



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER  
AND FORT POLK  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
*News Release***



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## **AECOM continues local hiring process**

**FORT POLK, La---** As implementation of the contract awarded under the Commercial Activities Study draws near, AECOM Government Services, Inc. officials continue to screen, interview and issue letters of intent to hire applicants.

**"We really appreciate the outpouring of applications,"** said Bob Shirron, AECOM's project manager at Fort Polk. **"We've gotten about 2,800 for the 640 jobs we plan to fill. Our goal is to have every slot filled by May 15, since that is just 30 days prior to the contract start date.**

**"At this point we only have a couple of key positions for which we need more applications — librarians with a Master's in Library Science and water treatment plant operators."**

**As part of the CA Study decision, about 300 Fort Polk government employees received reduction in force letters March 31. Of that number, 185 workers were being separated and had the right of first refusal. Right of first refusal rules mandate the contractor consider employees affected by the RIF for jobs they are qualified for before opening jobs to the general public.**

**"As of Wednesday, 111 of the 185 people with the right of first refusal had submitted applications to us. We are offering those people jobs they are qualified to do. However, the deadline is past for those who were eligible for right of first refusal but chose not to apply,"** Shirron said.

**The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center notified eligible employees of the April 14 deadline for submitting applications.**

**"We've got about 310 jobs left to fill, but that number decreases daily. We're bringing about 30 employees on board each day,"** Shirron stated.

**"We're issuing letters of intent to hire. These letters are our commitment to these folks. We'll stand behind the offer. However, it doesn't mean that individuals cannot change their minds and go to work somewhere else. Many government employees who have received RIF notices are enrolling in the Priority Placement Program and they may receive offers of federal employment,"** Shirron said.

**"We know that they have to do what is right for them — so the letter of intent they sign does not obligate them to taking the job — it only obligates us to offer employment.**

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**“We only ask that a person, upon deciding to take a job elsewhere after signing a letter of intent, let us know so we can hire another applicant prior to June 15.”  
PPP registration is done through the CPAC.**

**Although the contract won’t go into effect until June 15, AECOM has begun bridge contracts with two Fort Polk directorates. “We have a bridge contract with the Directorate of Information Management and G3/Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security,” Shirron said.**

**“Bridge contracts really help us. We have seven people at DOIM and four at the Training Support Center who are working in positions that were left vacant by attrition. In a perfect world, we would transition a directorate each month until the process was complete. But with the way the process works, factoring in the RIF and personnel changes, it all has to go at once,” Shirron explained.**

**“Bridge contracts enable us to get personnel in early, get them trained and do some transitioning before the contract starts. We have every confidence that the transition between government-provided services and the AECOM contract will go smoothly. Bridge contracts have just given us a jump-start in a few locations.”  
AECOM will continue its hiring process until all positions are filled. But due to the volume of applications already received, AECOM will only accept applications for Fort Polk positions that are listed on the LA Works web site ([www.laworks.org](http://www.laworks.org)).**

**“We have gotten a lot of support from the directorates, command group and the local community. We appreciate that,” Shirron said. “We’re here to be partners — not just with Fort Polk but with the community.”**

**For individuals interested in overseas employment, applications can be mailed to: AECOM, Attn: Overseas recruiter, P.O. Box 3934, Fort Polk, LA 71459.**

**Current AECOM overseas job openings can be found on the Internet at [www.csakuwait.com](http://www.csakuwait.com) or [www.aecom-gsi.com](http://www.aecom-gsi.com).**

**Article by: Karen Linne, Fort Polk Public Affairs Office**

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