MSEP Virtual Hiring Fair Preview: Plan Your Job Fair Experience

Session Transcript

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- [Lee Kelley] The second day of the 2019 Virtual Military Spouse Symposium. My name is Lee Kelley and I’m the Director of Military Community Support Programs, the host for this week’s symposium. Our next speakers are my Mininia Hawkins with Military Community Support Programs and Herrick Ross with Starbucks. In this session, you will get information on the upcoming Military Spouse Employment Partnership Virtual Job Fair on May 2. This session will provide an overview of that platform, how to find employment opportunities, chatting with MSEP partners and more. Herrick will also provide some best practices on how to be prepared for a virtual hiring event. Don't miss this great discussion with Starbucks. Welcome Mininia and Herrick.

- [Herrick] Thank you.

- [Mininia] Thank you.

- [Mininia] Thank you and good morning, everyone. Thank you so much for joining us. As Lee said, we’re going to get started with the Virtual Hiring Fair preview. Hopefully after this session you will have all that you need, you will have all of the equipment that you need to be prepared for the Virtual Hiring events session on May 2. And hopefully most of you have already prepared and registered for the session. After I provide an overview of the specific platform, then we will have Herrick Ross, our special guest from Starbucks, providing us information on best practices of how to be prepared for virtual hiring event. So let’s get started. On our first slide here you will see the overview page. So when you click to register, this is exactly how you will register. This is what you will see. So not registered, you will click here at the top. We also recommend after you register to go to do a system check and make sure that everything will be okay on your system. We want this to
be an optimal presentation and optimal experience for you as you are seeking employment opportunities. So after you register, you will receive a thank you Page. This is exactly what the thank you page is going to look like. Again, this is the system’s check, it will make sure that you are prepared for the event. And just so you to note, the optimal search engine tool for this particular platform is Google Chrome. So hopefully you have Google Chrome. We know that Safari works as well. Edge works too. So those are the optimal search engines. And did I mention that there will be 100, more than 130 MSEP partners that are joining us for this virtual event. Our 130 partners will be representing different industry sectors. So we’ve gotten several questions, there are healthcare industries represented. We also have those with sales and business. So any industry you can think of we have partners that are representing those industries. Alana, Yes, Firefox is accepted as well. Thank you so much for the question. This is what you will see on May 2 when you arrive into the lobby. You will have two ways to navigate from the screen where you would like to go. As you see the yellow arrows are pointing down to the toggles below. You will have the opportunity to stay in the lobby, you will have the opportunity to go to the exhibit hall where you can find our MSEP partners. You have the opportunity to go to our auditorium and guess what, in our auditorium, we’re going to have a keynote speaker. Has anyone heard of Chef Rush? Yes, Chef Rush is joining us and will be providing some opening remarks. Also some motivational tips, so you don’t want to miss out on those opportunities. Again, the hiring fair is from 12 to 3pm, eastern daylight time and 7 to 9pm. So those are the hours on May 2, and hopefully, again, you have already registered. So with the yellow arrows, you can get to where you’re going facing down or you will see the exhibit on the right. So you can click on either one of those to get you to the rooms that you would like to go to. You can also start a private chat. So if there are any specific individuals or any MSEP partners that you would like to chat with, you can start a chat by going to the bottom, you will see the chat feature. So this is a neat way for you to ask questions of each of the MSEP partners about opportunities that you see available in their booths, or other opportunities. If you would like to learn more about resumes, or what hiring managers have to say about addressing gaps in your resumes. These are all great questions that you can ask these human resources and hiring officials day of, on May 2. You also have the opportunity to add your job to the briefcase. There’s the briefcase below in the bottom toggle. If you see a position that's available with one of our partners that you would like to apply for, or that you would like more information, please go to the briefcase and you can save the job opportunity in the briefcase. So this is a great tool to go back to, to visit all of the opportunities that you have saved as you continue to search through the more than 130 MSEP partner booths. And good morning to everyone who is joining us. I’m so excited to see that everyone is joining us from the different geographical locations. So thank you for checking in. Thank you for letting us know where you’re joining from. This is what the exhibit hall is going to look like. So you have the opportunity to actually type in an MSEP partner’s name or you have an opportunity to scroll. So you will be able to scroll and see the different logos. So if there are some logos, that there, logos there are identifiable, you can click on the booth and it will take you directly into the booth. Some of our MSEP partners that have been speakers for the past two days for
