

# Operation Warfighter (OWF)



OFFICE OF  
**WARRIOR CARE POLICY**

Operation Warfighter (OWF), a federal agency internship program to allow transitioning RSMs to develop and practice newly assessed and identified work skills in a non-military work environment.

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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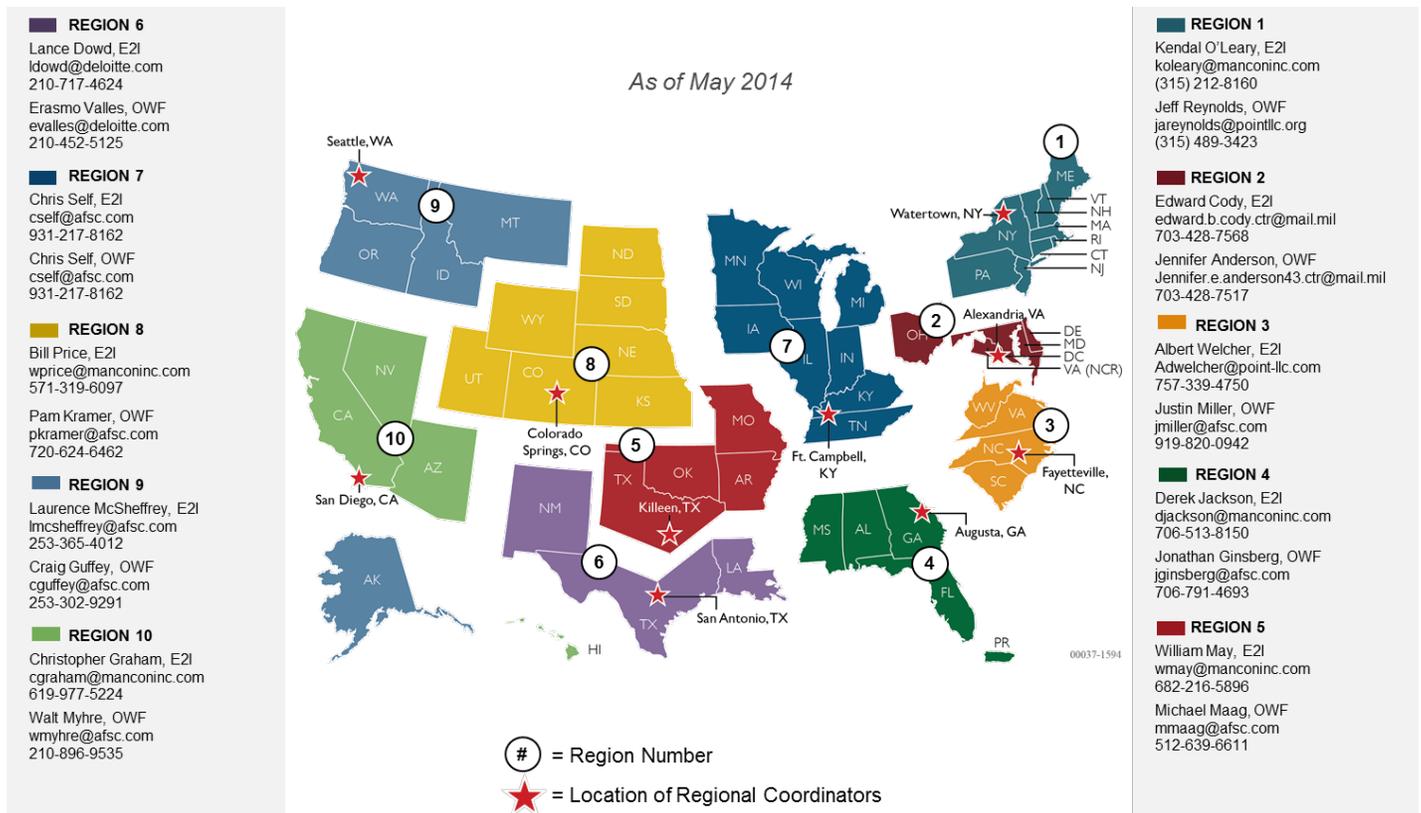


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## The Way Ahead

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).



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[www.warriorcare.mil](http://www.warriorcare.mil) | [www.facebook.com/OperationWarfighter](https://www.facebook.com/OperationWarfighter) | [www.twitter.com/WarriorCare](https://www.twitter.com/WarriorCare)

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





## OPERATION WARFIGHTER

Matching qualified wounded, ill and injured Service members with Federal internships to gain valuable work experience during their recovery period

### About Operation Warfighter (OWF)

Operation Warfighter (OWF) is a Department of Defense (DoD) internship program that provides opportunities for wounded, ill, and injured Service members to participate in internships with Federal agencies during their rehabilitation process. These Federal internships allow wounded, ill, and injured Service members to develop and practice newly assessed and identified work skills in a non-military work environment. More than 5,700 wounded, ill, and injured Service members have been placed in Federal internships through OWF.

#### Goals and Objectives

The main objective of OWF is to place wounded, ill, and injured Service members in supportive work settings that positively impact their recovery. The program represents an opportunity to facilitate 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 to civilian employment. For 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 wounded, ill, and injured 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 wounded, ill, or injured Service member's recovery team and chain of command. Once a wounded, ill, or injured Service member is determined to be ready to participate, a Regional Coordinator assists the individual in identifying an internship opportunity based on their interests and capabilities. Once a placement is agreed upon, the OWF Regional Coordinator works with the wounded, ill, or injured Service member and the agency to obtain necessary security clearances, workplace accommodations and transportation assistance.

The Regional Coordinator, along with the Service member's recovery team, stays in contact with the Service member and the agency 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 Service member and the agency. This information is used to continue to evolve OWF to meet the needs of wounded, ill, and injured Service members and participating agencies. For general information, contact the program office at [OSD.OWF@mail.mil](mailto:OSD.OWF@mail.mil).



## OPERATION WARFIGHTER

### Matching qualified Recovering Service Members with Federal internships to gain valuable work experience during their recovery period

Operation Warfighter (OWF) is a Department of Defense (DoD) internship program that provides opportunities for Recovering Service Members (RSMs) to participate in internships with Federal agencies during their rehabilitation process. These Federal internships allow RSMs to develop and practice newly assessed and identified work skills in a nonmilitary work environment. More than 6,000 RSMs have been placed in Federal internships through OWF.

#### Goals and Objectives

The main objective of OWF is to place RSMs in supportive work settings that positively impact their recovery. The program represents an opportunity to facilitate RSMs 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 to civilian employment. For RSMs 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 RSMs 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 RSMs recovery team and chain of command. Once an RSM is determined to be ready to participate, a Regional Coordinator assists the individual in identifying an internship opportunity based on their interests and capabilities. Once a placement is agreed upon, the OWF Regional Coordinator works with the RSM and the agency to obtain necessary security clearances, workplace accommodations and transportation assistance.

The Regional Coordinator, along with the Service Member’s recovery team, stays in contact with the Service Member and the agency 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 Service Member and the agency. This information is used to continue to evolve OWF to meet the needs of RSMs and participating agencies.

For general information, contact the program office at [OSD.OWF@mail](mailto:OSD.OWF@mail)

#### Region Coordinator Information:

Name

Position

Email:

Phone:

For more information visit:

<http://warriorcare.mil/>

<http://nrd.gov/>



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