
Event Agenda

Annual AVECO Conference: Wings for the Future, Empowering Veterans Education

Sunday, July 13, 2025

- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM** **Exhibitor Set Up**
Location: Foyer A
- 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM** **AVECO Office Open**
Location: Regency Ballroom C

Monday, July 14, 2025

- 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM** **Represent Your Clique**
Location: N/A
- 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM** **A60-Morning Mind and Body Movement-Low Impact**
Location: Midway 5
Speaker: Darrel Yates
- 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM** **Morning Joe**
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM** **AVECO Office Open**
Location: Regency Ballroom C
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM** **Champion's Lounge - AVECO State Cup Winner**
Location: Station Master
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM** **Exhibitor Tables Open**
Location: Foyer A
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM** **Speaker Ready Room (Speakers Only)**
Location: Regency Ballroom C
- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM** **Opening Ceremony**
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: Kenneth Smith, Everett Jackson, Kacie Campbell, Andrea Wheeler
- 9:30 AM - 9:45 AM** **AVECO Beverage Break**
- 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM** **Federal Updates**
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speaker: Kenneth Smith ; Moderator: Andrea Wheeler
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM** **Professional Headshot Lounge**
Location: Regency Ballroom C
- 10:45 AM - 11:00 AM** **Break**

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Breakout Sessions

Advanced IHL/NCD SCO Bootcamp (Virtual Option)

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: Sharon Coverdell, Toby Frevert

Beginner IHL/NCD SCO Bootcamp (Virtual Option)

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom A
Speakers: Heather Cates, Stesha Colby-Lynch

OJT Apprenticeship SCO Bootcamp (Virtual Option)

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom A
Speakers: Michelle Hill, Torrence Joseph, Ed Godfrey

Flight Bootcamp

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom B
Speakers: Sarah Helmick, Karol Scheetz

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch On Your Own

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Breakout Sessions

Advanced IHL/NCD SCO Bootcamp Continued (Virtual Option)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: Sharon Coverdell, Toby Frevert

Non College Degree: Certification Process (Virtual Option)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom A
Speakers: Chelsea Jackson, Melinda McIntosh

Compliance Survey

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom A
Speakers: Sarah Daughton, Josh Martin, Danielle Downs

2:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Break

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM

Breakout Sessions

Advanced IHL/NCD SCO Bootcamp Continued (Virtual Option)

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: Sharon Coverdell, Toby Frevert

Non College Degree: Certification Process Continued

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom A
Speakers: Chelsea Jackson, Melinda McIntosh

Compliance Survey Continued

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom A
Speakers: Sarah Daughton, Josh Martin, Danielle Downs

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Speed Networking - Virtual Meet and Greet

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

SAA Connection Hour

SAA Connection Hour: Maryland

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom C
Speaker: Everett Jackson

SAA Connection Hour: Illinois

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom A
Speakers: Jayson Hoffman, Enrique Cabrera, Andy Pieper, Tiffany Perry

SAA Connection Hour: Kansas

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Midway 6
Speakers: Lori Thompson, Brigette Hayes

SAA Connection Hour: Texas

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom A
Speakers: Eric Aguilar, Pedro Saldana, William Dwiggin

SAA Connection Hour: Minnesota

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Midway 1
Speakers: Ed Godfrey, Tony Schnellbach

SAA Connection Hour: Missouri

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: James Henley, Rachael Summary, Scott Watson, Sharon Sawyer

SAA Connection Hour: South Carolina

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Midway 2
Speaker: Frank Myers

SAA Connection Hour: Louisiana

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom C
Speakers: Cleophus Wallace, Torrence Joseph

SAA Connection Hour: Kentucky

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Midway 3
Speaker: Gwen Hacker

SAA Connection Hour: Ohio

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom B
Speaker: Karol Scheetz

SAA Connection Hour: Georgia

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Midway 4
Speakers: Lily Snyder, Lily Snyder

SAA Connection Hour: Michigan

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom B
Speakers: Shaftone Dunklin, Jacob Schrot

