



Chattahoochee Valley BRAC Region Combat Automotive Maintenance Strategy Overview

Georgia Work Ready Regions link education and workforce development resources and aligns them to a regional industry cluster. The Chattahoochee Valley BRAC (CV-BRAC) Region includes seven Georgia counties: Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Muscogee, Stewart, Talbot and Taylor; and one county in Alabama: Russell. The U.S. Department of Labor Fort Benning BRAC Workforce Development Grant awarded to the Valley Partnership Joint Development Authority (VPJDA) in March 2008 focuses its funding on meeting Fort Benning BRAC-driven workforce needs in three industries considered strategic to Georgia. One of these industries is combat automotive maintenance. While not a Georgia Work Ready Region grant, the DOL grant is managed in the same manner as a Work Ready grant.

Work Ready Region Strategy for Combat Automotive Maintenance

Vision

The CV-BRAC region will be the key location for repairing and maintaining the U.S. Army's combat vehicles.

Differentiating the Region

- One BRAC recommendation relocates the U.S. Army Armor Center and School to Fort Benning, providing the region with unique opportunities to:
 - Establish the region as the key site for maintaining combat vehicles – activities that have no commercial equivalent
 - Develop specialized training programs needed to meet the needs of Fort Benning's BRAC requirements and beyond

Building the Strategy

Goals

- Create a combat automotive workforce development program that meets the training needs of both the Army's civil service and its supporting contractors at Fort Benning
- Develop programs and processes to sustain Fort Benning's workforce development needs following BRAC
- Develop effective and active combat automotive maintenance industry network.
- Establish educational pathway (from high school to post-graduation education) for the array of combat automotive maintenance occupations
- Meet or exceed Georgia Work Ready Certification targets

Where will we compete?

Combat Automotive:

- Training workers in the following areas:
 - Electronics and optics
 - Turbine engine repair and maintenance
 - Diesel engine maintenance and repair
 - Track vehicle suspension systems
 - Milling
 - Small arms repair
 - Welding
 - Pneumatics and hydraulics
- Cross-training new workers in two or more job classifications

How will we win?

Short-term

- Establish a target for the number of job profiles and career pathways to be completed over the next year
- Identify appropriate metrics for a “combat automotive career pathways” marketing plan
- Monitor the number of existing, underemployed and unemployed workers participating the Combat Transition Training Program
- Determine how many students are likely to enroll at the Automotive Manufacturing Center of Excellence and the Combat Automotive Academy

Long-term

- Implement and measure the effectiveness of the combat automotive workforce development marketing plan
- Develop a plan for identifying and leveraging AMC/TACOM and other opportunities that can support efforts to build a sustainable construction workforce
- Integrate Georgia Work Ready and Alabama Career Readiness Programs into Fort Benning’s hiring process
- Develop a plan to sustain the combat automotive workforce development program
- Support the launch of a commercial automotive academy modeled after the combat automotive academy