NASAA Believes in Supporting Our Troops

The National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) helps make the GI Bill® work. NASAA facilitates the efforts of its member State Approving Agencies in promoting and safeguarding quality education and training programs for veterans, ensuring greater education and training opportunities for veterans, and protecting the integrity of the GI Bill®.

NASAA works hand-in-hand with other organizations to make the GI Bill® the best possible educational assistance program for our nation’s veterans. NASAA members work with government agencies, Congress, schools, and employers to ensure that veterans have access to well-managed, ethical programs they can trust to help them achieve their goals.

NASAA salutes all of the service men and women returning from conflict and those who remain in harm’s way around the globe. We pledge our commitment to approving only quality education and training programs and providing the pathway to a successful future for service members, veterans, and their families.
The National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) is an organization comprised of the State Approving Agencies (SAAs) for GI Bill® Education and Training Programs. State Approving Agencies were established by Congress to work in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure that education and training programs funded under the GI Bill® are of quality and represent value to veterans, their families and dependents, and the U.S. taxpayers. This annual report summarizes the activities of NASAA in FY 2018.

The year 2018 brought the 70th Anniversary of NASAA which was organized in 1948. The year 2019 will bring the 75th Anniversary of the GI Bill®, signed into law on June 22, 1944 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. NASAA President Criscuolo’s message recalls that original GI Bill® and its connection to the latest bill, The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act, also known as the Colmery Act and the Forever GI Bill®.

**NASAA by the Numbers** shows relevant data for the NASAA Core Functions and emphasizes the Technical Assistance actions and the visits to education and training institutions. During the fiscal year of 2018 showed a slight decrease in approval activity when compared with FY 2017, which required the reporting of deemed approved programs.

**Looking Forward** relates to the ongoing legislative agenda that is proactive in its support for congressional initiatives that enhance, preserve, and protect the VA education benefits that our veterans, service persons, family members, and dependents rely upon to meet their education and training goals.

A new **Awards, Honors, and Recognitions** section was added to this year’s report to recognize the NASAA members who performed outstanding service for the Association.

Serving veterans and their families is not merely our duty, but a privilege and an honor always.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Hose, NASAA Alumnus (MO-SAA)

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“GI Bill®” is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U. S. government website at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill.
United States Marine Corps honor graduates receive their individual achievement awards during a recruit graduation ceremony at the Parris Island recruit depot, South Carolina
Message from the NASAA President
Michael Criscuolo

With our organization’s 70th Anniversary celebration in the past, The National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) has turned our focus toward honoring the 75th Anniversary of the GI Bill®. The GI Bill® of Rights was drafted in 1944 by Harry W. Colmery on Mayflower Hotel stationary in Washington D.C., with the idea to provide our service men and women the opportunity to turn their military service into educational and professional success. From earlier and humble beginning days, to the benefit that we know today as the Post 9/11 GI Bill®, one common factor has remained steadfast in the protection and promotion of this benefit: The National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA).

NASAA has served to safeguard this federally funded benefit since 1948 by approving quality vocational, educational, and professional programs so that our veterans may use their VA benefits at approved institutions, schools, and training sites. Working with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, NASAA is responsible for ensuring that approved facilities remain in compliance with provisions established under the Law and under the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations. Through mutually cooperative relationships with our partners, we defend the integrity of the GI Bill® so that the men and women who have served this great Nation can enjoy the freedoms they fought to secure.

It is appropriate that we celebrate the 75th Anniversary while assisting in the implementation of the Harry W. Colmery, Veterans Educational Assistance Act, also known as the Forever GI Bill®. NASAA was an active supporter in the creation and of many provisions contained in this act designed to improve an already generous and earned benefit. Such improvements as providing relief for veterans impacted by sudden school closures, the elimination of the 15-year limitation to use the Post 9/11 GI Bill®, veteran priority enrollment, work study expansion, increased benefits for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math programs, and expanded coverage for our Purple Heart Recipients, are just a few changes brought on by the passage of the Forever GI Bill®.

Finally, the original trio responsible for safeguarding our veterans, which consisted of NASAA, VA, and approved schools and training facilities, has grown into a collaborative network of Veterans Service Organizations, Federal and State Agencies, and Community Outreach Organizations. This growing pool of resources shares the common interest of fulfilling an obligation to those who have sacrificed to ensure our country remains strong in defense of the liberties we enjoy every day. It is the responsibility of NASAA and our stakeholders, to honor the promises we have made to the Men and Women of our Armed Forces. For those who have volunteered, we stand committed to their success beyond military service.

Sincerely,
Michael Criscuolo, President
State Approving Agencies (SAAs) primarily work with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Education Service Unit. The Under Secretary for Benefits, the Deputy Undersecretary for Economic Opportunity, and the Director of Education Service, make up the VA chain of command. Prior to his reassignment, Robert M. Worley, II (MG, USAF Ret.) led a dedicated staff in the VA Central Office (VACO) and the Regional Processing Offices (RPOs) to implement the full range of GI Bill® programs. Each RPO has a Chief Education Liaison Officer (CELO) who directs the work of the Education Liaison Representatives (ELRs) within its region’s states and oversees the coordination of the work contracted to the SAAs. The current Chief Education Liaison Officers are, by region:

1] East: Michele Mendola - Buffalo, NY
2] Central: Ben Berck - Lincoln, NE
3] South: Jerome Marshall - Atlanta, GA
4] West: Michael Marks - Muskogee, OK

These dedicated individuals and their staff provide the training in VA’s access system to enable SAAs to participate in the compliance survey function. They also represent the VA in the annual Joint Peer Review Group (JPRG) to evaluate the performance of the State Approving Agencies.

A positive working relationship between the State Approving Agencies and the Education Service Unit is a vital part of the delivery of educational services to eligible veterans, service persons, and dependents.

NASAA thanks Director Worley and his team for all of their hard work, long hours, and dedication.

Special thanks to our brave men and women who have sacrificed and who are sacrificing their comfort to fight for our freedoms everywhere.
Stakeholders

SAAs coordinate and collaborate with many other entities in providing services to veterans and their families.

