

# SOLAR READY VETS - CAREERS CONNECT

## Post-Event Resources for Veterans and Servicemembers

**Solar Ready Vets Network** supports transitioning military service members and veterans of the US Armed Forces pursuing solar industry career pathways.

- a. **JOIN THE SOLAR READY VETS NETWORK:** Join the Network to stay current on resources and opportunities related to solar industry training, credentialing and employment. <https://www.americansolarworkforce.org/solarreadyvets/>
- b. **SERVICE TO SOLAR profiles:** almost 20,000 veterans continue to serve our country in technical and leadership roles across the American solar workforce, powering a brighter future for all. Here are a few of their stories:  
<https://www.americansolarworkforce.org/service-to-solar-veterans-in-the-american-solar-workforce/>
- c. **CAREER DEVELOPMENT:** Resources such as the IREC Solar Career Pathway Map, solar job boards, and solar workforce research are available here:  
<https://www.americansolarworkforce.org/solar-career-development/>
  - i. Note - on the IREC career map, see veterans tab in the upper right.  
<https://www.irecsolarcareemap.org/>
- d. **TRAINING & CREDENTIALING:** Resources such as NABCEP certifications, solar training opportunities and GI Bill® for solar training & certifications are here:  
<https://www.americansolarworkforce.org/solar-training-credentialing/>
  - i. Community Colleges and Trade Schools: Offer in-person or online training to help trainees get started as solar installers and solar electricians, two high demand fields.
  - ii. Online training providers:
    1. [Solar Energy International](https://www.solarenergy.org/active-duty-military-veterans-career-transition) is a well-respected online and in-person training provider. They offer a free introductory course [here](#), and accept GI Bill for all certifications.  
<https://www.solarenergy.org/active-duty-military-veterans-career-transition>
    2. Heatspring is another well-known online training provider. This Solar 101 course is free: <https://www.heatspring.com/courses/solar-power-101>
    3. Everblue - veteran-led, goal-oriented online training  
<https://everbluetraining.com/all-courses/category/solar/>

**SEIA:** Solar Energy Industries Association is the national trade association for the US solar industry. SEIA leads employer engagement efforts under the Solar Ready Vets Network.

- a. Solar Job Board <https://seia-jobs.careerwebsite.com/>
- b. National Solar Database: <https://www.seia.org/national-solar-database> - This map shows where solar companies are located in every state in the country, so if you are looking for a solar career, you can find companies located near you.
- c. State-by-State Map: explore the solar market insights and policy updates. Data is current through Q2 2020: <https://www.seia.org/states-map>

**NABCEP:** The North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners® [NABCEP](#) offers certifications and credentials for solar industry professionals. While certifications are not required for many entry level jobs, they are of great value for career advancement and can increase your long-term earning potential.

The [NABCEP Veterans Page](#) includes a GI Bill reimbursement application and other resources for veterans. Professionals may qualify to take the [PV Associate exam](#) by taking a training course with a [NABCEP registered training provider](#) or by demonstrating sufficient solar knowledge through at least 6 months of work experience with a solar company. Additional [Board Certifications](#) are offered for more specialized career pathways.

Through the Solar Ready Vets Network, all of NABCEP's PV credentials and certifications have become eligible for GI Bill benefits, and the team is actively working to expand training opportunities for military talent at technical and community colleges nationwide. Solar Ready Vets Fast Tracks for NABCEP certifications are coming soon!

**Hiring Our Heroes:** The US Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes (HOH) initiative is a nationwide effort to connect veterans, service members and military spouses with meaningful employment opportunities. <https://www.hiringourheroes.org/>

- a. The Solar Ready Vets Network partners with HOH to extend their highly successful Corporate Fellowship Program to the solar industry. Transitioning servicemembers can apply for the Solar Ready Vets Fellowship through HOH: <https://www.hiringourheroes.org/fellowships/corporatefellows/>
- b. Career-related events for servicemembers, veterans, and spouses: <https://www.hiringourheroes.org/>
- c. Resume Engine: the Personal Branding Resume Engine™ helps to translate your military record into a strong resume for civilian employers. <https://www.resumeengine.org/#/>

**The Solar Foundation** <https://www.thesolarfoundation.org/>

- a. The National Solar Jobs Census 2019 <https://www.thesolarfoundation.org/national/>
  - i. Solar jobs by state: <https://www.solarstates.org/#states/solar-jobs/2019>

**Atlantic Council Veterans Advanced Energy Project:** The Veterans Advanced Energy Project is designed to drive US leadership in advancing energy by recruiting, equipping and empowering military veterans who understand the importance of the evolving energy landscape to our future security and prosperity. <https://vetsenergyproject.org/>

- a. Salute to Service: Veteran Perspectives on Clean Energy and National Security  
<https://www.pscptv.w/1yoKMANBOydKQ>

**SunSpec Cyberguardians:** the Distributed Energy industry (i.e. solar and energy storage) is one of fastest growing sectors in the country. The SunSpec Alliance has mobilized to train a workforce to meet growing demand.

