

Office Assistant II (VROC)

2021 – 2022 New Position Proposals

Presentations and Discussions

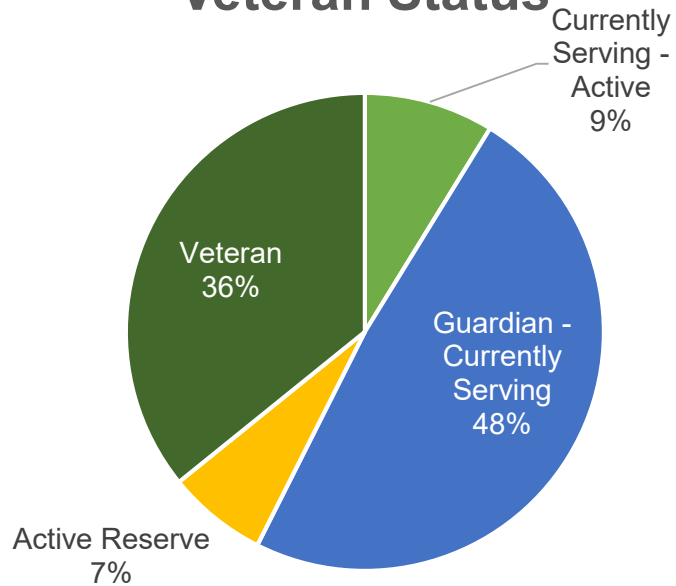
December 1, 2021



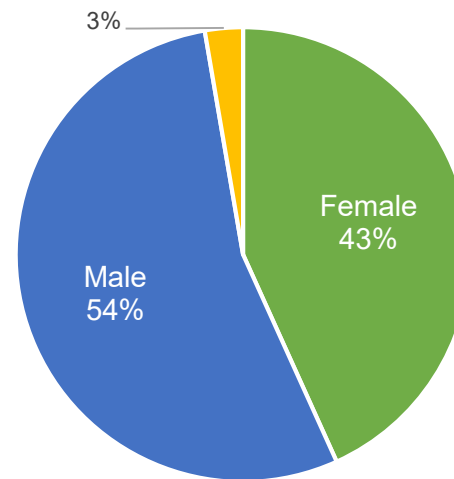
Photo Credit: Peter Tam

A Quick Look at our Student Veterans

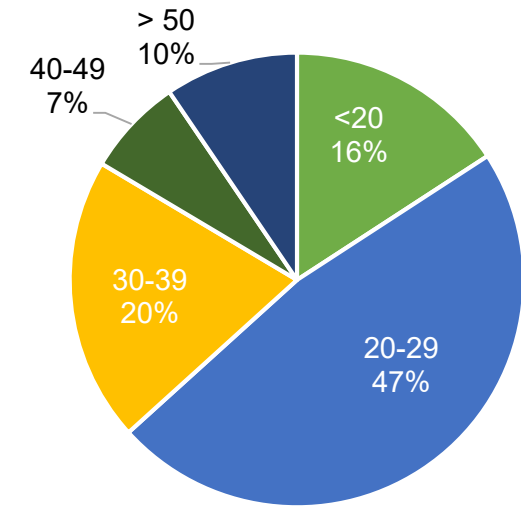
Veteran Status



Veteran Gender



Veteran Ages



10.4 = The average number of units student veterans are taking at Cañada College

78 = Programs of study (8 Rad Tech, 8 Nursing, 14 Business)

VROC at Cañada College

The Veterans Resource and Opportunity Center (VROC) is committed to supporting **veterans of all eras and military connected individuals** while in attendance at Cañada College.