American Council on Education Veterans Programs
American Legion
AMVETS National Services Foundation
Association of Veterans Education Certifying Officials
Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support
Disabled American Veterans
Federal Aviation Administration
Helmets to Hardhats
HillVets
Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans of America
Military Officers Association of America

MYCAA- Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts
National Association of Veterans’ Program Administrators
Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges
State Departments of Economic Development
State Departments of Education
State Departments of Labor
State Departments of Veterans Affairs
State Veteran Educators Organizations
Student Veterans of America
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

Troops to Energy
Troops to Teachers
United Service Organizations
U.S. Department of Defense Voluntary Education
U.S. Department of Education
U.S. Department of Labor
Veterans Commission
Veterans Education Success
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Vietnam Veterans of America
Western Association of Veterans Education Specialists
Workforce Development
Warrior Scholar Project

Acknowledgements

A publication of this type is never completed in isolation. The efforts of several State Approving Agencies’ staff members went into the production. Many thanks to all who assisted with this project. Here are some who have contributed time and effort to the project:

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Content
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John Hose
Michelle Nash
Joseph Wescott
NASAA Executive Board & Committee Chairpersons

Data
Melissa Triplett

In Memory Of Chad Schatz
1959- 2018

Chad worked for the Missouri State Approving Agency over 29 years including 17 years as Director. He was especially devoted to helping veterans get benefits for On the Job Training and Apprenticeship. He was a past president of NASAA and was serving as Public Affairs Liaison at the time of his passing. He was a father, grandfather, son, brother, and friend to many. He will be greatly missed.
2017-2018 Year in Review Highlights

October 2017
• NAVPA 42nd Annual Training and Conference - Atlantic City, NJ
• NASAA National Training Institute - Phoenix, AZ

November 2017
• NASAA participation in veterans’ education and training discussion at invitation of the American Legion - Washington, DC.
• Veteran’s Day event at the War Memorial - Richmond, VA

January 2018
• NASAA Legislative Director, Joe Wescott presented at the Student Veterans of American National Conference - San Antonio, TX

February 2018
• NASAA participation on a panel regarding GI Bill® at the NASPA Conference - New Orleans, LA
• NASAA Winter Training and Business Meeting – Arlington, VA

March 2018
• VA Southern and Eastern Regions Veterans’ Education SCO (VASERVES) Conference – Atlanta, GA
• NASAA Legislative Director received the HillVets 100 Award at the HillVets Gala
• South Puget Sound Community College (for School Certifying Officials)

April 2018
• Carpenters Training Center (for App/OJT Certifying Officials) - Renton, WA
• Arizona Veterans Program Association SCO Conference - Flagstaff, AZ

May 2018
• NASAA Legislative Director presented at the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) Annual Good Grief Seminar on the role of State Approving Agencies - Washington, DC

June 2018
• AVECO Conference – St. Louis, MO

July 2018
• Annual Western Association of Veterans Education Specialists (WAVES) Conference – San Diego, CA
• NASAA Legislative Director, Joe Wescott attendance the Bush Institute Stand -To at the invitation of former president George Bush and his institute staff - Washington, DC

August 2018
• 2018 NASAA Summer Training and Business Meeting - Anaheim, CA
• Washington State Criminal Justice Training Center (for School Certifying Officials)

October 2018
• National Training Institute - Oklahoma City, OK
• NAVPA 43rd Annual Training and Conference - Orlando, FL

November 2018
• Arizona Veterans Program Association SCO Conference - Mesa, AZ

Photo above: The South Region at the 2018 Summer Business and Training Meeting.
The primary responsibility of the State Approving Agencies (SAAs) is to ensure the quality and integrity of programs of education and training for the use of GI Bill® benefits. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the State Approving Agencies and their mission to serve veterans and their families.

**State Approving Agencies:**

In many ways, the fundamental mission of State Approving Agencies is the same today as it was when they were founded 70 years ago.

- Promote and safeguard quality education and training for veterans;
- Ensure greater educational and training opportunities to meet the changing needs of veterans; and
- Assist the VA in preventing fraud, waste, and abuse in the administration of the GI Bill®.

The primary responsibility of State Approving Agencies is to ensure the quality and integrity of programs of education and training for the use of GI Bill® benefits. The scope of responsibility: high schools, adult education centers, employers providing on-the-job training and apprenticeship training, license and certification testing, vocational training, as well as all certificate and degree levels of post-secondary education.

Essentially, in order for someone to receive GI Bill® benefits, an SAA has approved his or her program of study or training. Several years after the passage of the 1944 GI Bill® of Rights, Congress added State Approving Agencies to the law in 1947. SAAs were the answer to the problems of abuse experienced by the new program. Congress believed that the states’ control of education and approval of programs was the best avenue to safeguard both veterans and institutions.

As state entities acting on behalf of the federal government, SAAs have been an outstanding example of the workability of the federal-state partnership, allowing federal interests to be pursued at the local level while preserving the identity, interests, and sovereignty of states’ rights in education. Under Title 38, United States Code, each governor designates a state bureau or department as the State Approving Agency for the state. Today there are 54 State Approving Agencies with 250 professional and support personnel, supervising over 10,000 active facilities and over 200,000 programs.

SAAs are located in various state offices, including: state departments of education, higher education boards, state university systems, state departments of labor, state departments of veterans affairs, and stand alone agencies. SAA professionals bring a wealth of formal education, training, and experience to the approval of programs for veterans benefits.
In 1948, the State Approving Agencies saw a need to coordinate their efforts nationwide and gathered to form the National Association of State Approving Agencies. NASAA works hand-in-hand with other organizations to make the GI Bill® the best possible educational assistance program for our nation’s veterans. NASAA members work with government agencies, Congress, schools, and employers to assure that veterans have access to well-managed, ethical programs they can trust to help them achieve their goals. This relationship has been a critical component in the successful administration of the GI Bill®.

With the formation of NASAA, the SAAs began to create professional standards for themselves. The organization established a forum for the exchange of ideas, the promotion of high professional standards, policies, and ethical practices among its members, and representation on mutual interests or issues coming before the membership. It also worked to protect both the schools and the veterans from fraud, waste, and abuse. The organization continues to work to develop and maintain uniform standards for all SAAs. NASAA encourages, supports, and fosters the collaboration of all agencies concerned with the administration of education and training programs for those eligible to receive VA benefits.