the Virtual Military Spouse Symposium, will also have booths so that you can ask them specific questions. So Instant Teams will be there, Sawdey Solutions will be there, Starbucks is going to be there. So if you have any questions for those hiring managers, or if you would like to see any of the feature jobs, just click on those booths. And when you click on the booth, you will also see a cursor that will provide you more information about the partner. Perhaps there is a partner that you aren’t really familiar with. Click on it and it will provide a summary of the company and maybe it will provide more about the industry sector as well. Cassandra, someone is going to post the website for you to register for this event. Well, Katrina will employers be able to search for us based on our experience? Unfortunately, they are not able to search for you this way through this platform but they are able to search for you through a candidate resume search via the MSEP job search tool. So we can provide more information there. Say if you are able to locate search by location, you’re able to search by industry sector and also the name of the partner. So this is how you will choose an exhibitor and actually face at the top of the screen you will see the key word industry sector and also employment type. So that is how you can search or you can use the exhibitor search. So this is how you enter an MSEP partners booth. You will see the logo, something about the focus statement will provide you more information about the specific partner also feature jobs. So when you click on feature jobs, you’re able to see some of the top jobs that they have located in the company. You’re also able to provide, go to their careers link. So at the careers link, you’re able to see all of the jobs that you have available. And I would be remiss if I did not mention that Amazon will be there too. Amazon provided us a great brief on yesterday. Debbie Falcon, there will definitely be a full list of the employers for that day. It will be posted actually in our Facebook group, event group that we will post the information there. Jules, glad you’re attending. I hope that you’re registered and thank you for joining us throughout the day. You are able to search by location, Faith. And Meghan said heard that you can possibly get a job the same day. Could we look forward to that, of course our companies have positions that will be available that they will be talking about. So we hope that that is what will occur that day. We would love to share those success stories. We would love to have those stories for each of the military spouses that are joining. So we hope that you have been able to attend the resume session so that your resume is ready to go and presented to the MSEP partners. Because they will be providing you with their direct email addresses to all of the recruiters and some of the HR professionals that are joining that day so you that you can upload your resume or I’m sorry, email your resume directly to them. That is a great function that we have. And if they are providing you their email, they are providing it in the private chat, so whatever you are sharing in the private chat other attendees will not be able to see that. Also, it’s still time if you need help with your resume, or getting prepared for this session, a SECO Career Coach will certainly be glad to help you with that. And actually a SECO Career Coach will be there to provide some best tips, but I’m going to get to that at the end of this presentation. We will also have a Military One Source consultant that will be in attendance as well to provide you all of the information that you need as far as resources in your daily life, non medical counseling. We hope that this will be an experience that you will be able to get all resources that will equipped you. To
our next slide will just give you an opportunity to see what a focus statement will look like. So on this screen, you are able to get a summary of the MSEP partner. Also you are able to see how long that this specific partner have been a part of the Military Spouse Employment Partnership. You can see the industry sector, business and finance and also and some of them have secondary industry sectors. If you click on the search all job opportunities, this takes you directly to their career page, so you’re able to see all of the opportunities that are available. This is also a screenshot of what it will look like. So if you click on the feature job, this will provide you with their top 50 jobs with the opportunity to see those 50 jobs, where they are, the duties and responsibilities of the job. This is another way to search. This is also another look at the job search too. Faith says will any of the job opportunities be available in advance of May 2? That’s a great question Faith. If you go to the job search tool, and it’s via the my SECO website, you can look at opportunities that some of our MSEP partners have available. And actually you can go there today, because a lot of our MSEP partners have provided jobs for you to look at. Yes, Cassandra, some of those opportunities are