Ready, Aim, Hire

An initiative to get vets from here to hired.

The Ready, Aim, Hire program is designed to help student veterans prepare themselves for the job market.

Often, veterans looking for civilian employment find they “don’t know what they don’t know” about the process. For example, they may have prepared a resume filled with acronyms unfamiliar to a civilian audience, or they may not include (or adequately translate) military education, training or experiences, or even worse, may not believe that their skills and experiences can bring value to the civilian workforce.

This hurts employers and veterans. It leaves employers unaware of the full value veterans bring to their organization and leaves the veteran unaware of their own potential. Uncovering and translating this value-add is only possible with the help of people with experience on both sides of the equation; veterans currently working in industry.

Our program works to uncover this value through connecting employers, employed veterans and student veterans in three phases, as outlined below:

The Ready phase. This phase includes information sessions on civilian career paths, internships, and resume/interview/cover letter/LinkedIn profile strategies presented by employed veterans and military recruiters. Goal: Help veterans identify career interests, apply for internships, and build draft resumes. Date: Early Fall Quarter.

The Aim phase. This phase is a workshop in which employed veterans and HR professionals come together to provide mock Interviews, panel discussions on recruiting strategies, and one-on-one, line-by-line assistance with resumes. Goal: Prepared, interview-ready veterans with translated resumes in hand. Date: Winter Quarter.

The Hire phase. The final phase is a small “career fair” connecting the student veteran population meaningful job opportunities at UCLA. Employers interested in hiring veterans would send military recruiting staff and/or veteran employees to collect resumes and discuss opportunities with UCLA student veterans. Goal: Employ graduating veterans in meaningful roles. Date: Early Spring Quarter.

This program is presented through a partnership between the UCLA Student Veterans of America Chapter, Alumni Association, Veteran’s Resource Office, and Career Center.