



# CPI Foundation

*Increasing Readiness for Our Veterans, Our Infrastructure, Our National Parks*

[cpi-foundation.org](http://cpi-foundation.org)



CPI partners with the Department of Defense, Department of the Interior, and with industry companies across the country, benefitting the United States and its taxpayers by combining the strengths and needs of three national concerns: our military veterans, our infrastructure, and our national parks. Helping avoid potential military-to-civilian transition pitfalls, CPI offers career preparation & placement and hands-on training for transitioning active duty service members at all levels from all service branches while completing construction, repair, maintenance, & safety/access projects in national parks & other public lands.

## **TRAINING PROGRAM** - 12 weeks full-time or 40-hour industry intensive preparation

We offer three 12-week training sessions each year at each program location in addition to a 40-hour industry intensive orientation program for service members unable to participate in the full program prior to civilian transition. All participants continue to serve our country on active duty while participating; those in the 12-week training serve in national parks or other partnering sites while gaining:

- Hands-on, in-depth training with industry-leading expert instruction
- Safety and technical certifications (40-hour course participants also complete safety certification)
- Experience planning and implementing all aspects of a construction and/or repair project; each team contributes to the preservation of a landmark structure or site
- Connection to industry leaders eager to hire them once they become veterans/civilians

## **CAREER PLACEMENT PROGRAM** – for all of our active duty service member participants

Concrete and construction companies nationwide partner with CPI to hire tradespeople and managers for all industry sectors in contracting, design, production, sales, service, and related positions. We provide:

- Connection to career opportunities prior to civilian transition
- Assistance with interview skills and resume development that relate military occupational specialties to industry career paths
- A focus on employment longevity by matching candidates with well-suited positions across the US in geographic regions where they and their families seek to establish their post-military homes
- A substantial opportunity to expand the workforce candidate pool for construction and infrastructure by attracting soon-to-be-veterans who might not otherwise have chosen careers in these fields
- Connection to partnering university programs, with assistance for transfer credit, summer internships, and career placement upon graduation; CPI has an articulation agreement with MTSU's CIM program and is developing additional articulation agreements at other institutions

## ENGAGE WITH US

We achieve our mission at no cost to service members and with great benefit to them, the industry, national parks & public sites, and US infrastructure. Please consider engaging as a participant, sponsor, or employer.

## THE NEED

CPI's programs and partnerships are a win-win-win:

- Approximately 250,000 service members leave the military each year, many of whom are searching for a career in the civilian world; this program helps to decrease veteran unemployment and underemployment by working with active duty personnel early in their service-to-civilian transition
- The construction industry is in critical need of workforce, with an expected 1.5 million-worker shortage by 2020
- The U.S. National Park System suffers from \$11.6 billion in needed repairs and other public sites are perilously deteriorated; we bring needed expertise and resources and help leverage private industry contributions to address these needs

## OUR PARTICIPANTS

Active duty service members transitioning out from all branches of the military may apply to participate during their final year in the military. Those interested in the 12-week Training Program must obtain chain of command approval. CPI can advise on the process. If accepted, they spend 3 of their last 6 months on active duty participating full-time at a CPI location. No experience necessary.

## OUR PROJECTS & LOCATIONS

Led by expert construction and preservation staff, our teams self-perform repair, maintenance, new construction, and Secretary of the Interior's Standards compliant preservation projects. We utilize a design-build approach for concrete, wood, steel, and composite construction projects on buildings, infrastructure, site features, and projects that improve health, safety, and access (including ADA). With close industry connections, we bring new technological solutions to structural and infrastructure challenges focused on durability, sustainability, user needs, and cultural resource preservation.

We are a full-time continuous stewardship force complimenting existing facility maintenance and management teams on public lands. Our current program locations are Alcatraz Island & Pearl Harbor, popular national park locations each averaging over a million visitors each year. A recent CPI/Department of Interior-wide MOU established the foundation for expansion across DOI's bureaus and we are growing capacity to undertake projects on other federal lands and public sites.

## BROADER IMPACT

CPI's programs at landmark sites allow us to work with service members preparing for civilian transition in safe, meaningful, inspiring environments, and increase awareness of the need to support veterans and address infrastructure deferred maintenance across the US. CPI's impact is further broadened by engaging partners & sponsors, undertaking applied research, and leading our military participants in mentoring local youth during community service projects.

*Duty and honor as service members - duty and honor as civilians and veterans*

