

Whidbey Veterans Job-Assistance Program

Funding available for Veterans
on Whidbey Island seeking
assistance with obtaining a
full-time job.

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The Whidbey Veterans Job-Assistance Program is a pilot program started by local donors, Whidbey Community Foundation, and Opportunity Council.

The program's goal is to help unemployed Vets on Whidbey Island obtain a full-time job. At 13%, Island County has the highest proportion of Veterans in Washington state. Unemployment among Vets in Island County is 4.5% compared to 3.9% of the overall county population.

To be eligible for the program, the Veteran must:

- Reside on Whidbey Island
- Be honorably discharged
- Not have a military ID card
- Must be in the later phases of pursuing a specific full-time job and in need of specific funding assistance to secure that job

Eligible applicants may receive up to \$2,000 in assistance per year (paid directly to the vendor) and a maximum of \$4,000 in their lifetime.

To be considered, applicants submit a simple online application with the Opportunity Council Island County Service Center indicating what the request is for and how it will help *directly* lead to a specific, full-time job with a brief explanation of financial assistance needed. Qualifying applicants will meet with staff at Opportunity Council.

The program launches on July 10, 2023, and will run as a pilot program for 1 year to fine-tune the program.

For more information, please visit Opportunity Council at:

<https://www.opcco.org/services-for-veterans/island-county/whidbey-island-veterans-job-assistance-fund/>