

LETTER TO YOUR MAYOR

Fill in the highlighted parts, keep it to one page, and mail or email it to your mayor with a copy to your council member. Cities set their own job requirements, so this is the fastest win available.

Subject: Let veterans' service count for city jobs in [City]

Dear Mayor [Last name],

I'm a [City] resident and [a veteran / the spouse of a veteran / the parent of a service member]. I'm writing to ask you to lead on something our city can do right now, without waiting on Congress: let veterans use their documented military experience in place of a college degree for city jobs.

[One or two sentences on your story or someone you know: their service, what they've done since, and how a degree requirement screened them out.]

Service members learn leadership, accountability, discipline, problem-solving under pressure, and responsibility for people and equipment. Miami-Dade County already lets veterans substitute documented military experience for the degree in 485 county job classifications, and our city could do the same. If it would help, I'd be glad to send a one-page outline of how a city puts this in place.

Specifically, I'm asking that the City:

- Direct HR to review city job classifications that require a degree, and
- Allow honorably discharged veterans to substitute documented military experience for that requirement where the duties match.

There is also a federal proposal, the EARNED Act, which would recognize the training and skills of every service member who completes an honorable four-year enlistment with a Bachelor of Arts in Defense of Freedom. A city policy here would be local proof that it works. Once the city acts, a short letter of support from you to our state lawmakers and members of Congress would carry real weight. You can read the full proposal at earnedact.org.

Some earned it in a classroom. They earned it in uniform.

Thank you for your consideration. I'm happy to answer any questions by email.

Sincerely,

[Your name]

[City, State]

[Phone] • [Email]