

Defense Transition Assistance: Key Documents

We are finally winding down the longest period of war in our history. Combined with the cuts mandated by the 2011 Budget Control Act, this is creating the first defense downsizing since the end of the Cold War. Across the country, communities, workers and businesses dependent on Pentagon contracts are beginning to feel the effects.

The sooner they can devise strategies to make the transition to new sources of economic activity and jobs, the better off they'll be.

Here are several documents outlining strategies to get this process started, and the help that is available.

[A Comprehensive Strategy for Defense Transition Assistance](#)

This one-pager connects strategy at the federal, state and local levels.

[Framework for Defense Transition Assistance](#)

This outlines assistance from a variety of federal agencies that are available to help with the transition. It also outlines reforms that will connect the transition to the major national mission of creating a clean energy and transportation economy.

[New Tools for Defense Community Transition](#)

This fact sheet provides key information and links to resources at the federal Office of Economic Adjustment. This agency offers non-competitive transition planning grants and technical assistance to defense-dependent communities. It also serves as the central point of contact and gateway to implementation assistance from other federal agencies.

State Commissions for defense diversification planning

Several states where defense cuts will have a significant impact have begun to get ahead of the curve by setting up commissions to examine this impact and devise an effective response.

Legislation in [Connecticut](#) passed in May created such a commission, involving broad-based stakeholder participation. The Commission has already begun to meet, and will present its findings in December 2015.

In other states, including Maryland and Wisconsin, the process of creating similar commissions is underway.

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