SAA Connection Hour: Arkansas

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom C

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Attendee Welcome Social

Location: Hotel Lobby

7:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Dinner on Your Own

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

6:00 AM - 4:00 PM

2025 Conference T-Shirt Day

Location: TBD

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

A60-Morning Mind and Body Movement with Minimal Increase in Intensity

Location: Midway 5
Speaker: Darrel Yates

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Morning Joe

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

AVECO Office Open (Virtual Option)

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Champion's Lounge - AVECO State Cup Winner

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Speaker Ready Room (Speakers Only)

Location: Regency Ballroom C

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Exhibitor Tables Open

Location: Foyer A

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Round Table - Virtual

Speakers: Toby Frevert, Kimberly Archer, Melinda McIntosh

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Breakout Sessions

Yellow Ribbon (Virtual Option)

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F

Speakers: Sharon Coverdell, Stesha Colby-Lynch

OJT Round Table

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Regency Ballroom A

Speakers: Shannon James, Jenny Brashier

Fueling Your SVA Chapter Success and Legislative Landscape

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Grand Ballroom B

Speakers: Faisal Sulman, Kari Mickinkle

NCD Deep Dive: Admissions and Prior Credit Policy and Practices

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Grand Ballroom A

Speaker: Michelle Hill

The Historical Architecture Presentation

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Regency Ballroom B

Speakers: Kimberly Archer, Darlene Menietti

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Break

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Breakout Sessions

Work Study (Virtual Option)

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F

Speakers: Courtney White, Stesha Colby-Lynch

Best Practices - Community Collaboration-Schools working together on Projects and Programs for Student Veterans and the Greater Community

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Location: Regency Ballroom A

Speakers: Natalie Woodhurst, Thomas Reagan, Shari Ruehling, Kari Mickinkle

Exterior Tour and Railroad History (Walking tour)

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Location: Grand Ballroom C

Speakers: Kimberly Archer, Darlene Menietti

OJT Apprenticeship Peer Led

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Location: Grand Ballroom B

Speakers: Jenny Brashier, Melinda McIntosh

From Degrees to OJT: The Link Between School and Employment

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Location: Grand Ballroom A

Speakers: Michelle Hill, Torrence Joseph

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Professional Headshot Lounge

Location: Regency Ballroom C

11:15 AM - 11:30 AM

Break

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Breakout Session

Debt Management Center (Virtual Option)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: Nicole Haselberger, Sarah Helmick, Dawn M. Eggers

FAQ OJT & Apprenticeship

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom B
Speakers: Michelle Hill, Torrence Joseph, Ed Godfrey

Green Zone Ally Training - Becoming an Ally to the Veteran and Military Community

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom A
Speakers: Josiah Guthland, Shannon James

Planting Seeds for Success: Optimizing VITAL Partnerships to Support Veteran and Military Affiliated Populations in Colleges and Universities

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom A
Speakers: Mia Garcia-Hills, Shankar Peterson, Kimberly Archer, Donna Crossman

Warrior-Scholar: Military to College: How We Can Support Students, Together

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom B
Speakers: Lisa Stein, Sheri Gross

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

AVECO Sponsored Lunch

Lunch Keynote Speaker

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: Sal Gonzalez, Sheri Gross

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Fireside Chat - Beyond the Uniform: Breaking Mental Health Stigmas for Veterans and Their Families

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Moderator: Sheri Gross ; Speakers: Fitha Dahana-Ellis, Sal Gonzalez, Michael O'Connell

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM

Break

3:15 PM - 3:50 PM

AVECO Business Meeting

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F

Member Photo

3:45 PM - 3:50 PM
Location: Midway

3:50 PM - 4:00 PM

Break

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Approvals & Supervisory Visits

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speaker: Rebecca Ryan ; Moderator: Toby Frevert

5:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Dinner On Your Own

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Candlelight Yoga with Veterans Yoga Project

Location: Midway 7
Speakers: Sarah Jo Lively, Samanvaya Elliott

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

A60 - Morning Mind and Body Movement - Increased Intensity intervals

Location: Midway 5
Speaker: Darrel Yates

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Morning Joe

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

AVECO Office Open

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Champion's Lounge - AVECO State Cup Winner