overseas. And actually that is one of the reasons that we have two specific sessions for the job fair so that those spouses in OCONUS locations are able to join us. Again, those hours are 12 to 3 Eastern time, and also 7 to 9 Eastern time. So hopefully, those times work for you, Cassandra, and all of the other military spouses that are joining us, no matter where your geographic location is. Jennifer, yes. There are several ways for you to search for telework opportunities. So you can go put in a keyword search of telework. Some of our MSEP partners have called them work from home opportunities, or virtual. Those are some of the key words that I would start with by searching. Right Stephanie, hope you’re joining us. So again, you are more than welcome to request to chat with a booth representative while you were in the booth. And they will able to let you know when the message has been received. It will pop up at the bottom so you that you can see exactly who you are corresponding with. And within this feature everyone has the opportunity to go in and upload their image too, so that’s a great way to see exactly the specific hiring official that you are chatting with. This is just a look at our auditorium. Again, this is where Chef Rush will be providing his keynote or he will be our keynote speaker. So you can get to the auditorium by clicking on the toggle switch at the bottom that says auditorium. Also there will be reminders throughout the hiring fair. At the beginning, Chef Rush will be providing remark at 12 pm and also at 7 pm. So you don’t want to miss out on those remarks, the motivational instructions that he had for everything and just in case you haven’t looked up Chef Rush, Chef Rush is actually an army combat veteran. He’s also a White House chef and also a celebrity chef that has his own cooking channel, cooking show. So he will be able to provide and he is actually a large, a huge proponent of the military spouse community. He has also conducted and participated in events with some of our other MSEP partners, one being the USO so you don’t want to miss out. Our Resource Center will have different videos that we find that will be useful to you. These are brief. These will be videos from our MSEP partners providing best tips. We will also have our other collateral materials on the Spouse Education Career Opportunities Program on a SECO Career Coach information about LinkedIn premium. And in case you were not in in the premium
previous session, our friends at LinkedIn just gave us a great announcement. That LinkedIn premium is now available to all spouses that have mySECO account. They have also opened up access to Coast Guard spouses, also to caregivers as well. There’s more information about LinkedIn premium, the steps that you need to take in order to access LinkedIn premium. So we are so excited that that offering was open to military spouses, with mySECO account. Join us here in the networking lounge. So in the networking lounge, this is where you will be able to see great practices provided by our SECO Career Coach. Also some great tips from our Military One Source consultant. This is our chat feature here, where you’re able to go in and ask real time live questions. So another way again, to get to the networking lounge is to go to the toggle switch at the bottom and provide, just click there and you can chat in the chat pod. And also, we will have reminders throughout the Virtual Hiring Fair that the Career Coach and the Military One Source consultant will be in the networking lounge. So look for those announcements as well. We hope that you will never have or that you will not have any specific questions or technological issues but if you do, please enter the help desk and the help desk will be able to answer any questions that you may have. Also, I just want to go back to the Career Coach chat and just mention one more thing, that the Career Coach actually we will be able to provide the day of, a special email address just for you to upload or to send your resume to a SECO Career Coach and they will be able to look at your resumes and provide some different tips there. So look for that email address that we will provide you on the day of the event. So that you will have that 101 on one coaching. Ariana, have you heard of telecom positions helping animals? We actually have two MSEP partners that I can think of that have pet positions that are directly with animals, that you can do a search for, for maybe veterinarian, veterinary, animal. I’m not sure of virtual opportunities, but we definitely have MSEP partners that cover animals. Lee, thank you for joining us again. Is there a list of employers for the fair? Yes, that will be posted on our Facebook event page. So look out for that information there. This is our technical support chat. This is what it will look like the day of, if you have any questions. Again, this is what you will see the day of on May 2. So we hope that you will go register for the event or that you have registered for the event. We will post that link in the chat pod as well. Again, we look forward to seeing each one of you on May 2, I hope that this information has been helpful for you to give you the lay of the land, how the actual platform will look the day of the event. Laurie, asks will the keynote speech from the event be available to listen to later? Yes, we are recording that event and it will be posted. The