

Wounded Warrior Program Content Guide

The following established style guidelines reflect the longstanding practices of developers and editors of content for the Wounded Warrior program area. They are consistent with rules and guidance outlined in the Associated Press Stylebook and reflective of the Office of Military Community and Family Policy style and usage preferences.

Do

- Pay attention to the overall organization and flow of an article. Information and ideas should be logically organized and there should be some sense of continuity or flow from one idea to the next.
- Avoid redundancy.
- Write in gender-neutral terms, except if appropriate (for example, gender-specific services/groups).
- Write in relationship-neutral terms, such as “partner” or “couple.”
- Flesh out and clarify statements and ideas.
- Ensure that subheads reflect the content of the following text.
- Focus on the positive side of content as much as possible.
- Keep the wide audience range in mind, including service members, veterans, family members, leaders and service providers.
- Use “softening” or qualifying words, such as “generally,” “may be,” “can be” or “might,” to avoid making blanket statements about how people feel, react, etc.
- Use “wounded warrior” instead of “Wounded Warrior.”

Do Not

- Refer to Wounded Warrior Care Center or Wounded Warrior Resource Center.
- Refer to Wounded Warrior Program.
- Refer to Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center; use [Traumatic Brain Injury Center of Excellence](#).
- Use clinical jargon or phrases like “as best you can.”
- Use Heroes to Hometowns content.
- Make assumptions.
- Tell people what they should/need to/must/ought/can’t/won’t do.
- Tell people what they always/never do.
- Overuse athlete photos.

FORMATTING

- “Less is more” — be concise.
- Use bulleted formatting for clarity when appropriate.
- Keep bullets to seven or less for each section

Preferred Terms

Preferred	As opposed to
military life	military lifestyle
some or many	most or all
can or may or might	will or are
often or generally	always
tend to	usually
partner, spouse	husband, wife

Definitions

Term	Definition
adaptive sports	<p>Reconditioning activities and competitive athletic opportunities to help all wounded, ill and injured service members improve their physical and mental quality of life throughout the continuum of recovery and transition.</p> <p>For more information, visit the Defense Department Warrior Care Military Adaptive Sports Program website and the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events.</p>
Air Force Wounded Warrior Program	<p>A program that provides personalized care, services and advocacy to seriously or very seriously wounded, ill or injured Total Force recovering service members and their caregivers and families. Air Force Wounded Warrior Program. Also known as AFW2.</p>
Army Recovery Care Program	<p>A program that transitions soldiers, their families and/or caregivers back to the force and/or to veteran status through a comprehensive program of medical care, rehabilitation, professional development and achievement of personal goals. Army Recovery Care Program. Formerly known as the Army Wounded Warrior Program and Warrior Care and Transition Program. Also known as ARCP.</p>
caregiver stakeholders	<p>Organizations, agencies and programs that work together or independently to provide support to the caregivers of wounded, ill or injured service members.</p>

Term	Definition
Survivors' and Dependents' Education Assistance Program	A federally funded Veterans Affairs program providing education and training benefits to family members of service members who have been permanently and totally disabled or who have died while on active duty as a result of a service-connected condition. Survivors' and Dependents' Education Assistance Program . Also known as DEA.
Integrated Disability Evaluation System	A joint effort between the Defense Department and Veterans Affairs to evaluate medical examinations and determine fitness for duty for wounded, ill or injured service members. The IDES ratings are used to determine DOD and VA compensation and benefits. Integrated Disability Evaluation System . Also known as IDES.
Invictus Games	An international sporting event for wounded, injured and/or ill service members, both active duty and veterans. The United Kingdom's Prince Harry founded the Invictus Games Foundation after attending the 2013 Warrior Games in Colorado.
military caregiver	Someone who is providing care for a service member or veteran who was wounded, injured or fell ill as a direct consequence of military service. Learn more about Veterans Affairs support for caregivers and Military OneSource caregiver resources .
post-traumatic stress disorder	A mental health diagnosis that can occur after someone goes through a traumatic event like war, assault or disaster. Also known as PTSD.
recovering warrior	A wounded, ill or injured service member in the recovery process. Also known as RW.
Transition Assistance Program	A program with both service branch and Veterans Affairs components designed to smooth the transition from active duty to the civilian sector. Transition Assistance Program. Also known as TAP.
traumatic brain injury	An acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment. Also known as TBI.
Warrior Games	DOD-sponsored annual event designed to enhance the recovery and rehabilitation of wounded warriors by providing them exposure to adaptive sports.

Term	Definition
wounded, ill or injured	<p>The DOD recognizes three care categories per DOD policy to identify a recovering warrior:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category I: An RW labeled with a mild injury or illness, likely to return to duty in less than 180 days • Category II: An RW labeled with a serious injury or illness, unlikely to return to duty in less than 180 days • Category III: An RW labeled with a severe/catastrophic injury or illness, likely to be medically separated from the military
Vet Centers	<p>Community-based Veterans Affairs counseling centers that provide a broad range of social and psychological services, including professional readjustment counseling, outreach and referral services to eligible veterans, active duty (including National Guard and reserve components) and their families to help them make a satisfying post-war readjustment to civilian life. Vet Centers.</p>

Resources

- [Air Force Wounded Warrior Program](#)
- [Army Recovery Care Program](#)
- [Defense Department Warrior Care Military Adaptive Sports Program](#)
- [DOD Wounded, Ill and/or Injured Compensation and Benefits Handbook](#)
- [Integrated Disability Evaluation System](#)
- [Invictus Games Foundation](#)
- [Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment](#)
- [Military OneSource caregiver resources](#)
- [Military OneSource wounded warrior specialty consultations](#)
- [Navy Wounded Warrior](#)
- [Survivors' and Dependents' Education Assistance Program](#)
- [Transition Assistance Program.](#)
- [Traumatic Brain Injury Center of Excellence](#)
- [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events](#)
- [U.S. Special Operations Command Warrior Program \(Care Coalition\)](#)
- [Vet Centers](#)
- [Veterans Affairs support for caregivers](#)