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	<p>Speaker Ready Room (Speakers Only) Location: Regency Ballroom C</p>
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	<p>Exhibitor Tables Open Location: Foyer A</p>
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	<p>Enrollment Manager Location: Grand Ballroom D-F Speakers: Shay Norton-Leonard, Fahtimah Momdo ; Moderator: Danielle Downs</p>
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	<p>Break</p>
9:15 AM - 10:45 AM	<p>ArmyIgnitED Location: Grand Ballroom D-F Speakers: Jacquie Smith-Morris, Stephanie Kahne ; Moderator: Shannon James</p>
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<p>Professional Headshot Lounge Location: Regency Ballroom C</p>
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	<p>Break</p>
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<p>Risk Based Survey Location: Grand Ballroom D-F Speakers: Rebecca Ryan, Frank Myers ; Moderator: Andrea Wheeler</p>
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<p>Lunch On Your Own</p>
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<p>Breakout Sessions</p> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 10px;"> <p>NCD Deep Dive-Attendance and Student Progress 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Location: Regency Ballroom B Speaker: Michelle Hill</p> <p>Education Benefits at a Glance (1606, 31, 35, etc.) 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Location: Grand Ballroom A Speakers: Torrence Joseph, Shannon James</p> <p>Best Practices - Empowering Institutions for Veterans Education 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Location: Grand Ballroom D-F Speakers: Breanna Greer, Gerald Andrews, Jessica Hodges, Kimberly Archer, Marissa Pina, Ontoria Robinson</p> <p>Operationalizing Mind-Body Resilience: Trauma-Informed Practices for Veterans and Those Who Serve Them 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Location: Regency Ballroom A Speakers: Sarah Lively, Sheri Gross</p> </div>
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	<p>Break</p>

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM

Breakout Sessions

Did you know OJT/Apprenticeship (Virtual Option)

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speakers: Melinda McIntosh, Torrence Joseph

Learning From Eisenhower's Tenure as President of Columbia University: Advice, Inspiration, and Goals for Today's Higher Ed Professionals

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom B
Speakers: Stesha Colby-Lynch, Cory Baker

AVECO Legislation Session

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom B
Speaker: Michelle Hill

Best Practices Student Panel (Virtual Option)

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Regency Ballroom A
Speakers: Kari Mickinkle, Raul (Rudy) Rosique, Zachary Wehr, Holden Music

Best Practices - Enhancing Student Success in Part 141 IHL Professional Flight Programs

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
Location: Grand Ballroom A
Speakers: Maryshay Ray, Sheri Gross

3:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Break

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Virtual Networking Session

Speakers: Toby Frevert, Kimberly Archer, Melinda McIntosh

5:00 PM - 10:30 PM

Special Event - AVECO Glow Party

Location: Midway 9

Dinner Buffet

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Location: Midway 10

Glow Party

6:30 PM - 10:30 PM
Location: Midway 9

Thursday, July 17, 2025

7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Throwback Thursday

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

A60 - Morning Mind and Body Movement - High Impact intervals

Location: Midway 5

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Farewell Breakfast

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

AVECO Office Open

Location: Regency Ballroom C

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Luggage Storage

Location: Regency Ballroom C

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Exhibitor Tables Open

Location: Foyer A

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

System Breakouts

Colleague System Breakout

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Location: Grand Ballroom C
Speaker: Danielle Downs

Banner System Breakout

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speaker: Sarah Helmick

PeopleSoft System Breakout

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Location: Regency Ballroom B
Speaker: Toby Frevert

Homegrown/Other System Breakout

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Location: Regency Ballroom A
Speaker: Stesha Colby-Lynch

Salesforce System Breakout

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Location: Grand Ballroom A
Speaker: Melinda McIntosh

Workday System Breakout

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Location: Grand Ballroom B
Speaker: Kimberly Archer

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Virtual Round Table

Speakers: Toby Frevert, Kimberly Archer, Melinda McIntosh

9:00 AM - 9:15 AM

Break

9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

Chapter 31 - VRE

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Moderator: Sarah Helmick ; Speakers: Nick Pamperin, Bettye Hodge

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM

Just Cinda: IYKYK

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F
Speaker: Cinda Quattrini ; Moderator: Kari Mickinkle

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Closing Session

Location: Grand Ballroom D-F