



Wounded Warrior Voice

AW2 HEADLINES

[What's New: TRICARE Balance Billing and Special Enrollment Period](#)

[What's New: AW2 Participates in DoD Hiring Heroes Career Fair](#)

[CAREER & EDUCATION: AW2 Education Initiative at University of Kansas](#)

[CAREER & EDUCATION: Wall Street Warfighters Foundation Financial Industry Executive Training Programs](#)

[MONEY MATTERS: Local Move Authorization Due to Rental Property Foreclosures](#)

[FAMILY: Our Military Kids](#)

AW2 SOLDIER STORIES

[WOUNDED WARRIOR OPPORTUNITIES/EVENTS: Free National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Access Pass](#)

[THE BLOG UPDATE: June](#)

What's New: TRICARE Balance Billing and Special Enrollment Period

By Phillip Paternella, AW2 Medical Support Specialist

Balance billing is when a provider bills a TRICARE beneficiary for any amount in excess of the TRICARE allowable charge after TRICARE has processed the claim. This practice is limited by law. It is important to remember that TRICARE prohibits the practice of balance billing. Balance billing requirements apply to both network and non-network providers who treat TRICARE beneficiaries and noncompliance with these requirements can impact providers TRICARE and/or Medicare status.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) previously informed TRICARE Management Activity that active duty servicemembers who are entitled to Medicare benefits because of a disability weren't eligible for a Special Enrollment Period because they weren't "actively working." The CMS has since revised its opinion stating that as long as active duty servicemembers are paying in to Social Security and Medicare, they are considered actively working and are eligible for a Special Enrollment Period. For more information, contact your AW2 Advocate or Phillip Paternella at (703) 325-9954.

What's New: AW2 Participates in DoD Hiring Heroes Career Fair

By Roberta Berry, AW2 Career Coordinator

AW2 Career and Education Section will travel to San Diego/Camp Pendleton, CA, to support AW2 Soldiers and Families during the DoD Hiring Heroes Career Fair to be held there on July 23, 2009. AW2 will prepare AW2 Soldiers and their Families for interviews with perspective federal, state, and local agencies prior to the event. AW2 will help AW2 Soldiers, Veterans, and Families in finding jobs that lead to a meaningful career. AW2 will increase awareness of career and education support offered by AW2 and connect with participating employers to enhance and grow the AW2 employment network. For more information regarding the DoD Hiring Heroes Career Fairs, please contact your AW2 Advocate or Vicki Mullen at (703) 325-8671 or vicki.mullen@us.army.mil.

CAREER & EDUCATION: AW2 Education Initiative at University of Kansas

By Scott Cox, AW2 Career Coordinator

The recruitment for the Fall 2010 class for the AW2 Education Initiative at University of Kansas (KU) will begin shortly. Currently, there are 12 AW2 Soldiers in the program, with five Veterans who were recently selected and accepted by KU. Three AW2 Soldiers are still active duty. Several students, all maintaining at least a 3.0 grade point average (GPA), will graduate in the spring 2010.

Eligibility continues to be an AW2 Soldier, Continuation on Active Duty (COAD) or Veteran status, Bachelors degree or higher, and qualifying injuries must have been incurred in Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom, but need not be combat related. Selected candidates will need to eventually be accepted by the KU Grad school program as part of the eligibility requirements, so a decent GPA and/or excellent Graduate Record Examination/Graduate Management Admission Test (GRE/GMAT) results are important. It will be good planning on a potential candidate's part to take the GRE/GMAT early. Veterans selected for the program will be hired into the Army, with full pay and benefits, in a position with pay equivalent to a General Schedule (GS)-9, and with potential for promotions (wage increases) during the program or upon successful completion of an advanced degree.

Application packets will be accepted July 20 - September 26, with the selection board convening in mid-November. For more information, visit the AW2 Blog or contact your AW2 Advocate, or contact Scott Cox at (703) 325-6925.

CAREER & EDUCATION: Wall Street Warfighters Foundation Financial Industry Executive Training Programs

The Wall Street Warfighters Foundation is a nonprofit group of business executives and military Veterans helping disabled Veterans train and be hired for responsible, high-paying executive and trading jobs in the financial industry. The foundation runs a six-month intensive training program delivering executive learning/training, training for securities licensing certification, exposure to potential employers through on-site internships, and career networking. Program partners, some of the leading corporate names on Wall Street, provide jobs to students successfully completing the training. The Foundation is located in Philadelphia. Training takes place there on a resident basis for up to six months, but during that time students may travel for mini-internships at participating companies. Current students have trained in New York City, Chicago, and Kansas City. The program offers single housing, a monthly stipend, all travel expenses, and career development materials including a laptop computer. The individual needs of each disabled-Veteran student are the uppermost importance; medical care appointments take priority over program events. The Foundation is overseen and staffed by Veterans.

