# VA Launches Accelerated Learning Program Pilot for Transitioning Servicemembers and Veterans

*Online, in-person and blended training courses are offered at no cost and lead to industry-recognized certifications in six months or less*

**VA is launching Accelerated Learning Programs (ALPs) to help transitioning Servicemembers and Veterans quickly develop new skills and earn certifications in high-demand career fields.**

- ALPs are typically completed in less than six months and provide students with opportunities to learn online, in the classroom or in a combination of both.

- The pilot program is part of VA's new **Veteran Economic Communities Initiative**, which promotes education and employment opportunities for Veterans at the community level.

**The pilot ALP cohort focuses on developing skills and certifications needed for careers in information technology as part of the President's TechHire initiative launched this spring.**

- ALPs do not involve use of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits – students can participate in these programs while also pursuing other programs of study utilizing Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.

- Applications will be accepted beginning August 17, 2015 – seats are limited so apply early!

**ALPs use a "pay-for-success" model that incentivizes and compensates training providers based on their program graduation and career-placement rates.**

- Each course is available at no cost and includes free referral and support services that leverage each training provider's vast employer network.

- See course details and descriptions below – **visit the ALP website** to learn more:

| Course Details | Description |
|---|---|
| **Front End Development Boot Camp**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: San Antonio, TX<br>- Style: Classroom, project-based<br>- Length: 4 months | Through project-based instruction and a custom curriculum, students learn JavaScript, HTML5, and CSS3. They also gain exposure to WordPress development. Courses held M-F 5PM-7PM. |
| **Ready-4- Success in IT Boot Camp**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide; classroom settings in numerous locations throughout the country – see website for more details.<br>- Style: Classroom and self-paced online options<br>- Length: 10 weeks | Provides students a hands-on laboratory environment to prepare for two national certification examinations: CompTIA A+ Certification, and Microsoft Windows 7 Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA) Certification. Focuses on developing skills for careers in desktop support, Windows expertise, help desk support, and technical support. Class schedules will be individually tailored to participant and cohort needs. |

| Course Details | Description |
|---|---|
| **Computer Learning Centers**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide; classroom settings in numerous locations throughout the country – see website for more details.<br>- Style: Online live learning; self-paced mentored learning; or classroom learning<br>- Length: Average of 3 months | Provides coaching and on-line training to prepare students for roughly 25 professional IT certification exams from leading software, hardware, networking, Web service companies and professional organizations. Certification areas include Certified Novell Administrator (CNA); Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA); CompTIA Network + (Network+); and Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE); Courses held M-F 8AM-5PM; online training offered on-demand. |
| **VetAdvisor IT ALP**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide and in classrooms in NY, NY; Seattle, WA; DC; Boston, MA: Austin, TX; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; San Francisco, CA; Los Angeles, and CA; Santa Monica, CA<br>- Style: Online<br>- Length: 4 weeks to 6 months | Prepares students for more than 80 professional certification exams from leading software, hardware, networking, Web service companies, and professional organizations. Students work with a dedicated coach to review career goals; select certification programs based on interests and abilities; enroll in training; develop professional resumes; search for jobs; and prepare for interviews. Schedules vary by program/location. |
| **IT Help Desk Job Training Program**<br>- Skill Level: Entry level or above<br>- Location: Seattle, WA<br>- Style: Classroom, instructor-led, and mentor-led training<br>- Length: 8 weeks | Designed for students with little to no experience in IT. Provides access to hands-on computer equipment, labs and study materials at the training location in preparation for CompTIAA+ and ITIL Foundation in IT Service Management Certifications. Upon completion, students will have the opportunity to interview with recruiters and hiring managers from leading corporations and government agencies. Courses held M-F 8AM-5PM. |
| **Network Support Engineer Job Training Program**<br>- Skill Level: Intermediate or advanced<br>- Location: Seattle, WA<br>- Style: Classroom, instructor-led, and mentor-led training<br>- Length: 8 weeks | Designed for students with four years of IT experience, an IT college degree, or a combination of both. Provides an opportunity to advance skills, prepare for career as a Network Support Engineer, and earn advanced IT certifications, including Network+ and F5 Applications Delivery Fundamentals. Upon completion, students will have the opportunity to interview with recruiters and hiring managers from leading corporations and government agencies, including F5 networks. Courses held M-F 8AM-5PM. |
| **CyberAcademy**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide; classroom setting in Bellevue, WA.<br>- Style: Online and classroom learning<br>- Length: 16 weeks | Provides training in an online environment through CyberAcademy Body of Knowledge (CABoK). Designed to lay the foundation for cybersecurity education, academic preparedness, and career development. Students given training and test certificate for CompTIA A+ and Network+. Combination of CABoK and commercial CompTIA certifications prepare graduates for entry into IT industry. Online courses offered on-demand; live class schedules are to-be-determined. |

**Visit the website to learn more and apply beginning August 17.**
**VA contracted with six training providers to offer the first cohort of ALP courses:**

| Training Provider | Course Details |
|---|---|
| **Coley and Associates** | **Front End Development Boot Camp**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: San Antonio, TX<br>- Style: Classroom, project-based<br>- Length: 4 months |
| **Full Circle Computing** | **Ready-4-Success in IT Boot Camp**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide; select classroom settings<br>- Style: Classroom and self-paced online options<br>- Length: 4 months |
| **New Horizons** | **Computer Learning Centers**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide; select classrooms settings<br>- Style: Online live learning, self-paced mentored learning, or classroom learning<br>- Length: Average of 3 months |
| **Three Wire Systems, LLC** | **VetAdvisor IT ALP**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide; select classrooms settings<br>- Style: Online or classroom learning<br>- Length: 4 weeks to 6 months |
| **TLG Learning** | **IT Help Desk Job Training Program**<br>- Skill Level: Entry level or above<br>- Location: Seattle, WA<br>- Style: Classroom, instructor-led, and mentor-led training<br>- Length: 8 weeks |
| **TLG Learning** | **Network Support Engineer Job Training Program**<br>- Skill Level: Intermediate or advanced<br>- Location: Seattle, WA<br>- Style: Classroom, instructor-led, and mentor-led training<br>- Length: 8 weeks |
| **True Information Assurance** | **CyberAcademy**<br>- Skill Level: Any<br>- Location: Online nationwide; select classroom settings<br>- Style: Online and classroom learning<br>- Length: 16 weeks |