

PREFACE

In recognition of the contributions patriotic men and women have made by volunteering to serve our country, the Department of Defense (DoD) extends its heartfelt gratitude to each of you and thanks you for your service to our Nation.

This guide, a product of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP), provides information on the many services and benefits available to you. You are provided information that will provide you with options, and help you make informed decision about the choices for you and your family.

Demobilizing members of the Guard and Reserves shall receive transition counseling (same as preseparation counseling for Active Component Service members) before their release from active duty as required by law. During the transition counseling session, they will complete DD Form 2648-1, "Transition Counseling Checklist for Demobilizing Members of the Guard and Reserves". The law also requires a copy of the checklist to be filed in the Service member personnel record. There is a lot of information to absorb and you need time to plan and decide what is in the best interest for yourself and your family. Once you have returned home, you can contact the National Guard Transition Assistance Advisor (at each State Joint Forces Headquarters) for assistance or you may contact the nearest military installation with a transition office and ask for assistance. Use the *Transition Guide* as a ready reference to guide you as you begin the process of transitioning back into the civilian community.

The Transition Assistance Program demonstrates the Department of Defense, the Department of Labor, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Homeland Security's continued commitment to our men and women in uniform.

Special transition benefits information, employment workshops, automated employment job-hunting tools and job banks, veteran benefits information, disabled veterans benefits information and many other types of transition and other related information is available to you. AND IT'S ALL FREE. Take full advantage of TAP and all it has to offer.

Start by reading the guide. It is designed to familiarize you with the scope of the many transition resources accessible to you. Remember, you are ultimately responsible for your transition.

Get connected with the Transition Assistance Program – It's the smart thing to do.

For additional information on transition, go to <http://www.Turbo.TAP.org>.