

JOB SERVICE - DEVILS LAKE Business Services

NEWSLETTER: JANUARY/2025

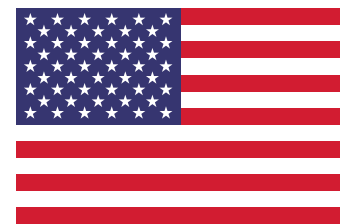
NORTH
Dakota | Devils Lake Workforce Center
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Meeting workforce needs.



TOP NEWS

- Devils Lake Cars Honored with Gold Medallion
- Devils Lake Job Service DVOP Kendra Henry
- 2025 Hiring Events
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Devils Lake Cars Honored with Award from Hire Veterans Medallion Program

Only Business in North Dakota
to be Honored

Devils Lake Cars recently learned that it had received the Small Business Gold Medallion from The Hire Veterans Program. They were awarded this for their ongoing efforts to recruit and hire veterans and their ongoing programs aimed at veteran retainment at Devils Lake Cars. I was able to sit down and talk with two veterans who work at the company, Service Technician James Jacobsen and the owner Renard Bergstrom.



James Carl Jacobsen – Service Technician

James has worked for Devils Lake Cars for 13 years and was active for the US Army, in 63 Tango, (MOS 63T US Army Bradley Fighting Vehicle System Mechanic). Which worked on all the equipment in the military arsenal. James is currently a Service Technician at Devils Lake Cars. Which he finds very similar to what he did in the Army, "I like being a shop foreman and in control of all the mechanics in the shop and I am pretty much a mentor out here on the floor to help teach the younger technicians coming into the industry." James feels like the skills that he learned in the military really transferred well in his current position. Noting that not everything he learned was transferrable, but most were.

When asked what he believed the greatest thing the military taught him that he in turn brought to Devils Lake Cars, James answered quickly and with feeling, stating that discipline was the single greatest thing the army had taught him. James really loves working for Devils Lake Cars, and their push to hire veterans. When asked what he would say to veterans looking for jobs, what would he tell them about Devils Lake Cars so they would give it a look? James replied, "I would tell them Devils Lake Cars is a big family and very family oriented. They treat everybody equally here and care about everybody. That truly is a positive attitude to have when you are working for a company. I have been very happy since I started working here at Devils Lake Cars because they treat me like a real human being."

Renard Bergstrom - Owner

Renard was active in the Air Force and flew F-16's in the military. He went in at the age of 17 and believes that he "went in a boy but came out a man." When asked what skills he brought home from the military, he agreed with James and said it was the discipline that he came home with. "When I was in the military, I got to know a few recruiters and



James Carl Jacobson (left)
Renard Bergstrom - Owner (right)

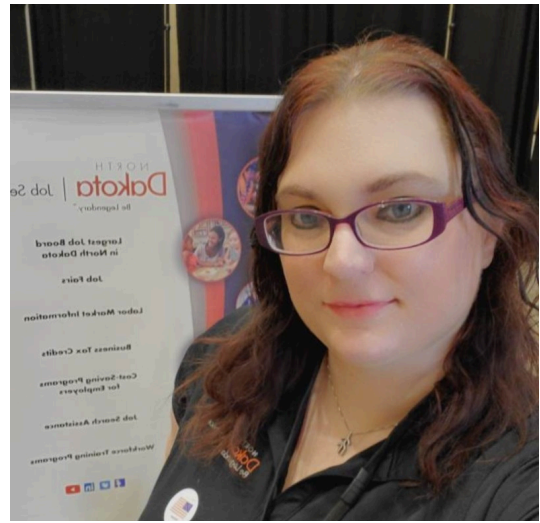
commanders and they would always look for people from the upper mid-west for their good work ethic. And now I think it's kind of like the flip, we look for veterans because we know they have the work ethic."

Renard also mentioned, "12% of our employee population are veterans and the impact of that is a lot more than having 12% more people. The mentorship that Jim provides in the shop and at the college (LRSC) and what all the veterans bring is unparalleled. Devils Lake Cars has always been as veteran friendly as we could." Renard also noted that the things they provide for the veteran members of their staff, are things that they provide for everyone on the staff. Examples include tuition assistance, career builder program, hands on training and trade programs that staff can go to reach different service levels. Devils Lake Cars hopes to soon be able to take part in the Department of Defense program SkillBridge, which matches active military service members who will soon be separating from service to companies who wish to train and hire them.

Overall, the team at Devils Lake Cars feels that hiring vets has been a positive experience and they look forward to growing the programs even further.

Kendra Henry

Veterans' Employment Specialist for Job Service ND at the Devils Lake Job Service office. Specializes in working with disabled veterans and vets with significant barriers to employment become job ready by working with them directly in the office and coordinating with other veteran organizations to get the individual what they need. Call 701-662-9300 for more information.



Benefits of Hiring Veterans ✓

According to The US Department of Labor, it is a good business decision to hire Veterans as studies have shown that Veterans are more productive and have higher retention rates. A quick search of the internet will show several articles from Forbes, Wall Street Journal and recognized business leaders who advocate the good business practice of hiring Veterans. Some common themes from these articles are the description of attributes and characteristics of Veterans as seen by their employers:

- Proven Leadership/Leadership Readiness
- Mission Focused – get the job done
- Team Players who are used to working with a diverse team
- Accelerated learning curve / quick learners / immediate contributor
- Work Ethic
- Works well under pressure
- Creative initiative
- Integrity
- Technical Skills– military experience exposes individuals to advanced technology and technical training



***excerpt from the Employer Guide to Hire Veterans**

Hiring Events

Job Service North Dakota hosts hiring events on the last Tuesday of the month, most months out of the year. These events are called TALENT TUESDAYS. Talent Tuesdays are held in the Workforce Center office at 301 College Drive S, Devils Lake. Businesses are invited to sign up to be a part of the events that generally are held between 2 - 4 pm in the afternoon.

Job Service North Dakota will also invite community organizations to take part in these events as a community service. Below are upcoming 2025 dates of Talent Tuesday in Devils Lake. Please contact Jacqui Rivers at jrivers@nd.gov or call at 701-662-9390 for more information or to sign up for these hiring events.

Coming 2025 Dates: January 28, February 25, March 25, May 20, July 29, August 26, October 28, November 18.

TALENT TUESDAY

MAY 28TH, 2024
2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
301 S COLLEGE DRIVE
JOB SERVICE WORKFORCE CENTER
JOBSND.COM/HIRINGEVENTS

Join us on May 28th for the opportunity to meet with employers and explore career opportunities in the region.

ATTENDING BUSINESSES
NORDIC FIBERGLASS INC.
NORTH PLAINS CONTRACTING
NORTH CONSTRUCTION INC.

Online registration coming soon!

COMING SOON
Stay Tuned

January 9, 2025 - Virtual Job Fair
April 16, 2025 - Spring Career Expo
June 24, 2025 - Summer Slam Hiring Event
September 10, 2025 - Fall Career Expo

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Job Service Outreach Days

1st Tuesday of every month - Langdon (Library)
1st Thursday of every month - Spirit Lake (Blue Building)
2nd Tuesday of every month - Rolla (Library)
3rd Monday of every month - Devils Lake (Library)
3rd Tuesday of every month - Belcourt (TMCC)

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Devils Lake, ND 58301
701-662-9300
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“Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out.”
— Robert Collier