



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

February 24-29, 2025

revised 2/12/2025

Tentative (Content and scheduling subject to change)

DAY/DATE/TIME

Monday, February 24 Pre-Conference Workshops (Optional)		
9:00am - 10:00am	Introduction to TACVPO TACVPO Board	Trinity/Virtual
10:00am - 11:00am	Texas Veteran Commission (TVC) SCO 101	Trinity/Virtual
11:00am - 12:00pm	Texas Veteran Commission (TVC) SAA 101	Trinity/Virtual
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Deli Lunch Provided	Vistas Ballroom
1:00pm - 2:30pm	VA Beginner SCO Training* Sharon Coverdell, Veterans Administration	Trinity/Virtual
2:30pm - 5:00pm	Registration Desk Open	Main Lobby
3:00pm - 4:30pm	VA Advanced SCO Training* Chelsea Jackson, Veterans Administration	Trinity/Virtual
5:30pm - 7:30pm	Presidents Reception with TACVPO Board All Conference Attendees Welcome (hors d'oeuvres provided and cash bar)	TBD



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Tuesday, February 25 General Conference Sessions

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

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

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

Main Lobby

Rio Grande Ballroom

8:30am – 8:45am **Opening Ceremony**

Tila Jernigan, TACVPO President

Rio Grande Ballroom

8:45am – 9:45am **Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Robert I. Miller, Lt Gen, USAF, Ret

Rio Grande Ballroom

9:45am – 10:00am *AM Break (Bagels & Beverages)*

Rio Grande Lobby

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

Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)

Rio Grande Ballroom

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

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

Rio Grande Ballroom

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

Gabriel Lopez, Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

Rio Grande Ballroom

12:00pm - 1:00pm *Tex Mex Buffet Lunch*

Vista Ballroom

1:00pm – 2:00pm **Enrollment Manager***

Shay Norton-Leonard, VA National Training Team

Rio Grande Ballroom

2:00pm - 2:45pm **National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA)**

Rebecca Ryan and Lily Snyder

Rio Grande Ballroom

2:45pm - 3:00pm *PM Break (Treat & Beverages)*

Rio Grande Lobby

3:00pm – 3:30pm **NVEST in Texas**

Monteigne S. Long, Texas A&M University System, Jeremiah
Gunderson, University of Texas at Austin

Rio Grande Ballroom

3:30pm – 4:00pm **Texas Military Department**

Texas Military Department Tuition Assistance Program

Rio Grande Ballroom

4:00pm – 4:30pm **Debt Management**

Nicole Haselberger, Assistant Chief, Education and External Relations,
VA Debt Management

Rio Grande Ballroom

4:30pm – 5:00pm **Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)**

Chloe M. Freeman, Veteran Readiness and Employment Officer Waco

Rio Grande Ballroom



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Wednesday, February 26		Break Out Sessions
7:00am - 8:00am	<i>Breakfast on your own</i>	
8:00am - 5:00pm	Resource Fair	Rio Grande
9:00am - 3:00pm	TVC Private Sessions Q&A with Texas Veterans Commission Staff	Pecos
8:00am – 9:00am	VA Education Updates TBD Education Service Veteran Benefits Administration	Rio Grande Ballrooms/Virtual
9:00am – 9:15am	<i>AM Break (Breakfast Tacos & Beverages)</i>	<i>Rio Grande Lobby</i>
9:15am - 10:10am	Break Out Session 1: Hazlewood Act Exemption – Overview/New-hire Briefing	Rio Grande 1
	Break Out Session 2: VA 85/15 * VA Staff TBD	Trinity/Virtual
	Break Out Session 3: Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Chloe M. Freeman Veteran Readiness and Employment Officer Waco	Rio Grande 2/Virtual
	Break Out Session 4: Decoding Debt Letters: A Guide for Universities LeeAnn Pickett, Texas A&M University	Comal
	Break Out Session 5: Valor Reuben Aleman, University of Texas at San Antonio	Brazos/Virtual
10:20am - 11:20am	Break Out Session 1: Uniform Application (Accredited IHLs) Texas Veterans Commission Staff	Rio Grande 1
	Break Out Session 2: AC&L On the Road Again* Airial Manning and Jennifer Linnell, Veterans Administration	Trinity/Virtual
	Break Out Session 3: VITAL and SVA Partnerships Toni Bravo-Price, Veterans' Health Administration	Rio Grande 2/Virtual
	Break Out Session 4: Enhancing Orientation Programs Shirley Uriostegui and Megan St. Vigne, Sam Houston State University	Comal
	Break Out Session 5: Vocational Rehabilitation: Empowering Students with Disabilities through Training and Employment Services, Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services	Brazos/Virtual



