



INFORMATION PAPER: TurboTAP Mobile Training Team (TTAP MTT)

Background: As part of an expanded outreach effort to members of the National Guard and Reserve who are transitioning on and off of active duty, the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Military Community & Family Policy (DUSD/MC&FP) established the TurboTAP Mobile Training Team (TTAP MTT). TTAP MTT is part of the DoD Personal Finance & Transition (PF&T) Directorate.

This TTAP MTT traveling team consists of two or more transition assistance and personal financial management counselors. These team members help service and family members connect to the benefits they have earned through military service, understand their cash value and make military-civilian career transition plans and decisions that will enhance their quality of life. The www.TurboTAP.org website is full of useful checklists, guides and easy-to-use decision-support tools (e.g. skills translators, resume builders, benefits calculators, individual transition planning tools, and more).

The TurboTAP outreach effort is a no-cost support service designed specifically for National Guard and Reserve commands. It focuses on money matters, education, employment, benefits and relocation. It compliments and helps integrate federal, state and local transition assistance support services.

Regardless of when or why a servicemember is transitioning on or off of active duty, www.TurboTAP.org is a great place to start.

Menu of TTAP Mobile Training Team Services:

- TTAP MTT uses transition experts and certified financial counselors and planners to
 - Promote use of the www.TurboTAP.org website,
 - Help register servicemembers for a TurboTAP Individual Transition Plan (ITP) Account (MyDecisionPOINTS)
 - Provide support services that will create financial stability and economic security for service and family members throughout their military career and beyond.

- The following TTAP Services are available at no-cost to commands upon request:
 - *TurboTAP Booth* -- Includes briefings and demonstrations of the www.TurboTAP.org website, assistance with establishing Individual Transition Plan Accounts (includes Benefits Notifications via email) and referrals to a full range of Transition Assistance Program (TAP) support services. Key online resources include Pre-Separation (Active Duty) and Transition Guides (Guard & Reserve), checklists for education, employment, benefits, healthcare and relocation; job banks, military

friendly employers, online decision support tools, and command and community referrals.

- *TurboTAP Orientation Briefings and Educational Programs* -- TurboTAP and financial planning briefings are tailored to meet specific audience and command unit training needs. Popular topics include: Savings & Investments, Thrift Savings Plan, Retirement and Estate Planning, Credit Management and Debt Elimination, Insurance and Taxes. The entire menu of services can be found in the www.TurboTAP.org Press Center. Sessions range from 15/30/60 minutes to 1-3 day training programs. Sessions are usually part of Family Support Programs, Deployment Support Programs, Career and Financial Wellness Fairs.
- *Assistance in Establishing TurboTAP Individual Transition Plan Accounts [MyDecisionPOINTS]* -- Assistance is provided to transitioning servicemembers and families who want to be prepared for military-civilian employment transitions at any point in their military career. By planning early and opting-in on selected earned benefits, service and family members can maximize the cash value of their benefits – especially those related to military service in combat zones. This ITP system also notifies registrants when new benefits become law and when current benefits are changed or expanded (e.g. (e.g. new Montgomery GI Bill for education; tax credits for employers who hire wounded warriors).
- *Financial Counseling and Financial Planning Services* -- Financial counseling services are available in two options: (1) onsite on-demand in public forums [e.g. Seminar Panels, TurboTAP Booth Q&As] or (2) by scheduled appointment. They help service and family members make informed decisions about their military-civilian pay and compensation packages, the use of their benefits and their overall financial well-being. Financial counseling services can be delivered as part of a command sponsored event or as a separate support service. Community referrals for follow-on assistance are made to DoD partner organizations, military friendly organizations and trusted 1-800 Call Centers such as Military OneSource [1-800-342-9647] that provide 24/7 support.
- *Community Information and Referrals* -- The TurboTAP Team knows that service and family members are more likely to use a resource if someone they trust introduces them to it. Valuable information is therefore introduced in user-friendly formats through Train-the-Trainer programs for:
 - State Transition Assistance Advisors, Military Chaplains and other sources of state, local and national support for the Guard and Reserve, Veterans Centers, Department of Labor Career One Stop Centers and Veterans Benefits Offices

- Military OneSource 24/7 Call Center 1-800-342-9647, state Military OneSource representatives, www.militaryonesource.com, no-cost webinars, CDs, tip sheets and educational materials
 - Online Deployment Health and Family Readiness Library (<http://deploymenthealthlibrary.fhp.osd.mil>)
 - MilitaryHOMEFRONT website (www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil).
 - Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs), Military Service Organizations (MSOs), DoD Partner Organizations and Military Friendly organizations who meet DoD standards for quality and affordability.
 - TurboTAP Help Lists (see TurboTAP Press Center for updates)
- The TTAP Mobile Training Team is available to support command and community sponsored events at no cost. A two week advance notice is requested. The following are examples of programs that TTAP MTT is currently participating in:
 - Family Readiness, Open Houses and Resource Fairs
 - Pre-Mobilization, Soldier Readiness Processing & De-Mobilization, 30-60-90 Day Re-Integration Events and Programs for the Wounded, Injured, Ill and Individual Augmentees
 - Career and Financial Wellness Fairs
 - Training events, conferences and meetings for Professional Staff, Command Volunteers, Chaplains, Family Program Coordinators, Transition Assistance Advisors, Command Event Planners
 - Public Events: MilitarySAVES Week, Money Week Houston, Operation Support Our Troops Illinois, and more

To schedule TurboTAP MTT and Financial Planning education and counseling services, please contact:

Dr. Randy Eltringham
TurboTAP Mobile Training Team Manager
(703) 602-4949, ext 160
Randy.eltringham@osd.mil