



2026
CONFERENCE

MONDAY
07.20.2026

AGENDA - DAY 1

1:00 PM -
5:00 PM

REGISTRATION

Beachwood/Runyon/Laurel

6:30 PM -
8:00 PM

WELCOME RECEPTION

Pool Deck



<https://www.uswaves.org>

DOWNLOAD THE APP





2026
WAVES CONFERENCE

TUESDAY
07.21.2026

AGENDA - DAY 2

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM	REGISTRATION (OPEN ALL DAY)	Beachwood/Runyon/Laurel
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST REFRESHMENTS	Ray Dolby Salon 4-6
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	CONFERENCE OPENING & WELCOME (GENERAL SESSION) JASON GARCIA, WAVES PRESIDENT COLOR GUARD AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 252 STAR-SPANGLED BANNER JESSICA YOUNG, PROGRAM MANAGER, THE LOS ANGELES FILM SCHOOL PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE DARCY SCHNUTH, WAVES 1ST VICE PRESIDENT INTRODUCTIONS: <u>WAVES BOARD</u>, VA & SAA PRESENTERS	Ray Dolby Salon 1-3
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	NASAA UPDATE AND INTRODUCTIONS (GENERAL SESSION) REBECCA RYAN, NASAA PRESIDENT	Ray Dolby Salon 1-3
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	BREAK & RESOURCE FAIR	Mezzanine Level
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SELECT ONE TO ATTEND) NEW SCO TRAINING* EDGAR FORD, EDUCATION APPROVAL SPECIALIST SCO TRAINING REQUIREMENTS* RAMON TORRY, EDUCATION APPROVAL SPECIALIST VOCATIONAL FLIGHT PROGRAMS* TINA KEETER, CHIEF EDUCATION LIAISON OFFICER	Ray Dolby Salon 1-3 Studio A-B Studio C
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN WAVES BOARD CANDIDATE INFO SESSION	Solano



2026
CONFERENCE

TUESDAY
07.21.2026

DAY 2 (CONT.)

1:30 PM –
2:30 PM

CATALOG SUBMISSIONS & REVIEW PROCESS: INSTITUTIONS PERSPECTIVES (GENERAL SESSION)

EVERETTE JACKSON, NASAA EAST REGION VP

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

2:30 PM –
3:00 PM

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Mezzanine Level

3:00 PM –
4:00 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SELECT ONE TO ATTEND)

PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS AMONG STUDENT VETERANS

EDDIE BOQUILLA, VETERAN SUPPORT
SPECIALIST, USVETS PHOENIX

Studio A-B

OUT OF UNIFORM, INTO THE INTERVIEW: CLOSING THE FIRST-IMPRESSION GAP FOR TRANSITIONING VETERANS

AARON CRIST AND MELINDA YEE FRANKLIN,
MYCAREERCLOSET

Studio C

LIGHTS, CAMERA, CREDIT! ADVANCING VETERAN STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH JST AND CPL

CALVIN KLEIN GLORIA, DIRECTOR OF MILITARY
CPL PATHWAYS, RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY
COLLEGE AND LESLIE ALARCON, VETERANS
COUNSELOR, MORENO VALLEY COLLEGE

Studio D-E

BEYOND BENEFITS: WHY STUDENT VETERANS SHOULD CONSIDER THE AMERICAN LEGION

DR. KATHY CASH, COMMANDER

4:00 PM –
5:00 PM

STATE BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SELECT ONE TO ATTEND)

CALIFORNIA

CSAAVE

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

WASHINGTON AND ARIZONA

Studio A-B

TEXAS

Studio C

ALL OTHER STATES

Studio D-E

6:30 PM –
10:00 PM

TEAMBUILDING ACTIVITY: 90'S DANCE PARTY

Ray Dolby Salon 4-6



2026
CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY
07.22.2026

AGENDA - DAY 3

7:00 AM -
12:00 PM

REGISTRATION

Beachwood/Runyon/Laurel

7:00 AM -
8:00 AM

BREAKFAST REFRESHMENTS

Ray Dolby Salon 4-6

8:00 AM -
9:00 AM

STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA (GENERAL SESSION)

CORY BOATWRIGHT, SVA NATIONAL
PRESIDENT

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

9:00 AM -
10:00 AM

FEDERAL UPDATES (GENERAL SESSION)

KENNETH SMITH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
EDUCATION SERVICE, DVA

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

10:00 AM -
10:30 AM

BREAK & RESOURCE FAIR

Mezzanine Level

10:30 AM -
12:00 PM

85/15 REQUIREMENTS*

GLEN PENA, SUPERVISORY PROGRAM
OVERSIGHT SPECIALIST

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

12:00 PM -
1:30 PM

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 PM -
3:00 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SELECT ONE TO ATTEND)

ENROLLMENT MANAGER*

ADRIAN RAMIREZ, EDUCATION APPROVAL
SPECIALIST

Ray Dolby Salon 1-2

YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAMS*

ROGELIO GARCIA, EDUCATION APPROVAL
SPECIALIST

Studio A-B

COMPLIANCE SURVEYS*

GLEN PENA, SUPERVISORY PROGRAM
OVERSIGHT SPECIALIST, AND TINA KEETER,
CHIEF EDUCATION LIAISON OFFICE

Studio C

DAY 3 (CONT.)

