

## Veteran Looks to Help Returning Soldiers

Biomedical equipment technician and U.S. Army veteran Josh Yielding joined MediSend's Biomedical Technology team to train biomedics for hospitals in developing nations. Starting in July, Josh will be training returning veterans in MediSend's new General Richard B. Myers Veterans Biomedical Equipment Technology Program. Having served in Iraq as a medic, Josh is aware of the challenges facing returning veterans.

I joined the Army hoping to find a career that would support a family. But after I served four years as a medic—including an Iraq deployment—I realized it was time for a change. A combat medic lacked the qualifications that I would need on the civilian side to support my family, so when my re-enlistment came up, I decided to cross-train into another field. The staff sergeant who was in charge of my aid station told me about a career field that immediately sparked my interest: biomedical equipment technician (BMET). There were slots open, so I took the opportunity and received my BMET training prior to my discharge.

Shortly before I left the military, I began looking for BMET jobs in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. I looked at the MediSend website and was impressed with its work, so I applied online. I was called in for an interview and given a tour of the laboratory and classrooms, and right away, I knew I wanted to work there.

Since 2007, MediSend has trained more than 100 BMETs and redeployed them to 17 countries worldwide—some are the first biomedical equipment techs in those countries.

Now, MediSend has launched the General Richard B. Myers Veterans Biomedical Equipment Technology Program, and I am looking forward to helping train my fellow vets. Plus, having met General Myers, I am honored to be a part of this project!

The BMET career field is growing at a fast rate and has competitive starting salaries with room to grow. The field provides an excellent opportunity for hardworking veterans to continue taking pride in what they do and be compensated well for it. My advice to returning vets is to get education and training, particularly in a career field like biomedical technology that can take them into a career, not just a job. ■



Josh Yielding

—Josh Yielding



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