With strong leadership skills and technical aptitudes, military veterans make outstanding candidates for solar careers. The Solar Ready Vets Network is a Department of Energy funded initiative to connect transitioning military service members and veterans of the US Armed Forces with career training, credentialing and professional development opportunities in the solar industry.

Two complementary efforts, the Solar Ready Vets Corporate Fellowship Program and the Solar Opportunities and Readiness (SOAR) Initiative, are expanding and strengthening a nationwide pipeline of military talent into technical and leadership roles in the American solar workforce.

The Solar Ready Vets Fellowship
Through the Hiring Our Heroes Corporate Fellowship Program, active duty transitioning service members will be placed with solar employers for 12-week long work-based learning opportunities.

Fellowships provide qualified service members with valuable hands-one experience in high-demand sectors. On-the-job training is augmented by weekly classroom-based professional development sessions to facilitate a smooth transition from military service to civilian careers.

Candidates are carefully matched with participating companies based on specific skills of the candidate and preferences of both parties. Through this process, employers gain access to the best and brightest transitioning military talent, while gaining a deeper understanding of the veteran labor market. The program is offered at no cost to employers.

Participating employers must:
✓ Place fellows into roles where the company has open requisitions that they are seeking to fill
✓ Offer fellowship in positions typically requiring a Bachelor’s degree & leadership experience
✓ Be willing to interview fellows for management positions (or positions with a comparable salary level), and/or be willing to refer fellows to opportunities within a company’s network
✓ Commit to attending one networking session and graduation with each group of fellows

To host a fellow, please complete the brief application form, linked HERE. Please reach out to the Solar Ready Vets team with any questions: info@americansolarworkforce.org
The Solar Opportunity and Readiness (SOAR) Initiative
The SOAR initiative engages industry leaders, certified training providers and career development networks to strengthen veteran solar career pathways. Through diverse capacity building efforts, the program aligns veteran talent and skills with industry workforce needs as solar continues to lead job growth in the American energy sector.

Objectives:

➢ **POSITIVE CONNECTIONS FOR POWERFUL CAREERS**
  Expand awareness of and access to solar training, credentialing, professional development and employment opportunities

➢ **INDUSTRY - EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS**
  Catalyze engagement at regional scales between solar employers and community college training programs in strong and emerging solar markets

➢ **STANDARDIZE SOLAR WORK-BASED LEARNING**
  Develop and register a formalized solar apprenticeship program for use across the industry

➢ **FAST-TRACK SOLAR CREDENTIALS**
  Develop accelerated pathways for transitioning service members and veterans to achieve NABCEP certifications, based on their military experience and demonstrated qualifications

➢ **EXPAND GI BILL ELIGIBILITY FOR SOLAR**
  Register NABCEP certifications with the US Department of Veterans Affairs so that costs associated with certifications are eligible for GI Bill benefit

Solar Industry Employers: Get Involved!
- Adopt a community college training program: explore industry-education partnerships
- Host a Solar Ready Vets fellow
- Join the SRV Network Advisory Board
- Hire a veteran!

Contact us: info@americansolarworkforce.org
Visit AmericanSolarWorkforce.org/SolarReadyVets to learn more