Committees in specific areas, Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs), Apprenticeship/On-the-Job-Training (APP/OJT), Flight Schools, contracting, etc., have been created to focus on particular areas of approval and supervision in order to create more effective and efficient processes for the SAAs.

The organization works to ensure that the greatest number of quality programs are available to those eligible for education and training benefits. Through the efforts of the SAAs and NASAA, states are better able to serve those who are eligible to receive veterans’ education and training assistance benefits.
The National Association of State Approving Agencies Works in Cooperation with Its Partners:

NASAA Representatives frequently appear before Congress to testify on veterans’ education issues. Others work closely with the VA to resolve approval concerns that involve clarification or changes to regulations.

Last year NASAA worked with Congress and Veterans Service Organizations to pass the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act also known as the “Forever GI Bill®,” which brought significant changes to veterans education benefits.

The law was named after the American Legion national commander who drafted the original GI Bill® language in 1944, and allows more veterans to use the GI Bill® and more time to use it.

The majority of the changes enhance or expand education benefits for veterans, service members, families, and survivors.

Some new provisions that went into effect in FY 2018 included:

• Section 107: changes way living stipend amounts are calculated, to the payment being calculated based on where the student attends the majority of their classes.

• Section 109: restores GI Bill® benefits wasted at schools that unexpectedly closed, and continues educational assistance payments for veterans who were disapproved or who would not have the term during which their studies were interrupted count toward the aggregate of their GI Bill® entitlement.

• Section 301: increases the funding out of VA's mandatory re-adjustment account for SAAs. This section also authorizes VA to provide an additional $3 million in appropriations a year to the SAAs.

• Section 304: increases the fee provided to institutions for each individual that they certify as using GI Bill® benefits up to $16 per veteran. This section also requires schools with 100 or more enrollees using GI Bill® benefits, to establish a specific account tracking the fees.

• Section 305: requires VA, in consultation with the SAAs, to provide requirements for training for school certifying officials at educational institutions that are approved for GI Bill® benefits.

• Section 308: requires VA to make available to educational institutions, the ability to view the remaining benefit amount for each veteran attending that institution.

To Achieve Our Mission, We Engage in Six Core Functions:

**Approval of Programs:**
Review, evaluate, and approve quality programs of education (secondary and postsecondary, public and private) and training utilizing pre-established state and federal criteria. Programs leading to a standard college degree at an accredited public or non-profit institution of higher learning are “deemed approved” in accordance with PL 111-377 and PL 114-315.

**Compliance Visits to Schools and Training Establishments:**
Conduct on-site visits to approved educational institutions, training establishments, and flight schools to determine continued compliance with appropriate state and federal laws and VA regulations. The on-site visit consists of reviewing policies and practices of the institution to include approved programs, facilities, branch locations, equipment, instructional staff, and administrators, along with a detailed review of a random sampling of the veteran student files, which includes reviewing transcripts of grades, records of previous education, granting of appropriate credit, other relevant records, and VA payments under the Post 9/11 GI Bill®.

**Technical Assistance:**
Directly assist facility officials or businesses with any aspect of the approval process, veteran student certification process, and clarification of statute or policy changes.

**Outreach:**
Promote the increased usage of GI Bill® benefits through briefings and presentations, mass media marketing, and networking with a wide variety of stakeholders, to include providers of education and training, employers, military installations, and veterans groups.

**Liaison:**
Collaborate with government, veteran, and educational entities to resolve issues, identify and formulate training needs, share best practices, and identify opportunities for success.

**Contract Compliance:**
Fulfill all VA contract requirements on time and on target. These requirements include submission of reimbursement invoices and quarterly activity reports and completing annual security and privacy training requirements.
NASAA 2017-2018 Executive Board Officers

The Officers of the Association are elected by the Association Membership or appointed by the President of the Association. Officers manage and administer the affairs of the Association through the Executive Board and the Committee system. The Association, through Association Membership, votes on rulings or rules at the Annual and Mid-Winter Business and Training meetings and has full and complete authority over the officers and committee members.

The Officers of the Association shall perform duties as generally defined in Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised and as specifically defined in the articles of the Constitution and the Bylaws.

### Name | State | Office / Committee | Alternate/Vice Chair
--- | --- | --- | ---
Michael Criscuolo | CT | President | 
* | Annie Walker | VA | Vice President | 
* | Laura Bach | WA | Secretary | 
* | Frank Myers | SC | Treasurer | 
* | John Ayres | PA | Judge Advocate | 
* | Mitch Currey | TN | Interim Legislative Director | Open
* | Brigette Hayes | KS | Central Region Vice President | Melissa Triplett (OH)
* | Rebecca Ryan | RI | East Region Vice President | Jennifer St. Jean (VT)
* | Cleophus Wallace | LA | South Region Vice President | Tom Morrison (TN)
* | Leanna DeKing | AZ | West Region Vice President | David Salgado (UT)
Laura Bach | WA | Immediate Past President | Dan Wellman (IL)
James Henley | MO | Public Affairs Liaison | 
Tim Fisher | WY | APP/OJT | Melissa Cushman (IL)
John Murray | WA | Contract | Joan Johnson (AL)
Kathy Snyder | FL | Flight | Deb O’Neill (WA)
Martina Murray | VA | IHL/NCD | Rachael Summary (MO)
Gwen Hacker | KY | Military Education | Taniqua Griffin (IN)
Dan Wellman | IL | Professional Development | Charlie Rowe (NJ)
Tramaine Carroll-Payne | VA | Audit | Jenny Kyser (OK)
Melissa Triplett | OH | Automation/Technology | Alyssa Manguso (AZ)
Annie Walker | VA | Conference Planning | Marisol Birth (NE)
John Ayres | PA | Constitution and Bylaws | Bill Schroeder (OH)
Amber Mertens | IN | Honors and Awards/Membership/Alumni | Andy Pieper (IL)
Rennee Lamphear | AZ | History/Archives | Christine Maher (MA)
Michael Criscuolo | CT | JPRG | 
Michelle Nash | NV | Communications | Meghan-Joy Woodall (NC)

* Voting Members of Executive Board
This data was taken from NASAA aggregated quarterly reports for all SAAs. Selected for inclusion are program approvals, other approval actions, compliance visits, other visit activity, technical assistance, outreach, and liaison actions. (Note: compliance survey visits on the NASAA quarterly report summaries are reported as supervisory visits. Limitations with the NASAA IT contractor have prevented the re-titling of this section.

