

MASSACHUSETTS  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Mass. High Technology Council Launches  
Veteran Ready Employer Education and Certification Program**

***Program is First to be Approved by Mass. Department of Veteran Services  
Supports Eligibility Certification for State's New Veteran Hiring Tax Credit***

Today, the **Massachusetts High Technology Council** announced the launch of the **"New England Tech Vets Veteran Ready Employer Education and Certification Program."**

The education program and certification is being made available free of charge to all Mass. High Tech Council members and partners as well as any Massachusetts employer seeking to qualify for a new state tax credit of up to \$4,000 for each veteran employee hired and retained. Participating employers will have access to best-in-class online content and assessment tools provided by program partner **Military Talent Group**.

Coupled with existing New England Tech Vets veteran recruiting tools, the program will help employers to ensure they are not just "veteran friendly" but also "veteran ready." The program was developed with the support of Council members **Monster, Home Base, Military Talent Group, Northeastern University, University of Massachusetts, Dassault Systèmes, the Kraft Group, the MITRE Corporation, Oasis, Raytheon and Wayfair**.

Employers that complete the education program and demonstrate additional organizational commitments to veteran employees are eligible to be certified as "veteran ready" by New England Tech Vets and publicly identify themselves as such.

**"Certification through the New England Tech Vets program shows that a company is not just saying they are veteran friendly. It shows they are taking concrete steps to better engage and retain veteran employees,"** said retired Navy Rear Admiral Clarke Orzalli who helped design the program and currently serves as **Strategic Business Development Executive at Dassault Systèmes** in Waltham. **"Veterans are experienced, team oriented, goal-driven individuals who can make any company better. Companies that are awarded certification will not only be able to better attract these high quality veterans to their workforce, but will enhance their ability to retain them."**

On November 8, the program became the first veteran employer education program approved by the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services (DVS) to enable Massachusetts employers to become eligible for a newly enacted veteran hiring incentive. Starting in 2017, companies with 100 or fewer employees can be certified by DVS as eligible for a state tax credit of up to \$4,000 for each veteran they hire and retain. DVS will certify as eligible for the tax credit any Massachusetts employer that completes the NETV training and meets other applicable DVS criteria.

**“Mass High Tech Council and TechVets have been real leaders in encouraging the legislature to enact improved veteran hiring incentives that help Massachusetts continue to be at the forefront of developing innovative strategies to encourage and empower veteran employment,” said DVS Secretary Francisco Urena. “And they have been a first mover in deepening awareness that educating veteran employers about veteran talent and military culture is fundamental to improving veteran hiring and retention outcomes.”**

In November, an initial cohort of Council members began utilizing the training program and full access will begin on December 1, 2017.

**About the Massachusetts High Technology Council – [www.mhtc.org](http://www.mhtc.org)**

The Massachusetts High Technology Council is the oldest and only cross-sector association of technology, professional services, and higher education CEOs and senior executives in Massachusetts. As advocates for public policies and programs that create and maintain a healthy and competitive business climate, the Council has lead winning strategies for 40 years.

**About New England Tech Vets- [www.newenglandtechvets.org](http://www.newenglandtechvets.org)**

New England Tech Vets is a collaboration of Monster, the Massachusetts High Technology Council, and our clinical advisor, Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program. New England Tech Vets is designed to connect veterans with technology employers and employment opportunities and support efforts to heal the “invisible wounds” of war as veterans re-enter the civilian workforce.

**About Military Talent Group – [www.militarytalentgroup.com](http://www.militarytalentgroup.com)**

Military Talent Group (MTG) is a veteran talent management company that helps employers to better attract, recruit, and retain military veterans, and provide ongoing support for the veteran’s transition. MTG’s on-demand training and recruiting platform enables employers to better target, identify and recruit veteran talent, and helps veterans leverage the exceptional training and skills acquired during military service for success in the private sector.

**About Monster –<http://www.monster.com>**

Monster Worldwide, Inc. is a global leader in connecting people to jobs, wherever they are. For more than 20 years, Monster has helped people improve their lives with better jobs, and employers find the best talent. Today, the company offers services in more than 40 countries, providing some of the broadest, most sophisticated job seeking, career management, recruitment and talent management capabilities. Monster continues its pioneering work of transforming the recruiting industry with advanced technology using intelligent digital, social and mobile solutions, including our flagship website [monster.com](http://monster.com)® and a vast array of products and services. For more information, visit [monster.com/about](http://monster.com/about).

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