



- **CASSIDY GUNDERSON**
U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD



**UNION PLUMBERS,
FITTERS, WELDERS AND
SERVICE TECHNICIANS**

THE UNITED ASSOCIATION'S **VETERANS IN PIPING PROGRAM**

The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry (UA) has partnered with the U.S. Military to create the UA Veterans in Piping (VIP) Program.

Learn how this extraordinary program helps to shape the lives of military members and their families.

VIP

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



UNION PLUMBERS,
FITTERS, WELDERS AND
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Recognized as one of the most effective programs for providing high-quality training and employment to U.S. transitioning military members, the UA Veterans in Piping (VIP) Program offers substantial benefits to all stakeholders. Throughout its history, the VIP Program has helped thousands of service members transition to civilian life.

BENEFITS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

- **Free Skills Training:**
The UA VIP Program helps active-duty military members transition to civilian life by offering high-skills training and guaranteed access to good jobs in welding, sprinkler fitting, HVAC-R (heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration) and other plumbing and pipe fitting trades at no cost to participants or the government.
- **Training & College Credit:**
Upon completion of the VIP Program participants receive 5-years of formal apprenticeship training. VIP graduates can attend the most advanced, well-respected pipe trades training centers in the country, giving them an opportunity to earn additional college credits toward an Associate's Degree - again, at no cost.
- **Efficient Job Placement:**
Upon completion of the VIP Program, the UA will help secure program graduates a rewarding career with one of our local unions once they leave the service.
- **High-Quality Jobs:**
Filling critical skills gaps in the construction and service sectors, the VIP Program provides training in welding and other specialty fields with current shortages, providing skills for good jobs, that upon completion of the apprenticeship program, pay up to \$100,000 per year in wages and benefits.
- **Lifelong Careers:**
According to a study for the U.S. Department of Labor, individuals who complete registered apprenticeship programs earn over \$300,000 more over the course of their careers.

BENEFITS FOR MILITARY AGENCIES

- **Helping Our Military Members:**
To ease the transition back into civilian life, the United Association established the VIP Program to equip military service members preparing to leave the service with sought after skills that can lead to lifelong careers in the increasingly in-demand pipe trades.
- **Reduce Unemployment Numbers Among Veterans:**
The unemployment rate is higher among veterans than the national average. Through the VIP Program, military members receive high-quality training before transitioning to civilian life and are then placed into a United Association apprenticeship once they successfully complete the VIP Program, which eliminates major Department of Defense unemployment payments for veterans unable to find jobs

BENEFITS FOR CONTRACTING COMMUNITY

- **High-Caliber Recruits:**
Facing a shortage of skilled labor and a highly anticipated increase in future projects, the construction industry needs to recruit tens of thousands of well-trained, highly-skilled workers in the coming years.
- **High Value Military Skills:**
Military personnel are well-trained in core skills needed in the construction industry - leadership, discipline, focus, organization and teamwork - and provide a reliable source for recruiting high-skill workers for the contracting industry.
- **Strong Work Ethic:**
The UA has had great success working with service men and women. Union members, like service members, receive professional training, understand responsibilities, and know the value of working together as a team.

THE SACRIFICE.

The men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces provide an invaluable service, protecting the safety of all Americans. Unfortunately, when our newest veterans return home, they face substantial employment hardships and challenges.

- At 5.8%*, the unemployment rate for Gulf War-era II veterans (veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time since September 2001) is higher than the civilian population. (*Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 2016)
- Veterans face the challenge of transferring their military skills to the civilian workforce. Though support systems are available to them, these systems are often complicated and many find it difficult to navigate through all the paperwork.

THE SUCCESS.

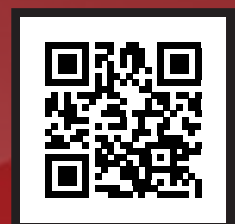
The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry (UA) and the U.S. Military have partnered together to create the UA Veterans in Piping (VIP) Program. This program provides active-duty, transitioning military members with accelerated training in the piping trades.

Through the intensive UA VIP training, transitioning military members develop skills that put them in high demand. Not only does this create plentiful job opportunities for deserving service members, but also helps to replenish an aging workforce while rebuilding America's infrastructure.

The training is **ABSOLUTELY FREE** to military members. All funding comes from the UA's International Training Fund, a management and labor cooperative.

**OUR
VETERANS
DESERVE
BETTER.
THIS IS
WHERE
THE UA VIP
PROGRAM
CAN HELP.**

Visit **UAVIP.ORG/VIDEO** for more information.



“I’m just blessed the organization stood up and gave me that opportunity. I thought it was amazing.”

- **SEAN ELLIS**
U.S. MARINES

“Words can’t even express how grateful I am.”

- **SAMANTHA METCALF**
U.S. ARMY

“What I’m doing now is just as important, just as critical as what I was doing in the Navy.”

- **CHUCK CANTY**
U.S. NAVY

“I feel the VIP Program saved my life.”

- **DEMETRIUS CLARKE**
U.S. ARMY

- **GAVIN MAXWELL**
U.S. MARINES



UNITED ASSOCIATION VETERANS IN PIPING

ACCELERATED **18 WEEK** TRAINING

CAREER

LIVING WAGE

BENEFITS

UAVIP.ORG



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