FY 2018 brought a slight decrease from FY 2017 in most of the Core Functions. Only Technical Assistance Actions showed a slight increase (1.4%) from FY 2017. The Outreach function continues to trend downward at a higher rate (35% lower than FY 2017) relative to the other core functions.

Total approval actions number 251,801 when including the 20,094 disapproval actions reported in FY 2018. Total reported actions for all core functions equal 337,757 for FY 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Facility</th>
<th>IHL</th>
<th>NCD</th>
<th>APP</th>
<th>OJT</th>
<th>CORR</th>
<th>FLT</th>
<th>LIC/CERT</th>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Technical Assistance Actions</td>
<td>25,752</td>
<td>16,697</td>
<td>4,635</td>
<td>8,474</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>648</td>
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<td>2016 Technical Assistance Actions</td>
<td>28,077</td>
<td>16,753</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>7,192</td>
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<td>1,272</td>
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<td>2017 Technical Assistance Actions</td>
<td>34,431</td>
<td>18,620</td>
<td>5,316</td>
<td>7,994</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>1,640</td>
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<td>2018 Technical Assistance Actions</td>
<td>37,237</td>
<td>18,914</td>
<td>4,180</td>
<td>7,550</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>286</td>
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</table>

Technical assistance is any interaction designed to assist an individual, a school, or training site personnel with any portion of the approval function. Assistance could be rendered either before or after initial approval.

Source: *FY 2014–FY 2018 quarterly reports provided to NASAA & VA by SAAs*
NASAA by the Numbers

**ABBREVIATIONS KEY**
- **IHL**: Institution of Higher Learning
- **NCD**: Non College Degree
- **FLT**: Flight Programs
- **APP**: Apprenticeships
- **OJT**: On-the-Job Training
- **CORR**: Correspondence
- **LIC/CERT**: Licensure and Certifications
NASAA Regions

Central
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin

South
Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
Oklahoma
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia
U.S. Virgin Islands

East
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont

West
Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado
Hawaii
Idaho
Montana
New Mexico
Nebraska
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming

Committee Summaries

Permanent Committees
1] Apprenticeship and On-The-Job Training Committee
2] Contract Committee
3] Institutions of Higher Learning & Non College Degree Committee
4] Flight Training Committee
5] Legislative Committee
6] Military Education Committee
7] Professional Development Committee

Special Committees Constituted Annually By The President
1] Audit Committee
2] Automation and Technology Committee
3] Conference Planning Committee
4] Constitution and Bylaws Committee
5] Honors and Awards/Membership/Alumni Committee
6] Past President’s Council
7] Archives and History Committee
8] Joint Peer Review Group
9] Communications Committee
1. Apprenticeship & On-The-Job Training Committee
Responsibilities:
1] Review and make recommendations on regulatory and procedural changes affecting the approval and supervision of Apprenticeship and On-The-Job-Training Programs; seek review, advice, and consensus with the Executive Board
2] Advise the Chair of the Legislative Committee on matters which the Committee determines are within the purview of this Committee
3] Prepare reports and recommendations for submission to the Association and the Executive Board
4] Conduct activities (workshops, telephone conference calls, etc.) which afford the opportunity for an open exchange of ideas concerning all aspects of Apprenticeship/On-The-Job Training

2. Contract Committee
Responsibilities:
1] Conduct general contract deliberations on behalf of the Association with the Department of Veterans Affairs; seek review, advice, and consensus with the Executive Board
2] Keep the Association informed of all modifications or changes to the contract; report to the Executive Board and the Association about the overall contract status

3. Institutions Of Higher Learning & Non College Degree Committee
Responsibilities:
1] Review and make recommendations on regulatory and procedural changes affecting the approval and supervision of Institutions of Higher Learning and Non College Degree Institutions
2] Advise the Chair of the Legislative Committee on matters which the Committee determines are within the purview of this Committee and will affect the Association
3] Prepare reports and recommendations for submission to the Executive Board and Association

4. Flight Training Committee
Responsibilities:
1] Review and make recommendations on regulatory and procedural changes affecting the approval and supervision of Flight Training Programs
2] Advise the Chairs of the Institutions of Higher Learning & Non College Degree Committee on matters which the Committee determines are within its purview
3] Prepare reports and recommendations for submission to the Institutions of Higher Learning & Non College Degree Committee for review and ultimate submission to the general membership

5. Legislative Committee
Responsibilities:
1] Develop, maintain, publish, and manage the Legislative Agenda for the Association; seek review, advice, and consensus with the Executive Board and direct approval from the Association
   Note:
The Legislative Agenda for the Association replaces the section of the Bylaws called Resolutions. The Agenda is presented to the Association for review and discussion at regional and national meetings; it is submitted for Association approval during the Annual Business and Training Meeting.
2] Secure, evaluate, and prepare recommendations on all proposed legislation pertinent to veterans’ education and submit them to the President for action
3] Maintain liaison with appropriate Committees and Subcommittees of the Congress of the United States and their staffs
4] Maintain regular contact with members of the Association whose states have legislators on the Veterans Affairs Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives
5] Arrange for testimony at appropriate Congressional committee and subcommittee hearings
6] Involve all members of the Association in communication with their legislators on matters of vital concern to the Association

6. **Military Education Committee Responsibilities:**

1] Monitor, review, and make recommendations on regulatory and procedural changes affecting the participation of in-service military personnel in the Educational and Training Program under Title 38 and Title 10, U.S. Code

2] Work with the appropriate service-related organizations regarding the participation of in-service personnel in the use of Title 38 and Title 10, U.S. Code provisions

3] Advise the Chair of the Legislative Committee on matters under the purview of this Committee that are deemed appropriate for inclusion in the Legislative Agenda

4] Advise the Executive Board and Association on matters brought to the Committee for review and possible inclusion in Committee actions relating to Military Education

5] Prepare reports and recommendations for submission to the Executive Board and the Association

