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WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDITS Effective before January 1, 2014

FEDERAL RETURNING HEROES & WOUNDED WARRIOR TAX CREDITS

The Returning Heroes Tax Credit is a new hiring tax credit that will provide an incentive for businesses to hire unemployed veterans – regardless of the company size.

- Short-term unemployed: A new credit of 40 percent of the first \$6,000 of wages (up to \$2,400) for employers who hire veterans who have been unemployed at least four weeks.
- Long-term unemployed: A new credit of 40 percent of the first \$14,000 of wages (up to \$5,600) for employers who hire veterans who have been unemployed longer than six months.

The Wounded Warrior Tax Credit doubles the existing tax credit for long-term unemployed veterans with service-connected disabilities.

- For veterans with service-connected disabilities who are hired within a year of being separated from active duty, the credit is equal to 40% of wages (with a maximum of \$4,800).
- A new credit of 40 percent of the first \$24,000 of wages (up to \$9,600) for firms that hire veterans with service-connected disabilities who have been unemployed longer than 6 months.

For credits related to those who have been unemployed for specific time periods, individuals must be receiving, or have exhausted, unemployment benefits prior to their hire to qualify. For credits related to hiring service-connected veterans, those individuals must be eligible for, or receiving, receiving disability compensation from the Veterans Administration. Businesses claim the credit as part of the general business credit. Taxexempt organizations claim it against their payroll tax liability.