

Serving Those Who Have Served:

*Career Center Services Aimed at Promoting the
Success of the Student Veteran*

Susan Keough

Associate Director, Career Center



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Agenda

- Student Veterans at-a-glance
- What is “Veteran-Friendly”?
- TAMU Veteran Demographics
- Who Serves the Veterans
- How We Serve Veterans
- Question and Answer



Student Veterans at-a-glance: Veterans Benefits

- Approx. 2 million United States soldiers, airmen, sailors, and Marines returning from wartime service
- Many enter higher education to enhance employment prospects
- More than 1 million veterans and their family members have used the post-9/11 GI Bill to attend U.S. colleges
- More than \$20 billion in benefits received



Student Veterans at-a-glance: Composition

- Typically older than traditional students and often juggle work, family, and academic responsibilities
- Student veteran challenges include:
 - academic skills,
 - lack of continuity in education,
 - physical issues,
 - psychological issues,
 - social isolation



Student Veterans at-a-glance: Transition to Civilian Life

- Student veterans often face transition issues that can include:
 - relocation,
 - loss of social support systems,
 - reintegration into civilian lifestyle,
 - different or nonexistent health care services,
 - and possibly a new job or career path
- Campus culture adjustment
 - Military Structure to Independence and Individuality
- Skills training versus academic success



Student Veterans at-a-glance: Institutional Support

- Orientation programs specific for student veterans
- Veteran support areas of consideration:
 - What financial support is available?
 - Does the school have accessible health/wellness resources on campus to support them?
 - Does the university make these students feel like they belong?
 - Are resources in place to help students succeed academically?
 - Does the university provide institutional support and resources to help them succeed as they graduate and leave campus?



What is “Veteran-Friendly”?

- 1) Create a culture of trust and connectedness across campus to promote veteran success
- 2) Implement early alert systems to ensure veterans receive career, academic, and financial advice before challenges become overwhelming
- 3) Coordinate and centralize campus efforts for veterans
- 4) Collaborate with local communities and organizations to coordinate services for veterans



Who We Serve at Texas A&M University

- Campus Statistics
 - 68,000+ students
 - 20% graduate/professional school students
 - 1,200+ Student Veterans
 - 50%+ graduate/professional school students
 - #1 School Nationwide for Veterans
 - 80+ Survivors
 - 2,500+ Military Dependents
 - 500+ TAMU Faculty/Staff Veterans



Who Serves at Texas A&M University

- Career Center
 - Campus Programs
 - Career Coordinators/Advisors by Major and Program
 - Professional School Advising
 - Former Student (Alumni) Services
 - Employer Services
 - Includes 1 Associate Director who is a Veteran
 - Liaison Dedicated to Veteran Resource & Support Center
 - Website – HireAggies.com
 - Specific Section for Veterans
 - » Military Translators, Resume Templates, Campus Contacts



Who Serves at Texas A&M University

- Career Center
 - Centralized for Texas A&M University Campus
 - 16,100 Advising Contacts
 - 300 Student Veterans
 - 900+ Programs/Events with more than 60,000 Attendees
 - 27,000 Profiles in HireAggies
 - 650+ Student Veteran Profiles
 - 4,600+ Recruiting Organizations
 - Specific Veteran Recruitment Programs
 - 19,700 Campus Interviews
 - Involvement in 25+ Career Fairs per Semester
 - Including Veteran Career Fair



Who Serves at Texas A&M University

Veteran Resource & Support Center (VRSC)

- Centralized for the TAMU Campus
 - Full Time Staff
 - 7 Veterans
- Military Admissions
 - 2 full time dedicated staff
 - Working with over 2100+ prospective student veterans
- Vet Success on Campus (VSOC)
 - A VA Program
- Veteran Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL)
 - New VA Program at TAMU



How We Serve

- Career Center and VRSC Collaboration
 - Employing Organization Strategy Meetings
 - Data Collection and Reporting
 - Website/Social Media
 - Combined Programs and Events
 - Employment & Career Program
 - Vet Camp
 - Presentations to Stakeholders for each Office
 - Career Exploration Days



How We Serve

- Collaboration is Key – Troops2College
 - Colleges and Academic Programs
 - Veteran Designated Academic Class Program
 - Admissions
 - Financial Aid (VSO)
 - Academic Success Center
 - Student Health Services
 - Students with Disabilities
 - Counseling Services
 - Student Programs
 - Career Center
 - Veteran Research and Assessment Coalition
 - Coalition of Brazos Valley Veteran Organizations



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Questions?

Susan Keough

Associate Director, TAMU Career Center
skeough@tamu.edu



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