



Texas Association of Collegiate Veteran Program Officials (TACVPO) Conference Agenda, Austin, Texas

February 24-29, 2025

revised 1/6/25

Tentative (Content and scheduling subject to change)

DAY/DATE/TIME

Monday, February 24

Pre-Conference Workshops (Optional)

10:00am - 11:00am

Break Out Session 1: Introduction to TACVPO
TACVPO Board

Break Out Session 2: VA Beginner SCO Training
Sharon Coverdell, Veterans Administration

11:00am - 12:00pm

Break Out Session 1: TVC SCO 101

Break Out Session 2: Advanced SCO Training
Chelsea Jackson, Veterans Administration

2:00pm - 3:00pm

Break Out Session 1: Introduction to TACVPO
TACVPO Board

Break Out Session 2: VA Beginner SCO Training
Sharon Coverdell, Veterans Administration

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Break Out Session 1: TVC SCO 101
Courtney White, Veterans Administration

Break Out Session 2: VA Advanced SCO Training
Chelsea Jackson, Veterans Administration

2:30pm - 7:30pm

Registration Desk open

5:00pm - 7:30pm

***Meet and Greet, Networking, Social with TACVPO Board- The Paddock
All Conference Attendees Welcome!***



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Tuesday, February 25 General Conference Sessions

- 7:00am - 8:00am** *Breakfast on your own*
- 7:00am - 3:00pm** **Registration**
- 8:30am – 9:00am** **Opening Ceremony**
Tila Jernigan, TACVPO President
- 9:00am – 10:00am** **Keynote Speaker**
Dr. Robert I. Miller, Lt Gen, USAF, Ret
- 10:00am – 10:15am** *Break*
- 10:15am – 11:00am** **VEERA Awards**
Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)
- 11:00am – 11:30am** **Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Updates**
David Salgado, Director Veterans Education, Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)
- 11:30am - 12:00pm** **Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Updates**
Bob Gear, Director Texas Veterans Leadership Program,
Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)
- 12:00pm - 1:00pm** **Lunch – TBD**
- 1:00pm – 2:00pm** **Enrollment Manager and SCO Updates**
VA Central Region Compliance & Liaison Specialists
- 2:00pm - 2:45pm** **National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA)**
- 2:45pm - 3:00pm** *Break*
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm** **NVEST in Texas**
Monteigne S. Long, Texas A&M University System, Jeremiah Gunderson, University of Texas at Austin
- 3:30pm – 4:00pm** **Texas Military Department**
Texas Military Department Tuition Assistance Program
- 4:00pm – 4:30pm** **Debt Management**
VA Debt Management Center, VA Office of Management
- 4:30pm – 5:00pm** **Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)**
Chloe M. Freeman Veteran Readiness and Employment Officer Waco



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Wednesday, February 26 Break Out Sessions

7:00am - 8:00am

Breakfast on your own

7:00am - 3:00pm

Resource Fairs

9:00am - 3:00pm

TVC Private Sessions

Q&A with Texas ELR's.

9:00am - 3:00pm

VA Private Sessions

Q&A with Texas ELR's.

8:00am – 9:00am

VA Education Updates

Joseph Garcia, Executive Director, Education Service Veteran Benefits Administration

9:00am – 9:15am

Refreshment break (coffee, tea, water & fruit)

9:15am - 10:10am

Break Out Session 1: Hazlewood Act Exemption (overview)

Overview of the exemption, the statutes behind the benefit, the onus on the IHE/student/TVC, and best practices for administration.
Texas Veterans Commission

Break Out Session 2: VA Work-study Programs *

Courtney White, Veterans Administration

Break Out Session 3: Veteran Readiness and Employment Program

Chloe M. Freeman, Veteran Readiness and Employment Officer,
Waco TX

Break Out Session 4: Mo' Money, Mo' Problems

A look at the Bursar Office in Higher Education,
LeeAnn Pickett, Texas A&M University

Break Out Session 5: VHA 101 and Updates

Overview of programming, eligibility, PACT Act
Veterans Health Administration,



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- 10:20am - 11:20am**
- Break Out Session 1: Uniform Application (Accredited IHLs)**
Best practices for using the new Uniform Application for accredited IHL programs.
 - Break Out Session 2: Risk Based Surveys and Supervisory Visits***
Aerial Manning and Jennifer Linnell, Veterans Administration
 - Break Out Session 3: VITAL and SVA Partnerships**
Veterans' Health Administration, Toni Bravo-Price
 - Break Out Session 4: Enhancing Orientation Programs**
Shirley Uriostegui, Sam Houston State University
 - Break Out Session 5: TBD**
- 11:30am - 12:30pm**
- Break Out Session 1: Risk-Based Surveys (overview)**
Texas Veterans Commission Staff
 - Break Out Session 2: NCDs, What You Need to Know***
Brittany Tennant, Veterans Administration
 - Break Out Session 3: Texas Military Department**
Texas Military Department Tuition Assistance Program
 - Break Out Session 4: College Credit for Hero's**
 - Break Out Session 5: Texas Veterans Network | Combined Arms**
Patty B. Morgan, Central Texas Regional Manager
- 12:30pm - 1:45pm** **Lunch**
- 1:45pm - 2:40pm**
- Break Out Session 1: Hazlewood Act Exemption (in-depth)**
Texas Veterans Commission Staff
 - Break Out Session 2: Risk Based Surveys and Supervisory Visits ***
Veterans Administration
 - Break Out Session 3: Debt Management**
VA Debt Management Center
 - Break Out Session 4: CPL for Military and Other Adult Learners**
Toni Rico, University of Houston – Clear Lake at Pearland
 - Break Out Session 5: Flight Programs***
Heather Cates, Veterans Administration



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2:40pm - 3:00pm

Break

3:00pm – 3:55pm

Break Out Session 1: Uniform Application (Non-accredited IHLs and NCDs)

Texas Veterans Commission Staff

Break Out Session 2: VA Compliance Surveys*

Heather Cates, Veterans Administration

Break Out Session 3: Serving Texas Veteran Students: Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL)

Veterans Health Administration

Break Out Session 4: Greeks' vs Vet

Ms. Marijke Gray, UT Dallas

Break Out Session 5: Texas VRE Program

Texas Veterans Commission Staff

4:05pm – 5:00pm

Break Out Session 1: TBD

Break Out Session 2: VA Compliance Surveys*

Heather Cates, Veterans Administration

Break Out Session 3: VA Work-study Programs *

Courtney White, Veterans Administration

Break Out Session 4: Yellow Ribbon Programs*

Traveon Ward Sr, Veterans Administration



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Thursday, February 27

8:00am - 9:30am Working breakfast (service begins at 8:00)
Mentorship Breakout/sign ups

9:00am - 9:45am General Session TBD

9:45am - 10:30am General Session TBD

10:30am – 11:45am TAVCPO Membership Meeting

- President report
- Treasurer report
- New Direction discussion
- Election of officers
- By Law Review
- Other New Business

11:45am-12:00pm

CONCLUSION – CLOSING REMARKS
Have a Safe Trip Home!

Post Conference

12:00pm - 1:00pm *New/old officers meeting*

*Credit awarded for VA continuing education requirements.