For more information, visit <http://www.wallstreetwarfighters.org> or contact Joel R. Canfield, Executive Director Wall Street Warfighters Foundation, at (215) 988-8304 or jcanfield@wallstreetwarfighters.org.

MONEY MATTERS: Local Move

Authorization Due to Rental Property Foreclosures

By Ron Perry, Financial Support Specialist

A local move is authorized for members of the armed forces and their dependents who are forced to vacate a rental property because of a foreclosure action against the owner/landlord. It applies to Soldiers of all components serving on active duty, to include Soldiers serving in Title 10 and Title 32 active guard and reserve status. This provision does not apply if the member and/or dependent is/are the homeowner. A local move is authorized to another dwelling within commuting distance of the member's permanent duty station. For more information, contact your AW2 Advocate or Ron Perry at (317) 510-3566 or ronald.perry@dfas.mil.

FAMILY: Our Military Kids

Our Military Kids provides tangible support to the children of deployed National Guard and Military Reserve personnel and to the children of the severely injured servicemembers through grants for sports, fine arts and tutoring that nurture and sustain the children during the time a parent is away in service to our country. Our Military Kids ensures that the children have access to activities and support that help them better cope with challenges arising during a parent's deployment or injury recovery.

For more information, visit <http://www.ourmilitarykids.org>.

AW2 SOLDIER STORIES

To find out what has been in the news about AW2 Soldiers, Families, and staff, visit the AW2 Blog on Mondays for the weekly digest of those stories.

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/default.aspx>

WOUNDED WARRIOR

OPPORTUNITIES/EVENTS: Free National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Access Pass

A lifetime pass is available for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities. Documentation is required to obtain the pass. Acceptable documentation includes: statement by a licensed physician; document issued by a federal agency such as the Department of Veterans Affairs, Social Security Disability Income or Supplemental Security Income; or document issued by a state agency such as a vocational rehabilitation agency. The pass provides access to, and use of, Federal recreation sites that charge an Entrance or Standard Amenity. The pass admits the pass holder and passengers in a non-commercial vehicle at per vehicle fee areas and pass holder plus three adults, not to exceed four adults, at per person fee areas (children under 16 are admitted free). The pass can only be obtained in person at the park.

For more information, visit http://www.nps.gov/fees_passes.htm.

The Blog Update: June

Please see below for a list of blogs from the month of June:

AW2 is Not Just a Job to Me, it is My Life

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/25/AW2-is-Not-Just-a-Job-to-Me-it-is-My-Life.aspx>

DoD Announces Transferability Options For Post 9/11 GI Bill

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/24/DoD-Announces-Transferability-Options-For-Post-911-GI-Bill.aspx>

Father's Day Blog: Thank You

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/21/Fathers-Day-Blog-Thank-You.aspx>

Father's Day Blog: A Poem and Drawing from Peyton Reedy

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/21/Fathers-Day-Blog-A-Poem-and-Drawing-from-Peyton-Reedy.aspx>

Father's Day Blog: We will always look up to you!

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/21/Fathers-Day-Blog-We-will-always-look-up-to-you!.aspx>

AW2 Weekly News Digest for 06/15-06/19

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/19/AW2-Weekly-News-Digest-for-0615-0619.aspx>

Raytheon Launches Program to Hire Wounded Warriors and Caregivers

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/17/Raytheon-Launches-Program-to-Hire-Wounded-Warriors-and-Caregivers.aspx>

AW2 Weekly News Digest for 06/08-06/12

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/15/AW2-Weekly-News.aspx>

LTG Schoomaker - Happy 234th Birthday Army

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/12/Happy-234th-Birthday-Army-LTG-Schoomaker.aspx>

BG Cheek - Happy 234th Birthday Army

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/11/Happy-234th-Birthday-Army.aspx>

On-the-Job Training and Job Placement Program in San Diego

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/11/On-the-Job-Training-and-Job-Placement-Program-in-San-Diego.aspx>

Army Partnership Helps Wounded Warriors Pursue Higher Education

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/09/Army-Partnership-Helps-Wounded-Warriors-Pursue-Higher-Education.aspx>

AW2 Weekly News Digest 06/01-06/05

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/05/AW2-Weekly-News-Digest-0601-0605.aspx>

Army Identifies Military OneSource, Defense Center Of Excellence Outreach

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/04/Army-Identifies-Military-OneSource-Defense-Center-Of-Excellence-Outreach.aspx>

VA Web Site Helps College Counselors Aid Veterans

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/04/VA-Web-Site-Helps-College-Counselors-Aid-Veterans.aspx>

Events: Well Worth Your Time

<https://www.aw2.army.mil/blog/post/2009/06/02/Events-Well-Worth-Your-Time.aspx>

U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2)

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