link with the employers will be posted on our Facebook page. So that specific link is www.facebook.com/dodmilspouse, you will find a list there. So now I am going to turn it over to our featured speaker and MSEP partner today, who is Starbucks and Mr. Herrick Ross will be providing us with some best practices on what we need to do to prepare for virtual hiring events. Starbucks has a dedicated Military Spouse Employment Partnership partner, and they are very well known in the community for what they’re doing for our veterans, military spouses and other family members. And I just want to say that Herrick Ross is... Military.com 2019 Changemaker of the year finalist, so we want to congratulate him for that. And he is a big proponent and he is the one that helped create the veteran and military spouse program at
Starbucks. So without further ado, I will now turn it over to Herrick and I will continue to take your questions in the chat pod. So Herrick, take it away.

- [Herrick] Fantastic, and a great day to everyone. Thank you, Mininia and Lee, for allowing me the opportunity to connect with so many fantastic talents out there, military spouses, I would personally like to give you my immense gratitude for your service to home and country. And I recognize that many of you are in distant lands and are both calmness and openness, meaning country of the United States and outside the country of the United States. So I wanted to thank you all for taking this proactive approach and getting your career goals in line. With that said, Today I’ll be talking a little bit about virtual fairs. We call it Virtual Fair 101. I’ll be sharing some of the things that Mininia had shared earlier, reiterating some of those points and additionally giving you some guidance for follow up. After that, I’ll be taking your questions as you see fit. And then this presentation will be available for download after the the day is through. So to start things off, as you all go through looking for different companies and different jobs and so forth, the job fair is the one stop shop where you can get a lot of insight. The virtual arena is a little bit different and it’s very unique as some of you may have done before or some of you may not know about. So before you start getting into this space of the virtual fair, to Mininia’s point earlier, register, make sure that you’re registered and ready for the event. My key takeaway is the next topic, which is research, who will be there. There’s over 130 partners that will be at this event. That’s a lot of companies in a lot of places. When you’re thinking about exactly what it is that you’re trying to focus in on for your career path, some of you may be a little bit more advanced than others. Some of you may just be looking for something that is entry level, portable. Some of you may be looking for something that is a growth potential for you all, as you have developed a lot of experiences throughout your years of service with your military spouse, or service with your military member. So research who will be there, try to be as open minded as possible because the more open minded you are, the more opportunities you’re giving yourself. For instance, it was shown earlier that First Command was looking for, or their particular arena was in the finance arena. However, they may have positions that range from coordinator to project management, analysts, do a deep dive to see if this is the type of work that you want to be associated with, the type of company that you wanna be associated with, and then just see what the opportunities that they may have. As you look at those opportunities, and you have in your mind a certain type of role that you’d like to pursue. Look at what it is that you’re trying to achieve and kind of put it in a little cluster. And when I say a little cluster, I’m speaking from a hiring manager mindset. As a hiring manager or as a recruiter, when we go into our application system, which is a particular system that tracks all, when you submit your application, every company has something similar. They may call it different names but they have something similar. They go in there and they see that you’ve applied to be a nurse. You’ve applied to be HR, you’ve applied to be a chef, you’ve applied to the mechanic. That confuses the recruiter, if you have the opportunity to shape your resume and shape your search in a certain cluster pattern, meaning that if you like administrative work, then look for roles that have administrative piece to it. If you like, mechanical stuff, look for roles that have
that type of space to it. That way you’re letting the hiring manager and the recruiter
know through your resume and through your applications that you have decided
this is the field that you want to be in. That gives the individuals that are making the
decision easier time to translate your skill sets into their respective roles. Similar to
the job fairs that you’ve attended in person, the virtual fair has that piece where you
have to practice your elevator pitch. Now for some of you, or for all of you, your
elevator pitch may be 30 seconds pitch. Well try to translate that into a virtual pitch.
introducing yourself, letting someone know or letting whomsoever know what your
interests are. Once you create that pitch. This is something that you can use for each
and every employer. That way, you don’t have to recalibrate every two minutes.
