Veteran Training Opportunities
Introduction

At Community we are passionate about supporting those who have served our country. In 2019 our members voted to make ending veteran homelessness a priority for the union. Since then, we have collected and distributed warm winter clothes, worked with local charities and raised thousands of pounds to help those in need.

However, we recognise that the best way to keep veterans off the streets, is to support you into good quality jobs.

Those who served in our armed forces have a number of skills that employer’s value greatly including leadership, discipline, good time keeping, integrity, problem solving and teamwork. We want to support you to be able to communicate your skill set and build on other skills in order to be able to secure a good quality job that you enjoy and where your skills are put to good use.

At Community we have a vast learning offer which is free to access and will help you develop new skills. We can support you with CV writing and interview skills that will give you the edge in achieving a new career.

This guide acts as a course map, highlighting courses that are available to you that we believe will be most useful in helping you to communicate your skills.

If there are any courses you think it would be useful for you that you can’t find in the guide below, get in touch with us at veterans@community-tu.org and we’ll work with you to find a course to suit your needs.

Melantha Chittenden
Ending Veteran Homelessness Campaign Lead
Opportunities to help you find work

**Bite-sized learning - Wranx**

Community works with Wranx to support those who want to access training and learning opportunities by providing free bite-sized learning modules online.

The modules have been developed to reinforce and underpin your existing knowledge through a continuous learning experience. Wranx can be accessed on any device and uses the simple scientific idea of space repetition to provide learning that improves knowledge retention, even with as little as 2-3 minutes (10 questions) of training a day.

The following English & Maths modules are the most popular courses amongst Community members:

- *Functional Skills Maths (Level 1 & Level 2 with assessments)*
- *Functional Skills English (Level 1 & Level 2 with assessments)*
- *GCSE Maths (Part A & Part B with assessments)*
- *GCSE English (Part A & Part B with assessments)*

You can sign up to courses here: [https://app.wranx.com/register/union-upskilling](https://app.wranx.com/register/union-upskilling)

**CPD certified courses - Staff Skills Academy**

Community have partnered with Staff Skills Academy to offer certified CPD courses. You can gain unlimited access to 650+ eLearning courses; courses ranging from 10-minute micro-learning video lessons through to 40-hour full courses.

Our training platform has provided courses to over 400 members since the beginning of 2020.
Staff Skills Academy has the following courses for CV writing and interview skills which users can enrol onto in addition to any other CPD courses that interest them:

- Interview Skills and CV Writing Certification
- Interviewing Skills Certification

You can also undertake Staff Skills Academy courses to develop new skills. Below is a list of the most popular courses:

- Admin PA and Secretarial Certification
- Communication Skills Certificate
- Data Analysis Certification
- Customer Service Certification Level 3
- Fitness Diploma (Personal Trainer) Certification
- Food Safety Certification Level 1-4

You can find the full list of courses here: [https://staffskillstraining.co.uk/courses/all/](https://staffskillstraining.co.uk/courses/all/) and, once you’ve made your selection, register with us by filling out the form at [https://community-tu.org/skills-academy-registration/](https://community-tu.org/skills-academy-registration/)
Digital skills

Digital skills are becoming increasingly important both inside and out of work. Our digital skills training opportunities can help you in a range of areas from getting started with email to online banking and more advanced digital skills for the workplace.

You can take a free digital health check to work out your current level of digital skills with SkillCheck: [www.unionlearn.org.uk/skillcheck](http://www.unionlearn.org.uk/skillcheck)

Through our partners at the Skills Academy, you can access hundreds of free digital courses that are CPD recognised. This includes; coding, financial programming and design and creative skills. Take a look at page 4 for information on how to see the courses and register.

Through our partners at E-Careers you can get a 30% discount on advanced courses in all of the Microsoft Office software including; Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Word. Take a look: [https://ecareers.community-tu.org/](https://ecareers.community-tu.org/)
Help finding jobs online

Learn My Way

Learn My Way has free courses for you to learn digital skills, to stay safe and stay connected. The following courses will show you how to look for jobs online:

- Job hunting online
- National Careers Service: a how to guide
- Jobs & interviews

These courses by Learn My Way may help you to access public funds while you are completing training and looking for jobs:

- Using public services online
- Universal Credit: a how to guide

You can access Learn My Way here: www.learnmyway.com

Community members in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland should enter centre code: **3450930**. If you are based in Wales you should enter the code: **8007053**

Make It Click

These are useful resources that will help you improve some of the digital skills you need to create and send a job application. You can find the link below:

https://makeitclick.learnmyway.com/directory/playlists/apply-for-a-job
Community Learn webinars

Community hosts webinars on a variety of different topics including but not limited to: CV writing, writing for wellbeing, financial foundations, online safety, mental health awareness and neurodiversity in the workplace. These webinars are organised on a regular basis.

If there is training that you think you, your workplace or your community could benefit from please get in touch and we will try to accommodate your request.

If you’re interested in attending any future webinars email veterans@community-tu.org
Support for veterans in Wales

In addition to the training and learning opportunities already mentioned, there are additional opportunities for veterans in Wales as a result of the devolved government. If you are based in Wales you will be able to access tutor led workshops on employability on topics such as CV writing, interview skills and filling in applications.

Community also have a partnership with the Welsh government through the Welsh Union Learning Fund. This partnership means we can offer up to £200 per person for any training that increases your employability skills to a level 3. This training can be online, in college, with any private providers or in community centres. These are some of the recent courses we have supported with the fund:

- IOSH
- CPC Shovel
- CSCS/CCNSG
- Confined Spaces
- Forklift
- Microsoft Office
- Electrical Installations
- Managing Stress

There is also REACT funding available through the Welsh government for those facing redundancy or who are unemployed. You can apply for;

- *£1500 towards vocational training and reskilling to gain new employment
- *£200 for extra support such as travelling and childcare
- *£3000 towards your wages with a new employer
- *£1000 for a new employer to train you in your new role

For more information, look here: www.careerswales.gov.wales/courses-and-training/funding-your-studies/react-funding
Support for veterans in Scotland

In Scotland additional support is available to members through the Scottish Union Learning (SUL) project. This project provides funding for collective workplace learning. This means that the Community Learning Organiser in Scotland can arrange for courses to take place in workplaces or the regional office to a group of Community members.

This learning includes Mental Health First Aid, literacy and numeracy, cyber security, Microsoft Excel, diversity training, disability awareness and more.

Other resources

These are services that are available directly through providers.

The Open University

The Open University works with unions to extend higher education to union members.

UnionLearn is part of the OU Social Partnerships Network (SPN). Together they’ve developed six free online courses aimed at people wanting to move up in their career or considering a change of direction.

- Planning a better future
- Introducing practical healthcare
- Supporting children’s development
- Caring for adults
- Taking part in the voluntary sector
- Starting your small business

Use the following link to register and gain access to the 6 free online courses:

www.unionlearn.org.uk/forms/pearl-adultlearning
Resources & contacts

You can contact the community team at veterans@community-tu.org

We are working with RFEA, a charity working to get veterans into employment. You can reach them at www.rfea.org.uk

To find out more about our campaign to end veteran homelessness, you can sign up for our newsletter by visiting https://bit.ly/3sMXvEd
Learn more about our campaign:

https://community-tu.org/campaigns/ending-veteran-homelessness/