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Army Announces New Initiative for Transitioning Soldiers.

The Army Human Resources Command will launch a new web-based service to improve access to the Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP) sponsored services on 28 February. The new service, *ACAP Express*, allows Soldiers to use the Internet to register for ACAP Services, schedule a wide range of classes, and use online tools to create resumes and cover letters.

Previously these services were only available once a Soldier scheduled them in-person at an installation ACAP office. Soldiers can now go online at any time, from any location, to <https://www.acapexpress.army.mil>, log in using AKO login, then schedule appointments for all services offered at the ACAP Center. To use the website, Soldiers must have a valid AKO account and know their username and password. However, they need not use a CAC (Common Access Card) to access the website's features. Soldiers can use *ACAP Express* from the home, office or anywhere else that allows an Internet connection. Soldiers do not need to be stationed near an ACAP Center to use *ACAP Express*.

"Today's Soldiers lead a hectic life. Duty and family demands make it difficult to take advantage of ACAP services. Our goal is to give our busy Soldiers easier access to the transition services they have earned and which are so vital to their future success," said Mr. James Hoffman, the Army's Director of ACAP, in summing up the new program.

ACAP services include:

- The mandatory pre-separation briefing required of all Soldiers who are transitioning from the military.

- Department of Labor Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Employment Workshops
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits briefings and Disabled Transition Assistance Program (DTAP) briefings.
- Classes on resume writing, federal job applications, interviewing, job fair preparation, benefits and salary negotiation, financial planning, and Internet job searches.

While *ACAP Express* uses the Internet to make accessing ACAP services easier, it does not change the ability of Soldiers to receive individual counseling and assistance from ACAP's talented pool of counselors. Soldiers will be able to meet with their counselor during visits to the ACAP Center and can still communicate by phone and email. Additionally, all classes, briefings, and workshops require that Soldiers attend in person. ACAP has offices at most Army installations. A complete listing of ACAP Centers can be found on the *ACAP Express* website as well as the Army's public ACAP website at www.acap.army.mil.

To be eligible for ACAP services, Soldiers must be on active duty and have completed at least 180 days of continuous service. Deployed members of the National Guard and Reserves are also eligible for ACAP services. Eligible Soldiers can begin receiving services one year prior to their separation or two years prior to being eligible for retirement. Additionally, retirees and Soldiers' family members are also eligible to use ACAP services. Contact your installation ACAP office for questions regarding *ACAP Express* or any other ACAP services.