Create a pitch that is similar to your in person job interview pitch. And then it’s on
to the next phase, which is prepping your technology. I like to say as you are
prepping your technology, when you create that pitch, create a Word doc that you
can put your pitch and your questions on. That way you can pull it right up, copy and
paste, because there’s 130 Military Spouse Employment Partnership partners that
are going to be on this. So the fastest way to do it is to pre write your questions and
have it ready on whether it’s your iPad or your laptop or your desktop, have it at the
ready. For that all you have to do is press launch. Lastly, as we were prepping, think
about where you’re at. Now for this particular virtual fair, you can be anywhere you
can be in a noisy background and all that kind of stuff. With a lot of background
distractions out there. However, let’s say you want to put yourself in the right frame
of mind to respond if one of the employers takes interest in you. Think about is that
the background that you want to be a distraction to you while you’re engaging with
this possible employer online. Some individuals may even think about asking you
after this virtual fair to Skype with them. Because of your location, if you have the
background ready, you’re in the right place, it will be an easier transition for you to
do so. So now that we’ve got our prep done, let’s talk a little bit about what do we do
during the event, the virtual fair. My first point I put up there is wear a professional
outfit. Now, it may sound a little bit funny when you think about it. However, the
things I like to tell people is prepare yourself as if you’re getting the job. Put yourself
in the right mindset. When you dress relaxed, you’re very relaxed. When you put on
your Sunday best you walk a little bit taller, because our clothes reflect our
personality and it reflects who we are in that particular moment. So when you
create an environment for yourself and you’re wearing a professional outfit your
mind set your physiological reaction default setting is going to put you in that
professional mode of presenting your best self to an employer. That’s the beginning
piece. The next phase is now that you are dressed for success. Let’s be aware of how
we connect with the individual. How do we connect with the employers that will be
on this platform, this virtual fair. As you’re talking to the employers, we live in an
age where we have these text message society where you know, instead of spelling
out, y-o-u, you’ll type U or instead of spelling out thanks, t-h-a-n-k-s, we’ll put t-h-x.
In this professional environment using an acronym or using something that is short
script, that could come across to a hiring manager or a recruiter someone that’s
looking at you as this person is not grown enough for this particular role. or may say
that this person isn’t professional enough for this particular role. You have to think
the way that others will truly hear your experience. So as you are typing out your
responses and creating that spreadsheet that has quick hit phrases or questions in there, make sure that it’s professional, proper grammar and everything is spelled correctly. In the virtual space, it’s as we know, it’s going to be very different than the job fair. At the job fair, you can walk around the building into the all these different organizations, or all these different companies that want to hire you. In the virtual space, you have to make your connections your legs. And what I mean by that is don’t be a wallflower. Being a wallflower is someone that is hoping that a company will have the time to research all the applicants that are in this MSEP portal, and reach out to the applicants that they want to talk to. If you take the proactive approach, you don’t become that wallflower, you go up to those different virtual booth, and you say, Hey, my name is X Y and Z, I’m interested in 1,2,3, this is my background. Do you have any roles possible for me in this location? You’re taking that proactive approach, you’re engaging and you’re going to get a response. Once you use that clear professional business communication to that organization or that company, you’re going to get a response. Because this is a virtual fair, there’s not going to be a lot of recruiters that are on for one company. When I say a lot of recruiters I’m just talking about for one company. There’s gonna be recruiters for every company and it may be two recruiters are so per company. What that means is the recruiters have to provide responses to all the questions that they are gonna be getting pinged. And once they are in the fair and the fair is going on, just as you have questions, some of your peers may have questions, some of your friends may have questions. So it’s going to be a little bit timely in responding, but they will respond, I can assure you. The biggest thing during this piece of the pie is to ensure that you get a contact information. Get some contact information, whether it’s an email, they may ask you to reach