sensitive benefit).
- Referral for counseling services for you and your family that will not affect your career.
- Referral for possible compensation for injuries or illness sustained in OEF, OIF, and OND.
- Insurance information such as SGLI, TSGLI, and FSGLI.
- Rehabilitative care management needed to help you return to a normal lifestyle.
- Assistance with job search and connection with ESGR for rights of employment.
- Assistance in connecting you to the Veterans Benefits Administration and Veterans Services Organizations to file disability/compensation claims.
- Assistance in the event of financial hardship, health care issues, or unemployment needs.
- Assistance with locating your medical records & DD 214s.
- ***Pre-separation counseling associated with Transition Assistance Program (TAP).***

## How our TAAs helped others.



## Words from our dedicated staff.

*"Linda (Shields), my father has been approved for 100% VA Disability Benefits. YOU were the best – YOU told me it could happen. It was approved in 6 weeks. Incredible – this will help my Mom and Dad with their nursing home costs. Thank you for all your help. You have been an angel in this process. I am so happy for my Dad. You were so instrumental in making this happen. You told me asbestos was on the war ships and this is what qualified him for VA benefits. I would never have known if I didn't talk to you about it. What a nice gift for him at 94-years-old. He will be thrilled. May God bless you and continue to bless you for all the help you are to our veterans."*

-Daughter of a Veteran

*"We have found the TAA program to be the best bang for the buck across the Guard in connecting our Service Members and families to benefits and community resources before, during and after deployment. Lisa Aldridge, with who I met recently, is the sole TAA in New Hampshire and has a wealth of experience in that office. She is a testament to the value of the program's ability to orchestrate assistance from many resources."*

-Representative – National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)

*"I just wanted to commend one of your team members for the assistance she provided to one of our soldiers who was in distress... If it were not for her diligence and expertise, our soldier would not have received the timely care that he urgently needed. I would like to express our gratitude to her and her organization for these actions."*

-Battalion Officer in Charge

*"I have said it before and stand by it, Skyline was the best employment decision I have ever made, and words cannot express the enjoyment I experience everyday serving my clients. You will always be able to count on me."*

*Thanks for the opportunity.*

-Jeff Unger, Wisconsin TAA

*"Educating our Service Members and their families about veterans benefits and entitlements is my focus - anything less is unacceptable."*

-Mike Goodrich, Tennessee TAA

*"...just the feeling of helping someone whether it be a veteran or widow or dependent is a feeling of gratitude that I was able to assist someone in need, that I am knowledgeable in the subject area that they are seeking assistance in. I love what I do and I love helping people find some kind of closure to what they didn't know."*

-Susana Q. Mafnas, Guam TAA

*"It doesn't matter what colors our veterans fly; whether it is Army green, Marines crimson and gold, Air blue or Navy white, they all served the red, white and blue and for that it is my duty as a fellow vet to guarantee they get everything that they have earned."*

-Dorian M. Bell, Virginia TAA



Our TAA Team Who Serves You!