

UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON
VETERAN SERVICES

OUR MISSION

UH Veteran Services recognizes the importance of providing our unwavering **SUPPORT** and **ADVOCACY** to our Active Military, Student Veterans, and their Dependents to help foster **SUCCESS** in their academic, personal, and career goals. UH Veteran Services will accomplish this mission through education, collaboration, and outreach, utilizing all available resources within and outside of the University of Houston.



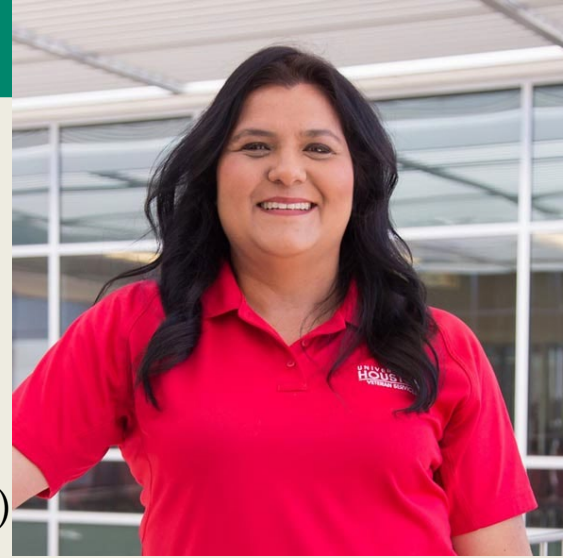
OUR VISION

UH VS will provide Our Military-Connected Students with the highest level of **SUPPORT** and **DEDICATION**, **FOSTERING PERSONAL GROWTH** and **ACADEMIC SUCCESS** through graduation and rewarding careers. In doing so, we will strive to be a **BENCHMARK INSTITUTE** and a **LEADER** in Military Connected Student support and advocacy.

ACCOMPLISHING OUR MISSION

✓ Professional Staff

- Program Director, Celina Dugas
- Assistant Program Director, Lakeshia Villegas
- Program Manager, Vacant
- AIMS Case Manager: Vacant
- Veterans Administration (VA) *VetSuccess* on Campus (VSOC) Counselor, Shannon Dawson



✓ VA Peer Counselors

VA funded work-study positions

✓ GSSW Social Work Interns ✓ Student Veterans of America

Our campus Veteran Student's Organization



✓ Campus & Community Partners

Dedication and selflessness of our campus and community partners

UH GOALS & DSA Strategic Initiatives

- ✓ **Student Success**
 - Fostering Student Engagement
 - Achieving Top 50 Status
- ✓ **Nationally Competitive Research**
- ✓ **Social Responsibility**
- ✓ **Competitive Funding**



KEY PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Computer Lab



Printing Services



Study Area

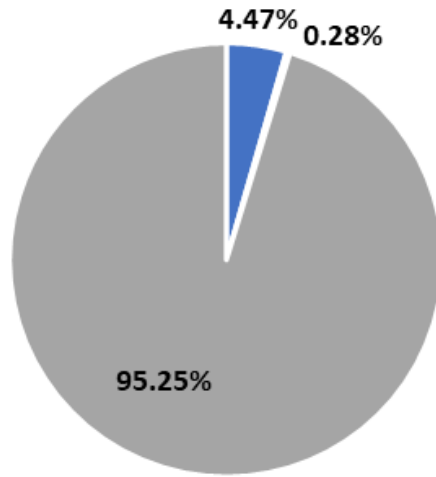


Meeting Space

We provide a **CASUAL, FAMILIAR, AND COMFORTABLE SPACE** for students to study, relax, and network with their peers fostering camaraderie and student engagement.

