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VA ANNOUNCES NEW EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR VETERANS

LEBANON – May 14, 2012 –

Are you a Veteran looking for work? If so, there is a new Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Department of Labor (DOL) education benefit program that helps train Veterans in high demand occupations. Veterans may start applying May 15, 2012.

In an effort to reduce Veteran unemployment, the President signed into law the *VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011* last November. Included in this new law is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) for unemployed Veterans.

The VRAP offers 12 months of training assistance to Veterans who:

- Are at least 35 but no more than 60 years old
- Are unemployed
- Received an other than dishonorable discharge
- Are not eligible for any other VA education benefit program
- Are not in receipt of VA compensation due to unemployability
- Are not enrolled in a federal or state job training program

The program will assist a total of 99,000 participants. VA will start accepting applications for the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) beginning May 15. For more information and to see if you are eligible, go to www.benefits.va.gov/VOW.

To determine what is considered a high demand occupation, as determined by the Department of Labor, go to www.gibill.va.gov/documents/VRAP_High_Demand.pdf

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