4] Monitor the professional development of the members and make recommendations to the Association through the Executive Board about how to enhance or assure professional development through:

A] the integration of education and training with the Association’s routine or periodic activities to include the conduct of workshops at general or regional meetings

B] the recommendation of procedures by which education and training on a continuing basis can become a part of the annual evaluation process, be recognized in performance standards and professional qualifications, and become a component of the annual contract

5] Represent the Association in meeting with other organizations, agencies or individuals whenever the purpose of the meeting is primarily related to education and training, as approved or directed by the President

6] Perform other duties related to education and training that may be assigned by the Executive Board or the Association

7. **Professional Development Committee Responsibilities:**

1] Exercise oversight for the training and education of professional staff members

2] Advise the Executive Board and Association in matters related to professional development that may require action, impact the conduct of business, or affect the general welfare of the Association or its members

3] Act on behalf of the Executive Board as directed in the development, implementation, administration, and monitoring of training and educational requirements established by the language and spirit of P.L. 100-323, Section 13

Laura Bach, FY 2018 NASAA President, presenting at the 2018 Summer Training and Business Meeting
1. Audit Committee
Responsibilities:

1] Review the financial records of the Association at all national conferences
2] Make recommendations the Committee deems appropriate concerning the finances and accounting procedures of the Association

2. Automation & Technology Committee
Responsibilities:

1] Provide leadership in issues involving existing and future technologies
2] Promote technology as a tool to improve quality of service
3] Develop partnerships with other service providers to maximize NASAA technology resources
4] Develop and manage a viable internet web site for the Association and include, at a minimum, the following capabilities: training, news group / listserv, information dissemination, and outreach
5] Promote online approval capabilities with the VA
6] Develop and distribute information to the membership to improve understanding and usage of existing and future technologies
7] Develop a viable technology plan to be the blueprint for our future

3. Conference Planning Committee
Responsibilities:

1] Plan and develop the agendas and programs for the Annual and Midwinter Meetings and for other general membership meetings, in cooperation with the President
2] Review and make decisions or make recommendations to the Association about bids received for general membership meetings at the Annual Business and Training Meetings
3] Make logistical and fiscal arrangements for general membership meetings, to include, but not limited to, hotel and meeting accommodations, invitations to guests, outreach and support activities, and administrative support
4] Make preliminary plans and arrangements for the succeeding Annual Business and Training Meetings, two years in advance

4. Constitution and Bylaws Committee
Responsibilities:

1] Review the Constitution and Bylaws and prepare amendments or revisions as necessary, either for clarity or Association administration; receive amendments from Association members, review and assess proposals, and present to the Association for consideration when they meet criteria established under the Constitution
2] Publish and distribute the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association; ensure publication is available through the web site
3] Members of the Committee will assist the Judge Advocate, as directed, in conducting the duties of the Judge Advocate and acting as Parliamentarian

5. Honors and Awards/Membership/Alumni Committee
Responsibilities:

1] Ascertain names of members retiring during the year and prepare certificates of appreciation for presentation at the Annual Business and Training Meeting
2] Prepare recommendations for Honors and Awards which the Committee deems appropriate or as directed by the President, Executive Board, or Association; present recommendations to the Executive Board for approval; prepare certificates and ceremony for presentation at the Annual Business and Training Meeting
3] Encourage each State Approving Agency to maintain adequate representation and active participation in the Association
Special Committees

4] Advise the President about State Approving Agencies currently inactive; assist the President in determining the reasons for inactivity and any assistance the Association may offer to facilitate participation
5] Refer issues or problems to the President and Executive Board, as needed
6] Conduct the Annual Sustaining Membership Drive and present certificates to Sustaining Members at the Annual Business and Training Meeting
7] Maintain a list of NASAA Alumni members including mailing addresses; encourage Alumni to become members and participate in Association activities; extend invitations to general membership meetings of the Association
8] Prepare and coordinate activities for Alumni members attending general membership meetings of the Association
9] Provide support for, and coordination with, the Alumni Group

6. Past President’s Council
Responsibilities:
1] Serve as a resource of individuals with experience and expertise in matters related to the Association
2] Assist the President, at the discretion and specific request of the President, in matters which benefit the Association and are not generally and appropriately within the purview of other Committees of the Association
3] Serve as a complement to another committee, subcommittee, council or task force, at the request of the President and Executive Board, or at the request of the group, when appropriate and approved by the President and Board
4] Serve as the Nominating Committee with the Immediate Past President serving as Chair
   A] Present a slate of officers to the Association at the Annual Business and Training Meeting
   B] Recommend candidates for committee membership or office vacancies, as requested by the Executive Board

7. Archives & History Committee
Responsibilities:
1] Compile and maintain the Archive for documents and records; develop, maintain, and document the History of the Association; provide a secure depository for the collection
2] Collect information from the Secretary and other sources relating to NASAA activities for the year
3] Collate and deposit information in the NASAA Archives depository
4] Create historical reports or documents, as requested by the President

8. Joint Peer Review Group
Responsibilities:
1] Meet, as the Joint Peer Review Group, when and where assembled by the Department of Veterans Affairs
2] Provide peer group review and evaluation of the State Approving Agencies’ end of year reports
3] Assign joint peer review assessment for each SAA, in accordance with policies and procedures

9. Communications Committee
Responsibilities:
1] Develop, implement, and manage NASAA’s strategic communications plan
2] Prepare and disseminate news and public affairs items
3] Create and maintain an effective communications infrastructure
4] Provide input and support regarding the NASAA website
5] Develop social media outlets to connect and inform NASAA members
Joseph Wescott, Legislative Director, Leanna DeKing, NASAA Secretary, Laura Bach 2018 NASAA President and Frank Myers, Treasurer visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

From left to right: Dr. Vito Imbasciani, California Department of Veterans Affairs, Brendan Peltier – MA SAA, U.S. Representative Lou Correa, Joe Wescott, NASAA Legislative Director.

Frank Myers, Treasurer and Dan Willman, 2017 NASAA President visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Bill Clark, NY SAA Director, Daniel Giuseffi, NY SAA; Michael Criscuolo, Current NASAA President.

