

Student Veterans of America® (SVA) elevates the academic, professional, and personal development of veterans in higher education through chapter programs and services, outcomes and impacts research, and advocacy at every level. With a mission focused on empowering student veterans, SVA is committed to providing an educational experience that goes beyond the classroom. SVA is a dedicated network nearly 1,500 on-campus chapters in all 50 states and three countries overseas, representing more than 750,000 student veterans.

Our Vision

Empowering student veterans to lead and live their best lives.

Our Mission

Act as a catalyst for student veteran success by providing resources, network support, and advocacy to, through, and beyond higher education.

Programs & Chapter Services



Regional Summits - prior to each academic year, we train new chapter leaders on the strategic planning and development of their chapter as well as deliver role-specific workshops with all leadership (officer) positions and advisors, providing an additional network for chapter leaders.

Washington Week - As an integral part of our advocacy work, student veterans join the SVA team in Washington, D.C. as we deliver our policy priorities to a joint meeting of the House and Senate Veteran Affairs Committees. Student veterans then meet with members of Congress and their staff to discuss issues relevant to them and their chapters.

Leadership Institute - Each fall, we invite the top one percent of chapter leaders to Washington, D.C., to participate in a foundational and transformative leadership development program designed to push student veterans into discovering their own identities as leaders as they move into the civilian workforce.

National Conference - NatCon The academic year is bifurcated by the largest gathering of student veterans anywhere in the world meant to train chapters and stakeholders on salient topics, convene our network for the sharing of ideas and resources, and reframe the possible for student veterans given their experiences and the transformative power of education.

Government Affairs

The mission of SVA's Government Affairs Department is to shape policy proposals and regulations on behalf of veterans in pursuit of career advancement through higher education.

Federal Legislative - Maintain and grow the frequency of SVA subject matter expert testimony, grow relationships with individual member offices and committees, strengthen and cultivate collaboration with other veteran and military serving organizations, grow participation in the Policy Liaison Program (PLP), and host roundtables and briefings to further influence federal policy.

Federal Executive - Maintain open-door engagement with the White House leading through to the next administration. Deepen agency relationships. Add program-specific engagements with the executive branch via NatCon, Leadership Institute, Washington Week, VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship, and more.

On Campus - Support chapters and campuses through roundtable discussions, grassroots advocacy, and 'peer champions', and strengthen student government relationships and influence across the network. Provide an avenue for student veterans to discuss barriers and challenges that direct influence SVA's policy priorities.



Research



SVA fills the gaps in the understanding of the student veteran population through data sharing including salient concerns, demographics, national-level student veteran outcomes, and the institutional role in student veteran success, as well as learning and measurement of SVA programs and services for continual delivery improvement.



SVA has developed and continues to explore student veteran decision-making from pre-enlistment to career decisions to better serve the population. This understanding has assisted federal agencies as well as state agencies, colleges and universities, and corporate partners.



Lifestyle and well-being surveys help SVA predict the upcoming needs of student veterans and their families. SVA then uses these predictions to create programming to support the changing needs of the population as well as to support the government affairs department in any legislative solutions to these needs.

Through a dedicated network of campus-based chapters across the country, SVA aims to inspire yesterday's warriors by connecting student veterans with a community of like-minded chapter leaders. Every day our organization works to provide the necessary resources, network support, and advocacy to ensure student veterans can effectively connect, expand their skills, and ultimately achieve their greatest potential.