out, check out their website. If they ask you to check out their website, say is it okay if you can share with me a point of contact or your contact information. The reason that you’re doing this is so that you can let the individual know that you’re really interested and they may actually love the experience that you have. Because they’ve been going through a lot of different conversations and a lot of different resumes, some of the connections that they made may go to the back of their mind by you getting that contact information that brings everything to the forefront. When you reach out after the event. After the event, the biggest piece is send a thank you email to that person that connected with you. That thank you email, lets individuals know that hey, I really appreciated your time, I treasure the time spent with you and the knowledge that you shared. Because that makes the company feel special. Just like if the company came to you and say, hey, I really appreciate you stopping by my booth. I treasure the time you spent with me, you feel treasured, you feel special. And you want to do more for that company just like the company wants to do more for you. Send a email to say, hey, I appreciate your time, thank you so much. Because that keeps you fresh for the recruiter. As you all are heard earlier today, you have access to a free LinkedIn premium account. How fantastic is that? That is worth its weight in gold wrapped in diamonds and platinum. That is a great tool to use, because you can connect with some of those individuals that you typed or texted to, during the virtual fair on LinkedIn, because while they may not have a role for you at this particular time, they may have a role for you in the future. And if you’re connected on LinkedIn, this
is like a shortcut for the recruiter and hiring managers to not just see your experience but to reach out to you when you least expect it. Some of you as military spouses, you may have many more years to go in uniform just as your service member well, connecting on LinkedIn ensures that as you move around, you still have a focus point for your career growth. If you have the opportunity to delve into conversation after conversation after conversation with all of the MSEP partners, ensure that you find out what their social media job link or social media job website is. For instance, for us at Starbucks we have @starbucksjob on Twitter. That allows you to see some of the postings and read some of the stories of individuals that have walked in your footprint. See how they journey to their particular role. Some may have started as program managers, some may have started as baristas. Some may have started as technicians, or transportation specialist. There's such a wide variety of talent in each and every one of the MSEP partners arenas, that by following their social media standing, this is a great opportunity for you to get some inside cultural context about all the things that go on in that company. Now with 130 MSEP partners here, some may be the right fit for you some may not be the right fit for you. However, if you find that there are some companies that you really ask will be in truly align your personal career path with or align your personal sense of purpose with, prioritize those companies. And the reason I say to prioritize those companies, is because as you are perusing their social media, and you see that some of these things that they're doing aligns with who you are as a person, you may want to apply to that company and then you track another company's social media and you see the same purpose, sense of purpose in that company. You want to apply to that one. Well, as we all know, when one thing comes our way, it seems like many more come our way. So guess what happens? If you don’t prioritize? And you apply to all these different companies, all these different companies will come back to you with opportunities for you. As they come back to you with all these opportunities, now you're giving yourself a migraine because you don’t know which one to take. Do you pursue culture fit, do you pursue, which is the closest to where you live? Or do you pursue the one that has the highest compensation? What is it that you're gonna have to focus in on? By prioritizing, let's say your first company is company, Starbucks. I'm just throwing a company out there. So let’s just say Starbucks is your first choice. And then after Starbucks, that’s Amazon, and then after Amazon, it’s Fidelity. You apply to a role at Starbucks. Starbucks takes a little bit of time getting back to you. So you apply the role at Amazon. Amazon takes a little bit time getting back to you, you're applied to a role at Fidelity Mutual. Fidelity takes a little time getting back to you then Starbucks gets back to you. Starbucks says hey, thank you so much for expressing interest in our company. We truly appreciated we see that you have the skills that we’re looking for, and we would absolutely love to set up an interview with you today. Is that all right? So you say yes, that’s fantastic. So you set up the interview, you go through the interview, and Starbucks extends the job to you. When Starbucks extends the job to you, all of a sudden, you’re like, okay, I’m ready to take the job. I’m gonna take the job. You are elated because you finally found the right fit for you. Then Amazon reaches out to you. And Amazon says, hey, I’m sorry, it took us so long to get back to you, but I truly appreciate you expressing interest. And we would love to talk to you about this particular role because I see it is a