Veteran Services Budget

FY 25 Budget



■ Private Donations/Gifts ■ Scholarships ■ Student Service Fee

Type of Fund	FY 25 Budget
Private Donations/Gifts	4.47%
Scholarships	0.28%
Student Service Fee	95.25%
Grand Total	100.00%

Student Service Fee Prior Year and Current Year Budget and Actuals

Budget Node	FY24 Budget	FY24 Actuals	Variance	FY25 Budget
Salary and Wage	\$ 269,896	\$ 242,758	\$ 27,138	\$ 266,311
Maintenance & Ops	37,976	40,541	(2,565)	54,802
Travel & Business	26,500	19,706	6,794	-
Admin Charges	15,802	18,180	(2,378)	19,544
TOTAL	\$ 350,174	\$ 321,185	\$ 28,989	\$ 340,657

FY24 Additional OT Request

FY25 OT Request



Veteran Services
Division of Student Affairs

Introduces New Programming for 2023- 2024



AIMS

Academic Integration for
Military-Affiliated Scholars



Veteran Services
Division of Student Affairs

We are excited to share our plans for a new Veteran Services program, AIMS: Academic Integration for Military-Affiliated Scholars. This initiative aims to support and guide our military-affiliated student community as they transition into higher education by ensuring successful social, academic, and institutional integration. We kindly request one-time funding support to ensure this program's successful launch. This financial assistance will enable us to hire a dedicated graduate assistant who will play a pivotal role in the program's implementation, contributing to our veteran students' academic success and well-being.

Your support would empower our military-affiliated scholars and strengthen our commitment to their educational journey. We believe that with your assistance, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of these deserving students.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to discussing this proposal further and providing additional details about the AIMS program.

Summary of Request for this additional One-Time Allocation

Request for 2024 Graduate Assistantship Position: \$17,335.92

Fringe: \$173.36

6% admin fee \$1051

Total: \$18,561

Request	
Graduate Assistantship Position: 12-month appointment	\$18,561

How Did We Do Since the Last time We were Here.

- **Goal 1: Student Success Programming**
 - **Description:** Veteran Services will implement and sustain a student success program aimed at providing support to our most vulnerable students.
 - Developed Position AIMS Coordinator: Interviewed Candidates and Selected a Candidate: Start date pending
 - Sent out Invitations to 586 Newly admitted Military Affiliated Students to assess interest for Beginning Cohorts, with approximately 10% response rate.
 - Began planning for a Spring 2025 implementation

FY25 OT Request for Programming



To ensure that we can sustain the high-level support for our Military-Connected Student Population, Veteran Services is seeking SFAC's ongoing support and a one-time allocation to cover our programming expenses. This request is in response to the growing demand for programming from our military-connected student community. With the ongoing reduction of troops involved in overseas war efforts and the University of Houston's increasing popularity as a top choice for military personnel, veterans, and their dependents, we anticipate a continuous rise in the numbers we serve. We are enthusiastic and prepared to meet the challenge of guiding our Military-Connected population toward success.

Summary of Request One-Time Allocation Request FY 2025
Continued one-time for VS Core Programming \$55,000.00
6% admin Charge: \$3300
Total: \$58,300

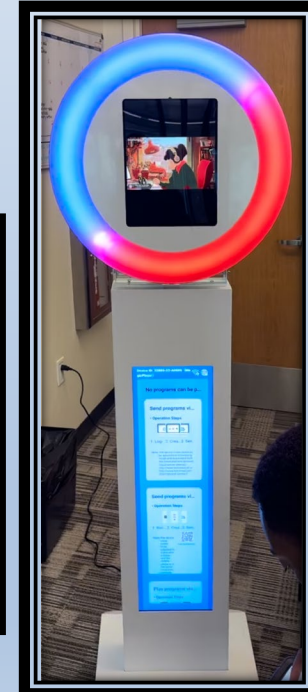
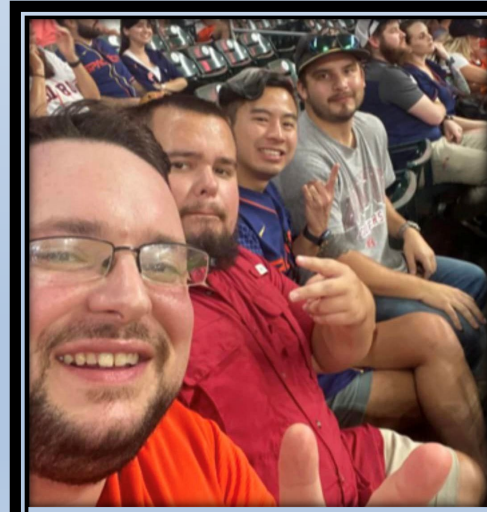
VS Annual Programming	Cost:
Student Success Programming: AIMS Supplies/ Marketing	\$2000
"Mil Connected Student Transition focused programming" Orientation Support: Marketing, Supplies, Cougar Red Friday	\$2000
Division Student Support Collaboration w/Division Partners: Wednesday Lunches/ DOS/ ISSSO/ SC North Block Party	\$3500
Recruitment Activities: Marketing materials, travel, etc.	\$1000
Weeks of Welcome Programming: Commuter Cook-Off/ Welcome Breakfast, Family Weekend, etc. Food/ Marketing Swag/ supplies	\$3500
Career Programming: Lunch & Learns, Corporate Collaboration	\$1000
Combined Campus Collaborations (fresh check, National night out, various other events)	\$1000
Cultural Competency Training	\$500
VS Snack Pantry	\$2000
Student Services: Printing/Computer lab/ Lounge M&O	\$3000
Staff Training Meetings	\$1000
Student Staff Development and Training	\$2500
Green Zone	\$500
Internal/ external awareness training Sexual Assault Prevention, Suicide Prevention, Mental Health Awareness, Women in combat, Black History, LGBTQ	\$500

