

Texas Association of Collegiate Veteran Program Officials (TACVPO)

Conference Agenda, Houston, Texas

Omni Houston Hotel, 4 Riverway Drive
Houston, TX 77056



March 9 - 12, 2025

revised 11/12/2026

Tentative (Content and scheduling subject to change)

DAY/DATE/TIME

Monday, March 9		
Pre-Conference Workshops (Optional)		
9:00am - 10:00am	Introduction to TACVPO TACVPO Board	Constellation Ballroom
10:00am - 11:00am	Texas Veteran Commission (TVC) SAA 101 Texas State Approving Agency	Constellation Ballroom
11:00am - 12:00pm	Flight Program Approvals Texas State Approving Agency	Constellation Ballroom
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch on your own	
1:30pm - 3:00pm	VA Beginner SCO Training*	Constellation Ballroom
3:00pm - 4:30pm	VA Advanced SCO Training*	Constellation Ballroom
5:30pm - 7:30pm	Let's Rodeo, TACVPO Presidents Reception <i>Sponsored by: Combined Arms</i> <i>All Conference Attendees Welcome</i> <i>(hors d'oeuvres provided and cash bar)</i>	Pool Deck

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Tuesday, March 10 General Conference Sessions

7:00am - 8:00am *Breakfast on your own*

10:00am - 3:00pm *Registration*

8:00am - 5:00pm **Resource Fair**

Main Lobby

Prefunction Area

8:30am – 8:45am **Opening Ceremony**
Tila Jernigan, TACVPO President

Constellation Ballroom

8:45am – 9:45am **Keynote Speaker**
Katie Cook, Lt. Col, USMC & Former Blue Angels pilot

Rio Grande Ballroom

9:45am – 10:00am *AM Break*

Lobby

10:00am – 11:00am **Veteran Education Excellence Recognition Award (VEERA)
Award Presentations**

Constellation Ballroom

Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)

11:00am – 11:30am **Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Updates**

Constellation Ballroom

David Salgado, Director Veterans Education,
Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)

11:30am - 12:00pm **Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Updates**

Constellation Ballroom

Gabriel Lopez, Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

12:00pm - 1:00pm *Lunch*

The Landing

1:00pm – 2:00pm **Texas Workforce Commission***

Constellation Ballroom

2:00pm - 2:30pm **Combined Arms**
Johnn Smith, Southeast Texas Regional Manager

Constellation Ballroom

2:30pm - 2:45pm *PM Break*

2:45pm – 3:30pm **Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)**

Constellation Ballroom

3:30pm – 4:00pm **College Credit for Heroes**
Bob Gear, Texas Workforce Commission

Constellation Ballroom

4:00pm – 4:30pm **State VR&E**
Texas Workforce Commission

Constellation Ballroom

4:30pm – 5:00pm **Dixon Center for Military and Veteran Services**
Wendy Lang, Senior Advisor for Policy and Research

Constellation Ballroom

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Wednesday, March 11

Break Out Sessions

7:00am - 8:00am	<i>Breakfast on your own</i>	
8:00am - 5:00pm	Resource Fair	Prefunction Area
9:00am - 3:00pm	TVC Private Sessions Q&A with Texas Veterans Commission Staff	Timber Grove
8:00am – 9:00am	VA Education Updates TBD Education Service Veteran Benefits Administration	Constellation Ballroom
9:00am – 9:15am	<i>AM Break</i>	
9:15am - 10:10am	Break Out Session 1: How to build partnerships with staff and faculty that best support Veteran students Paul Calhoun, University of Houston-Downtown	River Oaks 70
	Break Out Session 2: The SVO Blueprint: Building and Sustaining Dynamic SVO's Across Texas Siara McMahon, Lone Star College	Museum Park 70
	Break Out Session 3: TBD *	Constellation Ballroom West
	Break Out Session 4: TBD *	Constellation Ballroom East
10:20am - 11:20am	Break Out Session 1: Innovative Approaches to military-connected student success * Jessica Hodges, Marissa Pina, Breanna Greer, Ontoria Robinson, and Jamie Gregory - Dallas College	River Oaks 70
	Break Out Session 2: Empowering Faculty: Implementing Green Zone Training to Support Military-Connected Students Across Campuses *Siara McMahon, Lone Star College	Museum Park 70
	Break Out Session 3: TBD *	Constellation Ballroom West
	Break Out Session 4: TBD *	Constellation Ballroom East

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11:30am - 12:30pm	Break Out Session 1: TBD	River Oaks 70
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	Break Out Session 2: TBD	Museum Park 70
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	Break Out Session 3: TBD	Constellation Ballroom West
	*	
	Break Out Session 4: TBD	Constellation Ballroom East
	*	
12:30pm - 1:45pm	Fresh & Light Buffet Lunch	Vista Ballroom
1:45pm - 2:40pm	Break Out Session 1: TBD	River Oaks 70
	*	
	Break Out Session 2: TBD	Museum Park 70
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	Break Out Session 3: TBD	Constellation Ballroom West
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	Break Out Session 4: TBD	Constellation Ballroom East
	*	
2:40pm - 3:00pm	PM Break (Take a Dip Break)	Rio Grande Lobby

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3:00pm – 3:55pm

Break Out Session 1: TBD

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Break Out Session 2: TBD*

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Break Out Session 3: TBD

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Break Out Session 4: TBD

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River Oaks 70

Museum Park 70

Constellation Ballroom
West

Constellation Ballroom
East

4:05pm – 5:00pm

Break Out Session 1: TBD

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Break Out Session 2: TBD

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Break Out Session 3: TBD

*

Break Out Session 4: TBD

*

River Oaks 70

Museum Park 70

Constellation Ballroom
West

Constellation Ballroom
East

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Thursday, March 12

8:00am - 9:30am	Working breakfast (service begins at 8:30)	Constellation Ballroom
9:30am 10:15am	Mentorship Breakout/sign ups	Constellation Ballroom
10:30am – 11:45am	TAVCPO Membership Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• President report• Treasurer report• New Direction discussion• Election of officers• By Law Review• Other New Business	Constellation Ballroom
11:45am-12:00pm	CONCLUSION – CLOSING REMARKS	Constellation Ballroom

Have a Safe Trip Home!

Post Conference

12:00pm - 1:00pm	<i>New/old officers meeting</i>	Constellation Ballroom
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