perfect fit for you and your current location and it's very portable, so would love to talk with you. While you have this offer from Starbucks, but you're curious though, you listen to Amazon and Amazon expresses interest and do that offer as well. If that all comes to fruition, as you think about it, you're giving yourself all these different opportunities, you are gonna be the one that has to make a choice. And when you have to make that choice, it gets harder and harder, the more opportunities that come your way. It's a great problem to have. But it's at the end of the day by prioritizing which companies you'd like to be a part of, you will minimize a lot of the stressors that you may have, as you serve with your active duty service member or reservists or veteran. As you're thinking about all these companies, the biggest thing I like to let military spouses know is to think transfer ability. What is the landscape that this company has? By doing that you can position yourself for continuous and sustained career growth. There is nothing wrong with starting at a small company. However, when you start at any level in any company just think, is this role that I’m taking is it a skill set that I can transfer to my bigger picture skill set? Not just being transferred within the company, but I’m talking about transfer within that particular role. So let’s say you’re a transportation analyst, you are the one that contacts organization and shipping companies to arrange shipments of materials. This is something that some companies do remotely. So you’re this analyst, this transportation analyst, your future is to own your own rental car agency. Think in terms of well for my next role, I want to stay within the transportation arena. So does company X, Y, or Z have path that transportation arena? That if I’m taking this role can I transfer my skill set and my learnings into that company in my new role for companies X, Y or Z. Think transfer ability, both literally and phonetically, not just company, staying within the company, but staying within your career path. Next thing for after event, make sure you just apply to the role. Apply to the ones that do right, that's the right fit. Ensure that when you do apply, you’re applying using your resume that you worked with your my SECO Career Coach. This resume is going to be somewhat general but they may have a specific theme that you’re trying to get out there. So use all these resources that are available to you throughout the virtual fair, whether it’s in the SECO Career booth, Career Coach booth, or whether it’s on their website, there’s a plethora of resources that are out there. When you apply for the role, remember that contact that you received. That point of contact at that particular company that you're interested in. Email that point of contact and let that point of contact know that you applied to that role. That helps you on the grand scale of things because it makes the recruiters job easier. So they know that you applied now they can literally just go into the system, look you up, look over your stuff and say okay, I’m want to reach out to this individual because I talked with this individual before this individual was professional, this individual got my contact information and is showing a very good interest in this particular role. So I’m thrilled to make this match come to life because this will be a fantastic connection point we’re having a valuable member or a value add, coming into the company. As you look at this deck, please remember the biggest things to take away is to ensure that technology is ready. Get those quick statements put together in a Word doc. When you go into the event, don’t be the wallflower. Look at all these 130 MSEP partners and see which culture aligns with you the most. Reach out, get the contact
information, connect with the individual on LinkedIn. And towards the end, let the individual know that you applied for the particular role. Again, I truly, truly, truly appreciate all the service and sacrifice that you as military spouses make each and every day. I congratulate you all on taking a proactive approach to your career and your professional growth. As you come across different organizations know that we all appreciate what you can bring to the table. We all see you as value add, take those opportunities to help enrich not just your family, but your community and your peers as well. With that said, I’ll open the floor for any questions that anyone may have.