Graduation Events: expanding to include Dependents Spring and Fall Cording Ceremonies: Reception/ Coins/ Cords/ Stoles & Supplies	\$8000
9/11 memorial Events / Student leadership luncheon	\$5000
Veteran-Specific Programming Veterans Day: Luncheon, Activities, Supplies Memorial Day Service Appreciation Days	\$6,000
Student Leadership Conference / Development Programs: Travel/ Conference Fees/ Lodging for Students and Staff: National Conference	\$12,000

Success



KEY PROGRAMS & SERVICES





TOTAL MILITARY AFILIATED: 3079

Veterans: 1202

Dependents: 1877



AVERAGE GPA: 3.156



TOTAL CENTER UTILIZATION

16854



MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT COMMUNITY

Fall 2016

Military Connected
Students: 2193
Average GPA: 2.991

Fall 2017

Military Connected Students: 2994
Average GPA: 3.010

Fall 2018

Military Connected Students: 2976
Average GPA: 3.071
2% Increase in GPA

Fall 2019

Military Connected Students: 2995
1184 Veterans 1811 Dependents
Average GPA for Student Veterans 3.114

FALL 2020

Military Connected 2982
1152 Student Veterans
1830 military dependents
Average GPA: 3.178

FALL 2021

Total Military Connected: 2894
1789 Dependents
1105 Student Veterans
Average GPA: 3.234

FALL 2022

Total Military Connected: 2785
1729 Dependents
1056 Student Veterans
Average GPA: 3.103

FALL 2023

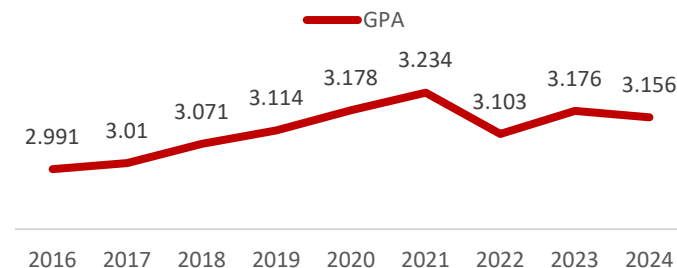
Total Military Connected: 2986
1630 Dependents
1356 Student Veterans
Average GPA: 3.176

FALL 2024

Total Military Connected: 3079
1877 Dependents
1202 Student Veterans
Average GPA: 3.156



Average Veteran GPA





FALL 23 AND SPRING 24 GRADUATION STOLE AND CORDING CEREMONY

SPRING: 45 Veterans Received Stoles

41 Dependents Received Cords

300 friends and Family

FALL: 52 Veterans Received Stoles

38 Dependents Received Cords

350 friends and Family

826 TOTAL ATTENDANCE FOR 2023-2024

22-23 Attendance: 553

23-24 Attendance: 826

For a 39.6% Increase

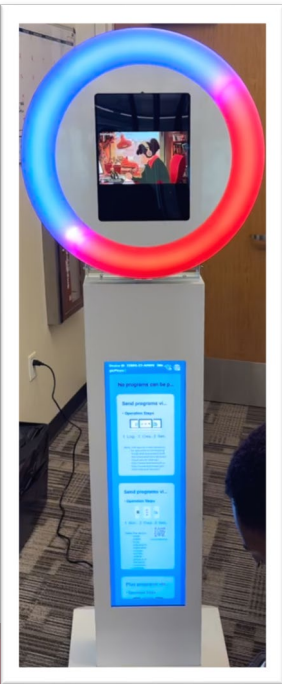


UH Veteran Services Helps Battle Food Insecurity with a Heartfelt Initiative



Providing Healthy Snacks and Food to help battle food insecurity and increase a sense of belonging

