

The Changing World of Job Hunting

The world is changing! The impact of the pandemic is going to change the job-hunting environment. Until March we had record low unemployment. This had been going on for so long that we had become immune to dealing with the first decade of this century when unemployment was high due to the “Great Recession”.

The market crash is going to change our world. I may be premature and a “Debbie Downer” for this prediction. However, I feel like I’m being more realistic. The latest prediction is for an unemployment rate of 20%. Recovery has historically been a slow climb after the fall. Everyone must prepare.

Chaunte Myer, President of Centurion Military Alliance, continually stresses during the transition events that a critical question that must be considered is “are you ready to get out”. Have you prepared financially for a period of unemployment after your off the military payroll? It doesn’t matter if this is retirement or separation. You need to evaluate how you will pay for bills.

As for the transition itself, you need to be psychologically prepared. The world is different outside the gate. You need to evaluate your skills and develop a strategy that will optimize your brand. These are words that you don’t use in the military. You need to know them. You will be competing with folks that have the experiences in the marketplace. You need to align your skills and experiences to the language and needs to the understanding of the hiring company.

There are resources available for you in this process. MOAA and Alamo MOAA have transition resources. We also are active participants in the JBSA Alliance, the collaborative of resources within the gate and in the community focusing on assisting you and connecting with employers. Use them.

The world is constantly changing. Sometimes the rate of change is more rapid. Now is that time. Best of luck.

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