- [Mininia] Yes, Herrick while the questions are coming in, I see multiple attendees typing. And please keep the questions coming in we would love to answer them. Also, if you have not had the opportunity, we have posted the registration link in your Chat Pod. We have also posted a link to the MSEP job search tool. So you are able to see some of the positions that some of our partners like Starbucks has available. Also the SECO Career Coach has posted our feedback tool, so if you can provide us with your feedback about the session, that would be greatly appreciated as it helps us prepare for other events, for other webinars, so thank you so much for your feedback. I will actually let Herrick answer this question. So Herrick, Laurie says, what are the elements of a good virtual pitch if you have never had to prepare one before?

- [Herrick] That’s a fantastic question. The elements of a good virtual pitch is first, hi, my name is Herrick Ross. Thank you for helping military spouses. I would love to learn more about the opportunities that you have for military spouses. I am currently interested in aviation. Or am currently interested in finance. Or am currently interested in transportation. Is there anything that your company has that will lead to this field? Something very simple. That’s going to give the recruiter an opportunity to digest and respond. On average, some organizations are going to be a little bit more specific with the type of role that they are looking for, while others may, like Starbucks, once again, a company I’m just pulling out of the air, we have literally thousands of opportunities that are available. It all depends on what it is that you’re looking for, once you put it out there, the company is going to respond in time. And let you know what they have available. I hope that answers your question.

- [Mininia] Herrick, so am new to all of this, I did not have a LinkedIn account, wound you suggest that I start one before the hiring period?

- [Herrick] Oh fantastic question. I will tell you all that LinkedIn is a fantastic career tool that kind like, I like to tell people it’s like a credit score. The longer you have it the more it works for you. So if you don’t have a LinkedIn account currently, I wound highly, highly, highly encourage you to use that resource that SECO has gotten and you already are able to get a free premium account, a free premium account at military spouse if you’ve registered through the my SECO website. Use these resources and these free gifts to help propel you forward in your career success and grow. Highly recommended. Did I say highly recommended yet? Okay,
let me highly, highly, highly recommended, and you have the free, free premium account that others have to pay for, you're getting it for free. That is a tremendous, tremendous value, like you would not believe because that gives you the opportunity to be showcased in an even more bigger spotlight. With your experience. I hope I was able to answer that question.

- [Mininia] Fantastic, you answered the question Herrick. Thank you so much. We also see the question that, just to let you know, there will be additional fairs in the future. We're just not sure exactly when. But we wanted to do something for our military spouses. And we thought that this was a great way to show our appreciation for military spouses in the month of May. So we will continue you to answer your questions in the Chat Pod. And I will actually now turn it over for the closing.

- [Lee] Thank you Mininia, and thank you so much to Herrick for the tremendous value add that you provided to today's Virtual Military Spouse Symposium. Mininia and Herrick I think I speak for everybody when I say you shared a lot of great information. And we're also excited to join the Virtual Hiring Fair next week on May 2. Thanks to everybody for attending today's session. It was great to see such a super turnout. Mininia mentioned of the downloads and feedback but I’m going to recap them for you now to download the available handouts from this session including the presentation slides and our SECO program flyer that discusses the resources and services available to military spouses, as well as the SECO career coaching fact sheet to learn more about how our career coaches can assist you. Please highlight the document and click the download files button that’s in the upper left hand corner. If you’re access an Adobe Connect through your desktop, the items will download to your computer in a compressed file. If you are connecting from a mobile device though and are unable to download the file successfully, you may enter your email address into the Trouble with Downloads chat pod to receive the materials after the event. If you have trouble please let us know in the Need Technical Assistance Chat Pod. In the Web Link Pod you will find two links the first link is for the session survey. Please provide feedback on your experience today. The second link is where you can download your certificate of participation. And this concludes our presentation. Please come back and join us at 1 pm Eastern for Creating the Healthy Brand Called You, Your Brand Your Wellness. Have a wonderful day, everybody.