- Focused on reorganizing our FTE and on Hiring the right staff to do the job
- Increased visibility on campus
- Increased Collaborative efforts with DSA/Portfolio Partners



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TARGETED EMAIL OUTREACH

60,221



TOTAL EVENT ENGAGEMENT

10,561



TOTAL STAFF ADVOCACY

5373

Programming
Budget: \$45,000
10,561 = \$4.26
per student

POSITIVE
VIBES ONLY



Veteran Services	Total Engagement Numbers for 2022-2023
Total Annual Face to Face Engagement	Includes Event attendance and individual advocacy 8323
27 % Increase	
Office Utilization	Includes the number of times students checked in the office 16189
4 % Increase	
Virtual Office Utilization	Includes the number of times a student entered the virtual office for virtual assistance 282
Targeted Communications	Includes the number of emails or texts sent from VS to Military Affiliated Students on Campus 33,500
57 % Increase	

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Developing our Student Leaders

Strategic Initiatives: (Enhance Student Engagement, Achieving Top 50 Status, Enhancing Student Learning through Student Worker Program)

- 17,800 hours of worked by Student Workers in the Peer Role and \$129,050 paid by VA for Student Worker wages.
- Students developed our Online Orientation, Virtual Offices Space, Conducted interviews for other student Staff, organized virtual programming, and Provided crucial support of VS office when we have been short staffed.

Semester	Number of Student Staff	Hours Worked/per semester	Dollars Paid per Semester by VA
Fall 2023	20	8000	\$58,000
Spring 2024	19	7600	\$55,100
Summer 2024	8	2200	\$15,950
Total:	47	17,800	\$129,050

GSSW Interns for 2023/2024

3 Social Work Interns

1440 Supervised Hours



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

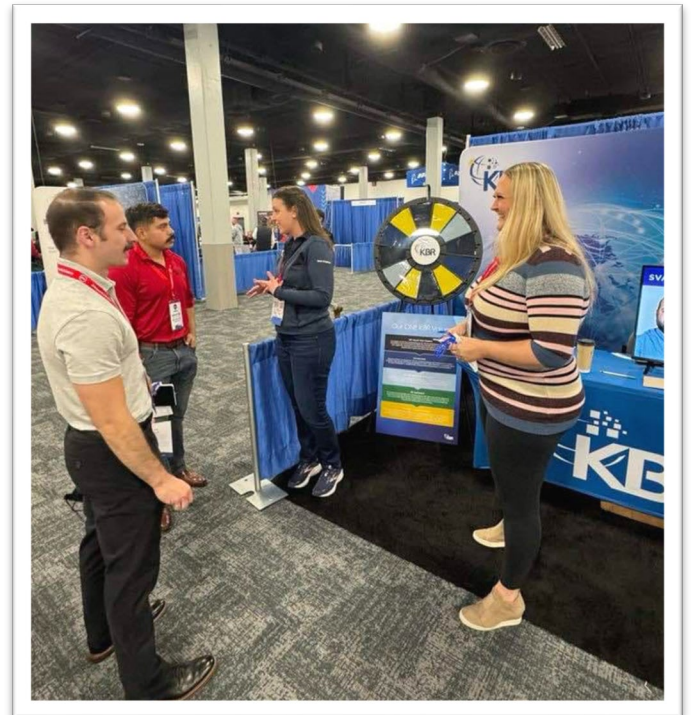
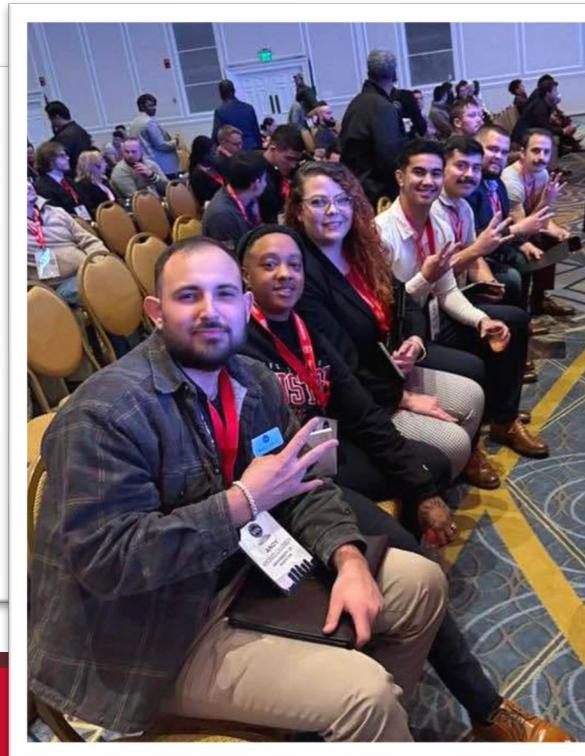
- Develop Strong Leaders

