



# THE CITADEL

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VETERAN STUDENT  
SUCCESS CENTER



The Monthly Dispatch



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January 2025

Veteran Student Success Center (VSSC) Newsletter

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## Upcoming Events

### **The Citadel Student Veterans Association Meeting**

*Friday, January 10, 2025*

*2:15PM at Capers 1011*

Join The Citadel Student Veterans Association as they discuss upcoming events for the spring and hear from guest speakers. Food will be provided and a zoom link for virtual attendees will be sent at noon the day of the meeting. For questions please email [CitadelVeterans@Citadel.edu](mailto:CitadelVeterans@Citadel.edu). \*All Veteran and Active Duty students are welcome to join, there is no sign up or dues for membership.\*

### **VITAL On Campus**

*Thursday, January 16, 2025*

*8AM - 12PM at VSSC*

Vital Coordinator Jordan Watkins will be on campus from 8 am to 12 pm in the Veteran Student Success Center (VSSC). Stop by to discuss any VA needs or mental health concerns you may be experiencing!

## **The Citadel is CLOSED**

*Monday, January 20, 2025*

The Citadel will be closed for MLK Jr. Day.

## **Ring Sizing Available for Upcoming Seniors**

*January 22 - 23*

*TBD at Holliday Alumni Center*

If you will be graduating Fall 2025 through Summer 2026 please consider purchasing a class ring. To be sized and receive more information join us any time during these two days at the Holliday Alumni Center.

## **VITAL On Campus**

*Thursday, January 23, 2025*

*8AM - 12PM at VSSC*

Vital Coordinator Jordan Watkins will be on campus from 8 am to 12 pm in the Veteran Student Success Center (VSSC). Stop by to discuss any VA needs or mental health concerns you may be experiencing!

## **Gold Star & Dean's List Celebration Lunch**

*Thursday, January 23, 2025*

*12 - 1PM at Swain Boat House*

All Veteran and Active Duty students who received Gold Star or Dean's List recognition during the Fall 2024 semester are invited to attend and receive their certificate. Lunch will be served and the event is open for drop ins. Those invited will be sent an invitation and RSVP form earlier in the month.

## **Gold Star Recognition Parade**

*Friday, January 24, 2025*

*3:45PM at Summerall Parade Deck*

All Veteran and Active Duty students who received Gold Star Recognition during the Fall 2024 semester are invited to attend the parade and be recognized for their achievement. All eligible students will receive an invitation to participate via email. Friends, family, and fellow students are invited to watch.

## **VITAL On Campus**

*Thursday, January 30, 2025*

*8AM - 12PM at VSSC*

Vital Coordinator Jordan Watkins will be on campus from 8 am to 12 pm in the Veteran Student Success Center (VSSC). Stop by to discuss any VA needs or mental health concerns you may be experiencing!

## **Veteran Mentorship Program Spring Reception**

*Sunday, January 26, 2025*

*5 - 7 PM at Jim Whetstone's Residence*

Veteran and Active Duty mentees are invited to attend the program reception at program director Jim Whetstone's home. Please see email for invitation and RSVP form.

## **Veteran Student Mentorship Program Lunch and Learn**

*Wednesday, February 5, 2025*

*12 - 1 PM at VSSC*

Want to know more about the Veteran Student Mentorship Program? Stop by the lunch and learn to meet with program director Jim Whetstone and hear more about how you can join. The program which matches Veteran students with a mentor from the community will open applications in January! To learn more today or apply [click here](#).


## **VSSC Launches New Veteran & Active Duty Virtual Student Lounge!**

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- Home
- Modules
- Discussions
- Smart Search
- Zoom
- Harmonize

### VSSC Lounge

## Welcome



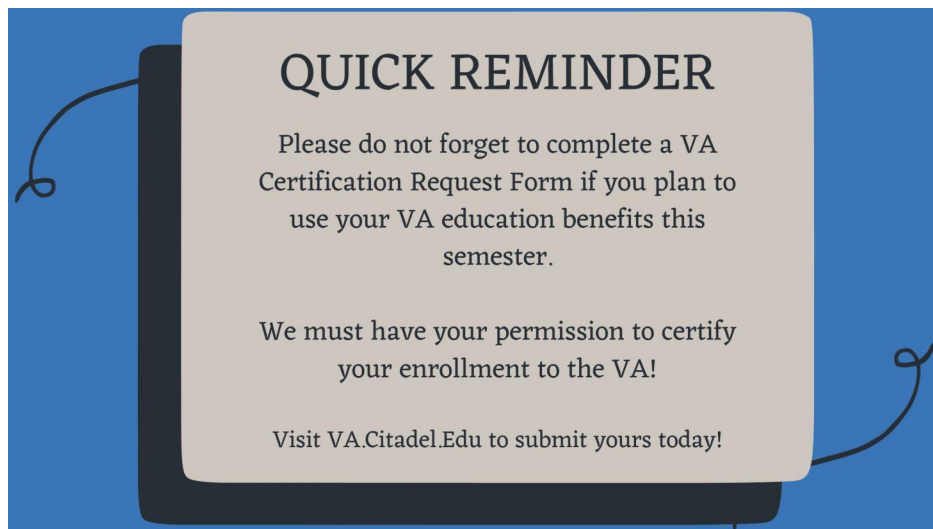
In an effort to further bring together our Veteran and Active Duty students taking courses across the world, the Veteran Student Success Center (VSSC) has launched a virtual student lounge in Canvas.

