

# Operation Warfighter (OWF)



OFFICE OF  
**WARRIOR CARE POLICY**

Operation Warfighter (OWF) is a Federal internship program for recovering Service members.

The main objective of OWF is to place recovering Service members in supportive work settings that positively impact their recovery. The program represents an opportunity to facilitate recovering Service members' development and employment readiness by providing assistance with resume building, exploring employment interests, and developing job skills through internship opportunities.

## The OWF Model

1. OWF strives to demonstrate to participants that the skills obtained in the military are transferable into civilian employment. For recovering Service members who will return to duty, the program enables these participants to maintain active skill sets and provides the opportunity for additional training and experience that can subsequently benefit the military.
2. OWF enables Federal employers to better familiarize themselves with the skill sets and challenges of recovering Service members as well as benefit from the considerable talent and dedication of these individuals.

## How OWF Works

The first step in the OWF process is to obtain "medical and command approval" from a recovering Service member's recovery team and chain of command to certify that they are

ready and able to participate in OWF. Once a recovering Service member is determined to be ready to participate, an OWF Coordinator assists the individual in identifying an internship opportunity based on their interests and capabilities. Once a placement is agreed upon, the OWF Coordinator works with the recovering Service member and the employer to obtain needed security clearances, workplace accommodations and/ or transportation assistance.

The OWF Coordinator, along with the recovering Service member's recovery team, stays in contact with the recovering Service member and the employer throughout the placement to collect monthly feedback and ensure that there is no negative impact to the Service member's medical profile.

At the completion of a placement, feedback is gathered from both the recovering Service member and the employer. This information is used to continue to evolve OWF to meet the needs of recovering Service members and participating employers.

## Stats and Figures

- Operation Warfighter has placed more than 2,500 recovering Service members in internships with more than 90 different Federal agencies and sub-components.
- Currently, there are 525 OWF placements across 25 different Military Treatment Facilities and Wounded Warrior Programs.

*"[Operation Warfighter] gave me hope. It was really motivational to know that I could get a job, continue to live my life and provide for my family. Otherwise, I don't really know what I would be doing today."*

— SSG William Castillo (Ret.)



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## The Way Ahead

The Operation Warfighter component of the Recovery Coordination Program is currently operating on a regional basis around the country. For general inquiries, you can also send a message to

[PR-OperationWarFighter@osd.mil](mailto:PR-OperationWarFighter@osd.mil).

## E2I/OWF Regional Coordinators

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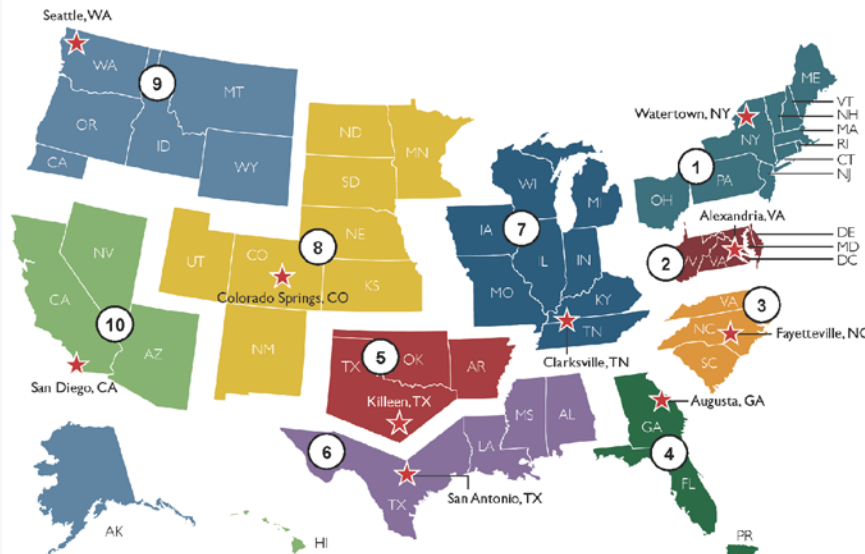
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# = Region Number

★ = Location of Regional Coordinators

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\*As of 24 April 2013 1

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