

**CIVILIAN****TECH CAREER****TRANSITION CHECKLIST**

Transitioning to a career in technology is a natural progression for many veterans. Tech jobs are high-paying, meaningful ways to give back to others, while also pursuing the love of learning and self-improvement that are instilled by military service. Eleven Fifty Academy created this checklist to help you focus your intention and understand the process of this career transition.

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## EXPLORE CAREER PATHS

With over 700,000 open tech jobs in the US and counting, it's no surprise there are many ways to break into the tech industry. Check off the statements below that describe you to see which key industry in the tech sector is likely to be a good career fit for you.

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONAL:

- I like to collaborate with others to solve their problems.
- I am interested in tech but am nervous about a lack of experience.
- I want to kick-start a tech career, then decide on a specialty later.
- I enjoy multitasking and am not bothered when new priorities suddenly change my day.

### WEB DEVELOPMENT:

- I like to find flaws in things, and then fix them.
- I want to learn to code, but also be creative.
- I am interested in how websites work and making them better.
- I enjoy receiving feedback and using it to improve my work.

### SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT:

- I want to learn more about how and why computers work the way they do.
- I thrive by completing small goals that contribute to a greater goal.
- I am interested in why different coding languages exist and what they achieve.
- I don't mind collaborating with others, but also like to work by myself.

### CYBERSECURITY:

- I want to be a vital part of a team that all works together.
- I like to educate others about safety and best practices.
- I want to know how cybercrime happens, and what can prevent it.
- I want to keep achieving certifications and learning new things every day.

### USER INTERFACE/ USER EXPERIENCE:

- I don't mind the idea of coding, but I don't want it to be my primary task.
- I am interested in learning design principles and psychology.
- I want to make software, websites, and apps easier and more fun to use.
- I am looking for a role where I will work closely with people and clients.



*Since 55% of veterans want to do something totally different than their MOS, NEC, or specialty, tech careers represent an amazing opportunity to enter a new career quickly, get hired, and earn a great living doing something you love.*

## 2 SKILL UP FOR SUCCESS

No matter which tech field stands out to you, or even if you are considering a few, there are several educational pathways that can facilitate your goal. Check off the statements below that apply to you and get a sense of which type of tech education might be your best option:

### COLLEGE:

- I don't mind taking general education courses outside my desired career field.
- I want the full college experience and to take my time deciding on my next steps.
- I am okay with the idea of finishing my education with some debt, even with my GI Bill.

### ONLINE COURSES:

- I am a self-directed learner who succeeds going at my own pace.
- I want to study relevant tech skills in school and earn certifications outside of class.
- I am confident I could get a job after graduation without career services support.

### TECH BOOTCAMPS:

- I want cutting-edge curriculum that is vetted and taught by skilled tech experts.
- I don't mind missing out on general education and liberal arts courses.
- I want to work with a career services team that can assist me with job placement.

## 3 NETWORK AND GROW

But what can you expect after you complete any of these programs? The items in this section represent more steps you can take to accelerate a civilian tech career transition:

- LINKEDIN:** Get a professional picture taken, update your employment history, add new skills and certifications as you learn, and engage with other users by posting and commenting.
- LOCAL TECH ORGANIZATIONS:** Search for tech organizations in your local area on platforms like Meetup.com. Join up, attend networking events and educational opportunities like panel discussions, and be sure to introduce yourself to other members.
- COMMUNITY BUSINESS GROUPS:** Groups like your local chamber of commerce and other professional organizations not specific to tech are great places to network and learn about potential employers in your area.
- HIRING OUR HEROES:** This US Chamber of Commerce initiative can be hugely beneficial for any veteran looking to transition into a career in technology after service.

Eleven Fifty Academy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused upon high quality, immersive tech bootcamps. The mission of Eleven Fifty Academy is to build an ecosystem of tech talent that financially benefits the individual, their employer, and their community.

*We accept the GI Bill for all military branches and it will cover your full tuition. With a graduation rate of 75-85%, and 70% job placement in 2020, we are confident our program can help you skill up, get a job, and love that job.*