- Student Organized and Student Led Programming
- UH Student Veterans Attended Sessions on the Hill, Attended Leadership Institutes, National Conferences, Veteran Higher Education Conferences
- Secured Internships and Jobs



- National and Local Recognition

- Selected to Present Nationally on Veterans Topics
- Former Student- Work Study Named to National Veterans Service Org Board of Directors.



2026 FUNDING NEEDS

Summary of Request Base Funding Allocation Request FY 2026 Continued one-time for VS Core Programming

68,000

6% admin Charge: \$4080

Total: \$72,080

UH GOAL 1: Student Success



VS Annual Programming	Cost:
Student Success Programming: AIMS Supplies/ Marketing	\$2000
"Mil Connected Student Transition focused programming"	\$2000
Orientation Support: Marketing, Supplies, Cougar Red Friday	
Division Student Support Collaboration w/Division Partners: Wednesday Lunches/ DOS/ ISSSO/ SC North Block Party	\$3500
Recruitment Activities: Marketing materials, travel,	\$1000
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Career Programming: Lunch & Learns, Corporate Collaboration	\$1000
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Internal/ external awareness training Sexual Assault Prevention, Suicide Prevention, Mental Health Awareness, Women in combat, Black History, LGBTQ	\$500
Graduation Events: expanding to include Dependents Spring and Fall Cording Ceremonies: Reception/ Coins/ Cords/ Stoles & Supplies 9/11 memorial Events / Student leadership luncheon	\$8000
Veteran-Specific Programming Veterans Day: Luncheon, Activities, Supplies Memorial Day Service Appreciation Days	\$6,000
Student Leadership Conference / Development Programs: Travel/ Conference Fees/ Lodging for Students and Staff: National Conference	\$15,000
AIMS Program: Supplies/ Recruitment Swag/ Uniform Tops/ Stoles for Graduates/ Leadership Luncheon/ Orientation Breakfast	\$10,000

Staff to Support Student Success



We kindly request funding for a Program Case Manager for our student success program **AIMS: Academic Integration for Military-Affiliated Scholars**. This initiative aims to support and guide our military-affiliated student community as they transition into higher education by ensuring successful social, academic, and institutional integration. We kindly request one-time funding support to ensure continued continuity within this program during 2026. This financial assistance will enable us to hire a dedicated graduate assistant who will play a pivotal role in the program's implementation, contributing to our veteran students' academic success and well-being.

Your support would empower our military-affiliated scholars and strengthen our commitment to their educational journey. We believe that with your assistance, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of these deserving students.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to discussing this proposal further and providing additional details about the AIMS program.

Summary of Request for One-Time Allocation Request for 2026

Salary for Full-time Case Manager for AIMS \$43,000

Fringe: \$430

6% admin fee: 2605.80

Total: \$46,035.80

Request	
Full Time Case Manager for AIMS Student Success Program	\$46,035

UH GOAL 1: Student Success

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Summary of Request for One-Time
Allocation Request for 2026 Salary
for Full-time Case Manager for
AIMS \$43,000
Fringe: \$430
6% admin fee: \$2605.80
Total: \$46,035.80



THANK YOU