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11:30am - 12:30pm	Break Out Session 1: Risk Based Surveys and Supervisory Visits	Rio Grande 1
	Texas Veterans Commission Staff	
	Break Out Session 2: VA Compliance Surveys*	Trinity/Virtual
	Heather Cates, Veterans Administration	
	Break Out Session 3: Texas Military Department	Rio Grande 2/Virtual
	Texas Military Department Tuition Assistance Program	
	Break Out Session 4: Where's the Syllabus? Rethinking the Evaluation of Military Credits in Comparison to Traditional Credits	Comal
	Toni Rocha Rico, University of Houston at Clear Lake	
	Break Out Session 5: NCDs, What You Need to Know*	Brazos/Virtual
	Brittany Tennant, Veterans Administration	
12:30pm - 1:45pm	Fresh & Light Buffet Lunch	Vista Ballroom
1:45pm - 2:40pm	Break Out Session 1: Hazlewood Act Exemption (in-depth)	Rio Grande 1
	Texas Veterans Commission Staff	
	Break Out Session 2: AC&L On the Road Again*	Trinity/Virtual
	Airial Manning and Jennifer Linnell, Veterans Administration	
	Break Out Session 3: Debt Management	Rio Grande 2/Virtual
	Nicole Haselberger, VA Debt Management Center	
	Break Out Session 4: Texas Veterans Network Combined Arms	Comal
	Patty B. Morgan, Central Texas Regional Manager	
	Break Out Session 5: Flight Programs*	Brazos/Virtual
	Heather Cates, Veterans Administration	
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: Uniform Application (Non-accredited IHLs and NCDs) Texas Veterans Commission Staff	Rio Grande 1
	Break Out Session 2: VA Compliance Surveys* Heather Cates, Veterans Administration	Trinity/Virtual
	Break Out Session 3: VA Work-study Programs * Kevin White, Veterans Administration	Rio Grande 2/Virtual
	Break Out Session 4: Greeks' vs Vet Ms. Marijke Gray, Ms. Badic-Grady and Clifton Bland University of Texas at Dallas	Comal
	Break Out Session 5: Yellow Ribbon Programs* Traveon Ward Sr, Veterans Administration	Brazos/Virtual
4:05pm – 5:00pm	Break Out Session 1: Texas VR&E (B) Arthur Jones, Texas Workforce Commission	Rio Grande 1
	Break Out Session 2: VA Work-study Programs * Kevin White, Veterans Administration	Trinity/Virtual
	Break Out Session 3: Building a Better Credit Mousetrap: Credentials for Heroes Mitch Seal, Fayetteville State University	Rio Grande 2/Virtual
	Break Out Session 4: TACVPO Mentorship Program Jessica Hodges, Dallas College	Comal
	Break Out Session 5: Serving Texas Veteran Students: Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) Kira Harris, Veterans' Health Administration	Brazos/Virtual



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Thursday, February 27

8:00am - 9:30am	Working breakfast (service begins at 8:30)	<i>Rio Grande Ballroom</i>
9:30am 10:15am	Mentorship Breakout/sign ups	<i>Rio Grande Ballroom</i>
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	<i>Rio Grande Ballroom</i>
11:45am-12:00pm	CONCLUSION – CLOSING REMARKS Have a Safe Trip Home!	Rio Grande Ballroom

Post Conference

12:00pm - 1:00pm	<i>New/old officers meeting</i>	Rio Grande Ballroom
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*May be held virtually, credit awarded for VA continuing education requirements.