

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Megan Gonzalez  
Executive Director  
University Marketing & Communications  
University of West Florida  
[MeganG@uwf.edu](mailto:MeganG@uwf.edu)  
Office: 850.474.2658  
Cell: 850.982.8836

### **UWF recognized as Gold-level Military Friendly School**

**Pensacola, Fla. – Dec. 13, 2016** – The University of West Florida announced today that it has been named a Gold-level Military Friendly School Award recipient in the large public school category for 2017.

“I am personally very appreciative of this recognition by Victory Media,” said Marc Churchwell, director of the Military and Veterans Resource Center at UWF. “We have set a high bar for customer service at the MVRC, and to continue to be recognized now at the Gold level serves to reinforce the positive impact we are having. The University of West Florida continues to make dedicated efforts to support our veterans and families and this award validates this campuswide support. It is not just a catchphrase on a marketing sign - UWF really does care about our veterans and their families.”

For more than a decade, Military Friendly ratings have set the standard for companies and colleges demonstrating positive employment and education outcomes for veterans and their families. New this year, Military Friendly Awards showcase the most powerful and effective programs of more than 200 companies and 1,200 post-secondary schools that were designated as “Military Friendly” in November. Of those designated, 154 employers and 541 schools have been recognized for excellence in different categories, highlighting not only “Are you Military Friendly?” but “How Military Friendly are you?”

“All of our Military Friendly award recipients set the standard for excellence,” said Daniel Nichols, chief product officer of Victory Media and head of Military Friendly development. “They offer exceptional examples of what it means not just to build a program that meets federal requirements, but one that serves the military and veteran community from classrooms to careers.”

Award levels are defined as:

- Top 10 Gold – A ranked list of the Top 10 in a category based on a numerical score.
- Gold Medal – Schools scoring within 20 percent of the last-ranked (10th) institution.
- Silver Medal – Schools scoring within 30 percent of the last-ranked (10th) institution.
- Bronze Medal – Schools scoring within 40 percent of the last-ranked (10th) institution.

Companies and schools must have successfully completed a 2017 Military Friendly survey and been designated as a 2017 Military Friendly School or Employer to be considered for the Awards program. The names of awardees are published online and will be printed in the December issue of G.I. Jobs or Guide to Military Friendly Schools. To see a complete list of this year's award winners, or to learn more about Military Friendly ratings and how to participate, visit [militaryfriendly.com](http://militaryfriendly.com).

For more information about the UWF MVRC, visit [uwf.edu/mvrc](http://uwf.edu/mvrc).

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