3:00 PM –
3:30 PM

**REFRESHMENT BREAK
& RESOURCE FAIR**

Mezzanine Level

3:30 PM –
5:00 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SELECT ONE TO ATTEND)

**UNDERSTANDING SUPERVISORY VISITS
AND RISK BASED SURVEYS**

Studio A-B

KATHY SNYDER, NASAA WEST REGION VP

**THE AI-POWERED SCO: USING
NOTEBOOKLM AND GEMINI GEMS FOR
EFFICIENCY AND ACCURACY**

Studio D-E

ROSS ATKINSON, PH.D, VETERAN SERVICES
PROGRAM, AIMS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND
JARED POLITO

**BRIDGING THE GAP: MANAGING VA
EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS AND FINANCIAL
AID FOR STUDENT SUCCESS**

Studio C

DR. TAKESHA MCMILLER, NORTHERN VIRGINIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**THE HIDDEN CURRICULUM: CLOSING THE
CIVILIAN CAREER ETIQUETTE GAP FOR
STUDENT**

Solano

AARON CRIST AND MELINDA YEE FRANKLIN,
MYCAREERCLOSET

6:30 PM –
8:30 PM

**SCO BANQUET & AWARDS CEREMONY
MASQUERADE BALL**

Ray Dolby Salon 3-6

JASON T. GARCIA, WAVES PRESIDENT

**COCKTAIL ATTIRE RECOMMENDED & MASKS WILL BE
PROVIDED*





2026
WAVES CONFERENCE

THURSDAY
07.23.2026

AGENDA - DAY 4

7:00 AM -
8:00 AM

BREAKFAST REFRESHMENTS

Ray Dolby Salon 4-6

8:00 AM -
8:30 AM

WAVES BUSINESS MEETING (GENERAL SESSION)

JASON T. GARCIA, WAVES PRESIDENT

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

8:30 AM -
10:00 AM

VETERAN READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT (VR&E) (GENERAL SESSION)

CHANTILE STOVALL, ACTING EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF VR&E

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

10:00 AM -
10:30 AM

BREAK & RESOURCE FAIR

Mezzanine Level

10:30 AM -
12:00 PM

DEBT MANAGEMENT CENTER* (GENERAL SESSION)

JULIE LAWRENCE, CHIEF OF OPERATIONS,
VETERANS RESOLUTION DIVISION

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

12:00 PM -
1:30 PM

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 PM -
3:00 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SELECT ONE TO ATTEND)

NON-COLLEGE DEGREE PROGRAMS*

ADRIAN RAMIREZ, EDUCATION APPROVAL
SPECIALIST

Ray Dolby Salon 1-3

WORK STUDY PROGRAMS*

JOSE GUTIERREZ, EDUCATION APPROVAL
SPECIALIST

Studio A-B

SVA CHAPTER GROWTH AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA: FAISAL
SULMAN AND JACELYNMARIE ACHIU

Studio C



2026
CONFERENCE

THURSDAY
07.23.2026

DAY 4 (CONT.)

3:00 PM –
3:30 PM

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Mezzanine Level

3:30 PM –
5:00 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SELECT ONE TO ATTEND)

COMPLIANCE WITH CONFIDENCE: A PRACTICAL COMPLIANCE READINESS FRAMEWORK FOR SCOS

Studio A-B

VANNESSA HAYDEE WEBER AND ARIEL
WILLIAMS, VERACITY RESEARCH SOLUTIONS

FROM CONFUSION TO CLARITY: SIMPLIFYING VA BENEFITS COMMUNICATION

Studio C

CHASSIDY JACKSON, DIRECTOR OF MILITARY
AND ADULT EDUCATION, ALBANY STATE
UNIVERSITY

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS: DEMYSTIFYING GI BILL® AND ARNG EDUCATION BENEFITS

Studio D-E

BARRY SCHNAITMAN, PROGRAM MANAGER

***SESSIONS COUNT TOWARD THE VA'S SCO ANNUAL TRAINING REQUIREMENT
AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO CERTIFY VIA THE SCO TRAINING PORTAL POST-
CONFERENCE.**

**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING WAVES 2026!
HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME!**

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