Illinois SAA Team

Virginia SAA Team at the 2018 Summer Training and Business Meeting

Florida SAA Team
Looking Forward

The National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) continues to work with our stakeholders and partners, both in Washington, DC and in the States, to enhance educational opportunity and expand meaningful training and employment possibilities for our veterans and their families. In recent years, we worked closely with the American Legion, Student Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) and education organizations to pass major veterans legislation, including the Miller-Blumenthal Act (2016), the Colmery Act (2017) and the VALOR Act (2018). Most recently, we worked with our friends at the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors to pass the SIT-REP Act, which protects the enrollments of qualified veterans and their children, when their benefit payments are delayed through no fault of their own.

In the year ahead, we look forward to continuing to work with Congress, VA, and our other partners to develop needed legislation and promote positive regulatory change to improve the lives of our veterans. We are presently working on a major research report which looks at on-line learning and suggested needed changes in the field to expand access while safeguarding quality. Likewise, we look forward to supporting legislation to enhance and expand opportunities for On-The-Job Training (OJT) and apprenticeship training programs and education, particularly in the STEM area. We take seriously our role as the "gatekeepers of quality" and we look forward to working with Congress to strengthen program approval criteria, increase meaningful oversight through additional risk based surveys of educational institutions and increase veterans’ awareness of their training programs through additional outreach and innovative marketing.

Finally, we hope to work with our education and business partners to expand programs in education and workforce development so as to provide greater economic opportunity, not just for our veterans, but for their dependents as well. Veterans and their families deserve our best and we remain strongly committed to their success in the year to come!

Joseph Wescott
NASAA National Legislative Director

Joe Wescott, NASAA National Legislative Director, is shown presenting VA Education Service Director Robert Worley the NASAA Lifetime Achievement Award at VA Central Office in Washington, DC.
The location of a State Approving Agency within a state’s governmental structure varies from state to state. Some states separate the functions of school approvals and OJT/Apprenticeship approvals between different agencies. The decision of where to place a SAA within a state rests with the governor of that state.

In FY18 there were 54 state approving agencies covering all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia. Washington State is now the only state with 2 SAAs. There are 25 SAAs in state veteran affairs agencies, 15 in state higher education agencies, 5 in state post-secondary education agencies, 4 in elementary and secondary education agencies, and 3 in state workforce development agencies. Department of Veteran Affairs staff perform the SAA duties in Hawaii, Oregon, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

**State Approving Agencies Directory**

**Where are the State Approving Agencies?**

The State Approving Agencies located in various states are as follows:

**ALABAMA**
State Approving Agency
Alabama Community College System
Joan Johnson: SAA Director
135 South Union Street, Suite 449
P.O. Box 302130
Montgomery, AL 36130-2130
joan.johnson@accs.edu
Phone: 334-293-4566
Fax: 334-293-4663

**ARIZONA**
State Approving Agency
Arizona Department of Veteran Services
Leanna DeKing: SAA Director
3839 North 3rd Street, Suite 209
Phoenix, AZ 85012
ldeking@azdvs.gov
Phone: 602-653-9026
Fax: 602-297-6675

**ARKANSAS**
State Approving Agency for Veterans Education
Arkansas Department of Career Education (ACE)
Bill Dedner: Education & Instructor Coordinator
Three Capitol Mall,
Luther S. Hardin Bldg.
Little Rock, AR 72201-1083
Bill.Dedner@arkansas.gov
Phone: 501-324-9473
Fax: 501-324-9610

**CALIFORNIA**
California Department of Veterans Affairs
California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education
Latanaya Johnson, SAA Director
1227 O Street, Suite 625
Sacramento, CA 95814
CSAAVEInfo@calvet.ca.gov
Phone: 916-503-8317
Fax: 916-653-1035

**COLORADO**
Colorado Office of Veterans Education and Training
Daniel Webster: Director
9101 E. Lowry Blvd
Denver, Colorado 80230
daniel.webster@cccs.edu
Phone: 303-595-1622

The location of a State Approving Agency within a state’s governmental structure varies from state to state. Some states separate the functions of school approvals and OJT/Apprenticeship approvals between different agencies. The decision of where to place a SAA within a state rests with the governor of that state.

In FY18 there were 54 state approving agencies covering all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia. Washington State is now the only state with 2 SAAs. There are 25 SAAs in state veteran affairs agencies, 15 in state higher education agencies, 5 in state post-secondary education agencies, 4 in elementary and secondary education agencies, and 3 in state workforce development agencies. Department of Veteran Affairs staff perform the SAA duties in Hawaii, Oregon, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
CONNECUTICUT
State Approving Agency
Connecticut Office of Higher Education
Michael Criscuolo: SAA Director
450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 510
Hartford, CT 06103
Phone: 860-947-1816
Fax: 860-947-1310

DELAWARE
Delaware State Approving Agency
Delaware Department of Education
Patricia Keeton, Ed.D.: SAA Director
35 Commerce Way, Ste. #1
Dover, DE 19904
patricia.keeton@doe.k12.de.us
Phone: 302-857-3313
Fax: 302-739-1770

FLORIDA
State Approving Agency for Veterans’ Education and Training
Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs
Betsy Wickham: SAA Director
9500 Bay Pines Boulevard, Rm. 214
Bay Pines, FL 33744
wickhamb@fdva.state.fl.us
Main Office Phone: 727-319-7402
Desk Phone: 727-319-7401
Fax: 727-319-7780

GEORGIA
Georgia Department of Veterans Service
State Approving Agency
Larry Edwards: Director
Floyd Veterans Memorial Bldg.
Suite E-970
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
saaga@vs.state.ga.us
Phone: 404-656-2306/2322
Fax: 404-657-6276

HAWSAI
Department of Veteran Affairs
Liz Alexander, Education Liaison Representative
459 Patterson Rd, E Wing
Honolulu, HI 96819
elizabeth.alexander1@va.gov
Phone: 808-433-0537

IDAOH
Idaho Division of Veteran Services (State Approving Agency)
Doug Jacobson
Veterans Education Bureau Chief
351 Collins Road
Boise, ID 83702-4519
education@veterans.idaho.gov
Phone: 208-780-1332
Fax: 208-780-1331

