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NEBRASKA

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DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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MEDIA CONTACTS:
Eric Maher, Department of Administrative Services, Eric.Maher@Nebraska.gov

State of Nebraska Honors Military and Veteran Teammates



Teammate Military Service Recognition Program challenge coin.



Gov. Ricketts and members of his cabinet receiving their Nebraska Military challenge coins. From left to right, NE National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. General Daryl Bohac, Dept. of Veterans' Affairs Director John Hilgert, State Fire Marshal Chris Cantrell, Gov. Ricketts, DAS Director Jason Jackson, and Dept. of Economic Development Director Tony Goins. Not pictured: Chief Medical Officer Dr. Gary Anthone.

Lincoln – Today, the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services (DAS) announced a new State initiative to honor the State's current military and veteran teammates.

“The State of Nebraska aspires to be a leading employer of veterans and military members,” said Governor Pete Ricketts. “Thank you to our State teammates who've stepped up to serve our country. We honor your sacrifices, and we appreciate your continued public service with the State.”

The Teammate Military Service Recognition Program recognizes those State of Nebraska teammates who have previously or are currently serving in the armed forces. In the program's inaugural year, over

450 self-identified military and veteran teammates will be recognized and presented with commemorative Nebraska Military challenge coins.

“Governor Ricketts has made it a priority for Nebraska to become the most military and veteran-friendly state in the country,” said DAS Director Jason Jackson. “We know that veterans can face barriers in finding employment and we want to make State government a welcoming employer for veterans that want to continue their careers in public service. The Teammate Military Service Recognition Program is just another way the State can say thank you to our teammates for their service.”

This program will be administered by DAS with teammates being recognized for their service each year.

GOV. RICKETTS' RECORD OF SUPPORT FOR NEBRASKA'S MILITARY FAMILIES & VETERANS

Over the past few years, Governor Ricketts has worked with the Legislature and veterans' groups to support Nebraska's military families and veterans. Below are a few examples of how Governor Ricketts is making Nebraska a more military and veteran-friendly state:

- Signed LB 387 which allows 100 percent of military retirement pay to be exempted from Nebraska income tax.
- Signed LB 389 which makes it quicker and easier for military spouses licensed in another state to obtain a teaching permit after moving to Nebraska.
- Launched the Military Spouse Transition Program in April 2021 to help military spouses moving to Nebraska to identify job opportunities in state government.

- Started the Veterans' SkillBridge Initiative in April 2021. Overseen by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, the program creates connections between Nebraska's employers and military members during their final 180 days of service. This gives participants a chance to explore the best fit for their specific talents and interests after transitioning out of military service.
- Signed an Executive Order ensuring the POW/MIA flag will be permanently flown at certain State properties so those servicemen and servicewomen who have not returned home will never be forgotten.
- Signed LB 192 which allows members of the National Guard and Reserve to designate veteran's status on their operators' license or state I.D. card.
- Expanded the hiring preference for the State of Nebraska to include spouses of service members.
- Signed LB 340 to make the Department of Veterans' Affairs a one-stop-shop for both veterans' benefits and veterans' homes.
- Created five additional Military Honor License Plates to recognize the service of members of the reserves of the armed forces.
- Signed Rule 21, allowing military spouses to receive a three-year teaching permit in Nebraska with a valid out-of-state license.
- Provided reciprocity for military spouses all over the country by updating language for adoption of the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact, which allows nurses to have one multi-state license.
- Signed LB 12e which allows active duty military members or their spouses to be licensed realtors in Nebraska without paying a licensing fee if they have a valid realtor's license in another state.
- Signed LB 115 which allows military families reassigned to Nebraska to preliminarily enroll in a school district.

- Signed LB 122e, allowing a veteran, their spouse, or dependents to qualify as residents for post-secondary tuition purposes if the veteran is receiving vocational rehabilitation.
- Authorized DHHS, with the recommendation of the appropriate board, to issue temporary licenses for occupations regulated under the Uniform Credentialing Act to military spouses.

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