In the lounge, you can access chat boards, resources, contact information, and more! All students will receive an invite to the lounge next week and have the option to accept or decline. You also have the option to set your notifications to your liking within your Canvas settings.

We are thrilled to be able to provide this new mode of connection and engagement for our students and look forward to welcoming you all to the lounge soon!

If you have any questions or concerns contact [Melissa West](#).

## Start of Semester Checklist!



- Meet with your Academic Advisor and Register for Classes
- Submit your VA Certification Request Form via [VA.Citadel.edu](http://VA.Citadel.edu) to use your VA education benefits
- Print out or upload your schedule into your calendar
- Visit the VSSC for any school supplies, business attire, or food you need to succeed this semester

Reminder: Drop-Add for the Veteran Day Program ends on January 14!

## Veteran Student Experience Survey Opens 1/13

Each year, The Citadel sends out a Veteran Student Experience Survey to all Veteran students. This is our main way of gauging feedback for programming, advocating for needed resources, and learning more about our students' experiences.

**Please take the survey! It is vital to our leadership to hear from YOU!**

*You should receive the survey in your inbox on Monday, January 13, from "CitadelSurvey@Citadel.edu" with the subject line "The Citadel Veteran Student Experience Survey 2025." The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete and will be open until midnight on Friday, January 24.*

If you have any questions or technical difficulties regarding the survey please contact [Kelley Kinney](#) in Institutional Research.

## SC Bio Foundation Scholarship Available



**SCbio FOUNDATION INTERNSHIP GRANT**

**AWARDING UP TO \$3,000 IN GRANT FUNDS**

The SCbio Foundation is now accepting applications for its summer internship grant program to support South Carolina college students during their in-person summer internships at life sciences companies in the Palmetto State.

**Applicant Criteria:**

- Any actively enrolled student at a South Carolina college/university college **OR**
- A South Carolina resident college student actively enrolled in an out-of-state institution

**APPLICATIONS DUE:**  
March 1, 2025

**GRANTS AWARDED:**  
April 1, 2025

*The grant awarded will be allocated for housing and transportation expenses during the internship period. (This is financial aid that does not have to be repaid.)*

*Students of groups underrepresented in the biosciences are urged to apply.*

 **APPLY HERE**

 **BECOME A STUDENT MEMBER**

Contact: Carol Beard | [cbeard@scbio.org](mailto:cbeard@scbio.org) | (864) 397-5101 EXT 2

*The Citadel is a proud member of the SC Bio Foundation and therefore all Citadel students are eligible for this scholarship.*

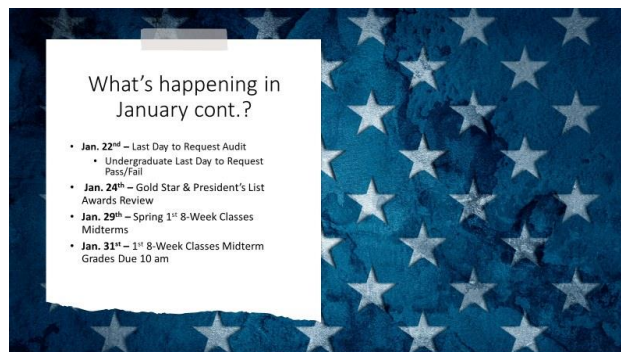
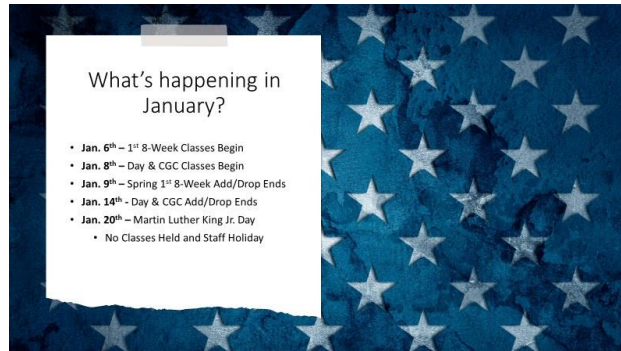
## The Citadel Student Veterans Association (CSVA) Spotlight

The Citadel Student Veterans Association (CSVA) has been hard at work planning several events for the spring semester, including intramural teams, basketball game tailgates, and a golf tournament to raise funds for the organization. To stay in the loop on all things happening make

sure to attend our monthly meetings on the first Friday of every month at 2:15pm in person and via zoom.

**ALL Veteran and Active Duty students are MEMBERS OF CSVA! You do not have to fill out any forms or pay dues to join the club!**

## Academic Calendars



## Resource Spotlight

Track Heroes is an organization that was built to find alternative solutions for the needs of First Responders and Veterans who deal daily with conditions such as PTSD, anxiety, depression, and stress, as they transition to civilian life.

Track Heroes is a non-profit (501c3) that combines High Performance Driving and cutting edge neuroscience to improve the mental health of V1Rs without the use of drugs or medication. Through our research, we verified that High Performance Driving improves mental health, validated how and why it does so, then designed the Adaptive Control Program (ACP) to maximize those benefits while promoting camaraderie and long term mental health.

To see a list of their upcoming events or learn how to get involved visit their website: [Track Heroes](#)



Keep in Touch



[1 - Like us on Facebook](#)



[2 - Follow us on Instagram](#)



3 - Email us at [VA\\_Benefits@Citadel.edu](mailto:VA_Benefits@Citadel.edu).



*4 - Call us at 843-953-9824.*