ILLINOIS
Illinois State Approving Agency
Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs
Dan Wellman: Administrator
833 S. Spring
Springfield, Illinois 62794
Dan.wellman@illinois.gov
Phone: 217-782-7838
Fax: 217-524-8394

INDIANA
State Approving Agency
Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs
Ray Baker: SAA Director
402 W. Washington St., Rm. W469
Indianapolis, IN 46204
RBaker@dva.IN.gov
Phone: 317-234-6061
Cell: 317-605-9814
Fax: 317-234-8744

IOWA
State Approving Agency
Iowa Department of Education
Michael D. Dommer: SAA Director
400 E. 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146
michael.dommer@iowa.gov
Phone: 515-281-3516
Fax: 515-242-5988

KANSAS
State Approving Agency
Kansas Commission on Veteran Affairs Office
Eric Rohleder: Interim Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Office Deputy Director
700 SW Jackson Ave., Suite 1004
Topeka, KS 66603
Phone: 785-296-7765
Fax 785-296-1462
Eric.Rohleder@ks.gov

KENTUCKY
Kentucky Approving Agency for Veterans Education
Gwen Hacker: SAA Director
KCTCS System Office
300 North Main Street
Versailles, KY 40383
gwen.hacker@kctcs.edu
Phone: 859-256-3352
Fax: 859-256-3123

LOUISIANA
Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs
602 N 5th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095
Phone: 225-219-5013
Fax: 225-219-5590

SAA Directory
nasaa-vetseducation.com
LOUISIANA Cont.
Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs
Louisiana State Approving Agency
Cleophus D. Wallace: Interim Director
602 N 5th Street
P.O. Box 94095
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095
cleophus.wallace@la.gov
Phone: 225-219-5012
Fax: 225-219-5590

MAINE
State Approving Agency for Veterans Education Programs
University of Maine System
Camden Ege: Director
147 Water St., Suite 2
Randolph, ME 04346
Camden.ege@maine.edu
Phone: 207-582-2100

MARYLAND
Associate Director of Veterans Affairs
Trish Gordon-McCown: Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)
6 N. Liberty Street, 10th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
trish.mccown@maryland.gov
vaeducationbenefits.mhec@maryland.gov
Office Phone: 410-767-3098
Main Office Phone: 410-767-3301

MASSACHUSETTS
State Approving Agency
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education
George O’Connor: SAA Director
One Ashburton Place, Room 1401
Boston, MA 02108
goconnor@dhe.mass.edu
Phone: 617-994-6948
Fax: 617-727-0955

MICHIGAN
State Approving Agency
Talent Investment Agency
Allen Nash: SAA Director
201 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913
Nasha2@michigan.gov
Phone: 231-463-6417
Fax: 517-241-9825

MINNESOTA
State Approving Agency
Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
Robert Ahles: SAA Director
20 West 12th Street, 2nd Floor
St. Paul, MN 55155
robert.ahles@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-285-8500
Fax: 651-282-3762

MISSISSIPPI
Mississippi Veterans Affairs Board
State Approving Agency Division
Cathy McGruder-Jones: SAA Division Director
3466 Highway 80 East
Pearl, MS 39208
cmcgruder@vab.ms.gov
Phone: 601-576-4867
Fax: 601-576-4868

MISSOURI
Veterans’ Education and Training Section, State Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
James Henley, M.S.: Director-DESE/VETS
Program Coordinator supporting Troops to Teachers (MO, IA)
205 Jefferson St.
Jefferson City, MO 65102
James.Henley@dese.mo.gov
Office: 573-751-1250
Cell: 573-645-1013
Fax: 573-526-5710

MONTANA
State Approving Agency
Montana Office of Public Instruction
Kenneth Gemlich: SAA Director
P.O. Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
kgemlich@mt.gov
Phone: 406-444-4122
Fax: 406-444-1973

NEBRASKA
Private Postsecondary Career Schools and Veterans Education
Nebraska Department of Education
Marisol Birth: Program Director
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
Marisol.birth@nebraska.gov
Phone: 402-471-4825
Fax: 402-742-1161

NEVADA
Commission on Postsecondary Education
Kelly D. Wuest: CPE Administrator/SAA Director
8778 South Maryland Parkway, Suite 115
Las Vegas, NV 89123
kdwuest@detr.nv.gov
www.cpe.state.nv.us
Phone: 702-486-7330
Fax: 702-486-7340

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Department of Education, Division of Educator Support and Higher Education, Bureau of Veterans Education Services and Career School Licensing
Jeffrey S. Newman: Administrator
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301
Jeffrey.Newman@doe.nh.gov
Phone: 603-271-8508
SAA Directory
nasaa-vetseducation.com
NEW JERSEY
State Approving Agency
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Charles Rowe: Bureau Chief
P.O. Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625
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Phone: 609-530-6849

NEW MEXICO
State Approving Agency for Veterans’ and Training
New Mexico Department of Veterans’ Services
Marilyn M. Dykman: Director
5201 Eagle Rock Ave NE, Suite 1A
Albuquerque, NM 87113
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NEW YORK
State Approving Agency
Bureau of Veterans Education
William Clarke: SAA Director
2 Empire State Plaza, 17th Floor
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william.clarke@veterans.ny.gov
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NORTH CAROLINA
North Carolina State Approving Agency
Daniel S. Harrison
Interim Executive Director
120 Penmarc Drive, Suite 103
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NORTH DAKOTA
State Approving Agency
North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs
Chris Kratochvil, Director
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Fax: 701-239-7166

OHIO
State Approving Agency
Ohio Department of Veterans Services
Jonathon Field: SAA Director
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OKLAHOMA
Oklahoma State Accrediting Agency
Gina M. Wekke: SAA Director
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OREGON
Department of Veteran Affairs
Kate Nicholson: Education Liaison Representative
100 SW Main Street, Floor 2
Portland, OR 97204
Katherine.Nicholson@va.gov
Phone: 503-412-4669

PENNSYLVANIA
Pennsylvania State Approving Agency
Harrisburg Office (Headquarters)
Veterans/Military Education
Department of Education
Christine Hawk: SAA Director
333 Market Street, 12th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333
chhawk@pa.gov
Phone: 717-787-2414
Fax: 717-772-3622

Pittsburgh Office
Veterans/Military Education
301 Fifth Avenue, Suite 204
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-565-5364
Fax: 412-565-5312