- a. SunSpec Cyberguardians prepares military veteran job seekers and industry professionals for the next wave of Distributed Energy Resource (DER) technology.

**Veteran scholarships available:** <https://www.sunspeccyberguardians.org/>

**State-level solar industry associations**

Many of these organizations have career, job board & training resources for their state. You may also want to attend their events to network and learn what is happening in the solar space in your state.

- Alabama Solar Industry Association (AlaSIA) - <https://www.alasia.org/>
- Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association (AriSEIA) - <https://www.ariseia.org/>
- California Solar & Storage Association (CALSSA) - <https://calssa.org/careers>
- Colorado Solar & Storage Association (COSSA) - <https://cossa.co/category/opportunities/jobs/>
- Florida Solar Energy Industries Association (FlaSEIA) - <https://www.flaseia.org/>
- Georgia Solar Energy Industries Association (Georgia SEIA) - <https://www.gasolar.org/>
- Kentucky Solar Energy Industries Association (KYSEIA) - <https://kyseia.org/>
- Louisiana & Mississippi - Gulf States Renewable Energy Industries Association (GSREIA) - <https://www.gsreia.org/>
- Maryland/DC/Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association (MDV-SEIA) - <https://mdvseia.org/jobs/>

- Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association (MnSEIA) - <https://www.mnseia.org/business-resources>
- Missouri Solar Energy Industries Association (MOSEIA)
- Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) <https://www.oseia.org/solarcareers>
- Tennessee Solar Energy Industries Association (TenneSEIA) - <https://tennseiasolar.com/training/>
- Vermont - Renewable Energy Vermont - <https://www.revermont.org/jobs/>
- Wisconsin - RenewWisconsin - <https://www.renewwisconsin.org/>

**Other state organizations with career/job resources:**

- Solar Washington - [https://www.solarwa.org/solar\\_job\\_openings](https://www.solarwa.org/solar_job_openings)
- Texas Solar Power Association - <http://txsolarpower.org/>
- Texas Renewable Energy Industries Alliance - <https://cleantx.org/>

**Starting Your Own Solar Company:**

- a. Powerhouse is a great resource for solar industry startups:  
<https://www.powerhouse.fund/>
- b. Here is one article about starting up a solar company:  
<https://smallbusiness.chron.com/start-solar-power-company-2310.html>
- c. The Small Business Administration (SBA) may have local or national resources for helping launch or grow your business:
  - i. National Veteran-Owned Small Business Program -  
<https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/service-disabled-veteran-owned-small-businesses-program>
  - ii. SBA Local Offices across Country:  
<https://www.sba.gov/content/find-local-sba-office>

**LET'S KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING AFTER THE EVENT!**

- [LinkedIn.com/in/SolarReadyVetsNetwork](https://www.linkedin.com/in/SolarReadyVetsNetwork)
- Twitter: [@SolarReadyVets](https://twitter.com/SolarReadyVets)

**Solar Ready Vets Team:**

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- Eric Filante, NABCEP - [efilante@nabcep.org](mailto:efilante@nabcep.org)

**Our Keynote speaker:**

- [Kevin Johnson](#), President, GlidePath Federal Solutions

**Our SRV Careers Connect Mentors:** *(with links to LinkedIn profiles)*

- [Will Carleton](#), General Manager, Clearway Energy Group
- [Michael Dela Pena](#), Energy Career Path
- [Alyson De Soto](#), Solar Asset Manager, Invenergy
- [Doug Dinon](#), Director of Operations, Hannah Solar
- [Cesar Flores](#), Solar Power Consultant, Third Sun Solar LLC
- [Michele Ladd](#), East Coast Sales Manager, Mission Solar
- [Seth Mansur](#), Project Developer, RER Energy Group
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- [Anthony Robinson](#), Service Manager, Elemental Energy
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