Philadelphia Office
Veterans/Military Education
801 Market Street, Suite 6013
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: 717-460-7787

RHODE ISLAND
Rhode Island State Approving Agency
Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
Rebecca Ryan: SAA Director
560 Jefferson Blvd. Suite 100
Warwick, RI 02886
Rebecca.Ryan@riopc.edu
Phone: 401-736-1164

SOUTH CAROLINA
South Carolina - Student Services Division, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk: Director
Student Services 1122 Lady Street, Suite 300
Columbia, SC 29201
kwoodfaulk@che.sc.gov
Phone: 803.737.2260 or 803.737.2244
Fax: 803.737.3610
### SOUTH DAKOTA
Veterans’ Education South Dakota
Division of Veterans Affairs
Shane Olivier: Program Manager
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### TENNESSEE
Veterans Education
State Approving Agency
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
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### TEXAS
Veterans Education
Texas Veterans Commission
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education@tvc.texas.gov
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### U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
State Approving Agency
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### UTAH
State Approving Agency for Veterans Education
Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs

### WASHINGTON, D.C.
State Approving Agency
Higher Education Licensure Commission
Angela Lee: SAA Director
Jocelyn Harris: SAA
810 1st Street, NE 2nd Floor
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Washington, DC 20002
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### WEST VIRGINIA
State Approving Agency
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
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### WISCONSIN
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### WYOMING
State Approving Agency
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Timothy Fisher: Director
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Fax: 307-777-8105

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### South Dakota
David Salgado: Director
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Salt Lake City, UT 84113
Phone: 801-584-1973
Fax: 801-584-1964

### Vermont
State Approving Agency
Vermont Office of Veteran Affairs
Jennifer St. Jean: SAA Director
118 State St.
Montpelier, VT 05620
jennifer.stjean@vermont.gov
Phone: 802-828-1082

### Virginia
Virginia State Approving Agency
Virginia Department of Veterans Services
Director: Martina Murray
101 North 14th Street, 17th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
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### Washington
State Approving Agency
Washington Student Achievement Council
Laura Bach: Associate Director
917 Lakeridge Way
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Olympia, WA 98504-3430
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Fax: 360-704-6239

State Approving Agency
Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
Jim Parker: Program Manager
128 10th Ave SW
Olympia, WA 98504
jim.parker@wtb.wa.gov
Phone: 360-709-4600
Fax: 360-586-5862
Awards, Honors and Recognitions

The success of NASAA relies on the hard work of our membership and their willingness to contribute their time through various leadership roles, committee work, and projects. Their devotion to our mission and to protecting the integrity of the GI Bill® not only is a reflection of the work our SAA members do each and every day within their states, but demonstrates a desire to be part of something greater than themselves.

In honor of these individuals’ voluntary work, the NASAA organization makes every effort to recognize the exemplary contributions each year.

The NASAA organization truly appreciates each of our members and is honored to recognize the following individuals for the FY 2018 year!

**President’s Award**
Tim Fisher (WY)

**Lifetime Leadership Award**
Robert Haley (ME)
Martina Murray (VA)
Dan Wellman (IL)

**Star Awards**
John Ayres (PA)
Tramaine Carroll-Payne (VA)
L.G. Corder (WV)
Cheryl Iannello (CA)
Charlie Rowe (NJ)
Joe Wescott (NC)

**Certificates of Appreciation**
Mid-Winter
Tramaine Carroll-Payne (VA)
Berni Davis (UT)
Timothy Fisher (WY)
Robert Haley (ME)
Jocelyn Harris (DC)

Everette Jackson (MD)
Latanaya Johnson (CA)
Trish Gordon-McCown (MD)
Russ Sonmore (WA)
Meghan-Joy Woodall (NC)

**Summer Business & Training Meeting**
George O’Connor (MA)
Rebecca Ryan (RI)
John Ayres (PA)
Michael Criscuolo (CT)
Jenny Kyser (OK)
Larry Edwards (GA)
Lily Snyder (GA)
Brigette Hayes (KS)
Melissa Triplett (OH)
Cheryl Iannello (CA)
John Murray (WA)
Leanna DeKing (AZ)

**Committee Chairs**
Renee Lamphear (AZ)
Tim Fisher (WY)

Tramaine Carroll-Payne (VA)
Melissa Triplett (OH)
Mike Criscuolo (CT)
Michelle Nash (NV)
John Ayres (PA)
LG Corder (WV)
Kathy Snyder (FL)
Amber Mertens (IN)
Martina Murray (WA)
Mike Criscuolo (CT)
Joseph Wescott II (NC)
Michelle Nash (NV)
Dan Wellman (IL)
Charles Rowe (NJ)

In addition, Fred Major (IN) was awarded the Honorary Lifetime Membership.
Executive Board Members

Michael Criscuolo  
*President*

Annie Walker  
*Vice President*

Laura Bach  
*Secretary*

Frank Myers  
*Treasurer*

John Ayres  
*Judge Advocate*

Mitch Currey  
*Interim Legislative Director*

James Henley  
*Public Affairs Liaison*

Joe Wescott  
*NASAA Consultant*

Brigette Hayes  
*Central Region Vice President*

Rebecca Ryan  
*East Region Vice President*

Cleophus Wallace  
*South Region Vice President*

Leanna DeKing  
*West Region Vice President*
Visit NASAA on Facebook

Social Media Goal and Purpose
To improve and promote branding of the National Associate of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) including current projects, upcoming events, as well as provide resource information to the public and our veteran beneficiary population.

Content
NASAA uses social media to highlight its own materials, including programs, website updates, media topics from trusted sources, and reports. The information and views shared from outside media sources are not endorsed by the NASAA organization. The goal of sharing sites and media stories is to promote news in higher education and veterans’ education/training. The NASAA-Vets Education site is an open group and there are no current restrictions for individuals wishing to share news articles or comment on the site. Anyone posting on the site will appear under their specific Facebook profile. Only specific individuals will be assigned to have the authority to post as NASAA directly.

Community
NASAA-Vets Education currently has 444 followers and growing.

To view, share or follow the NASAA Facebook page, visit: https://www.facebook.com/NASAAVETSEducation/