- **Traditional Services Offered Include:**
 - Assistance with the **college matriculation** process including **certification**
 - Access to veteran **benefits**
 - Veterans Administration (VA) – including Basic Housing Allowance (BHA)
 - Connecting to **Counseling** and academic support resources
- Events and Activities
- Referrals to campus and community Resources

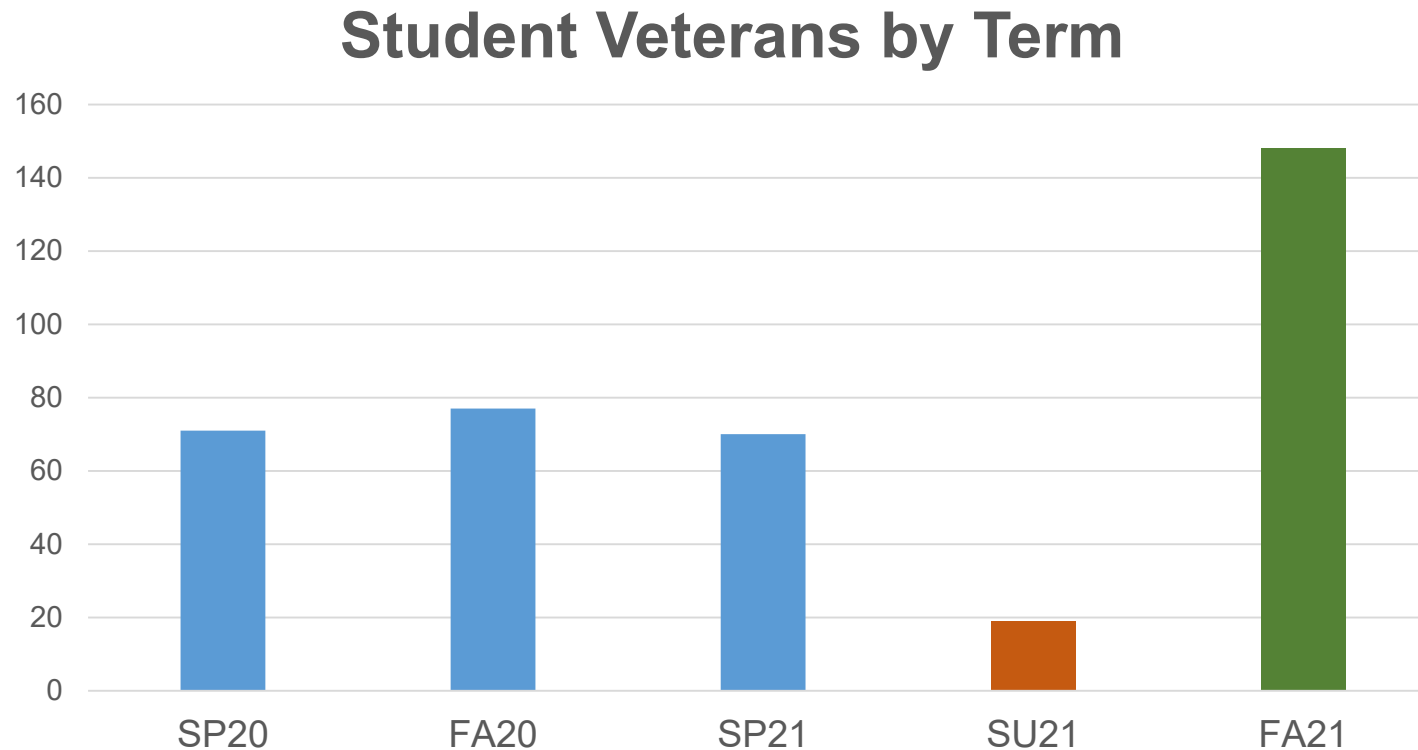
VROC Highlights

- Kristi Longoria currently serves in a 50/50 shared VROC / Probation Dismissal PSC position
- There are currently 148 student veterans enrolled in classes at Cañada (304?)
- However only 31 of these students have Cañada College as their home campus (compared to around 145 at each of our sister campuses)
 - Basic Housing Allowance (\$4971 vs. \$4119 = \$852 less at Cañada)
 - Lack of consistent support for student veterans year over year
 - Our sister campuses have had dedicated FT Veterans Coordinators year over year
- COVID-19 requires increased support for veterans

The Need

- Additional coverage for VROC due to Kristi Longoria's 50% role
 - Additional support with new legislation
 - VA Isakson and Roe (shopping lists), COVID-19 provisions, VA-ONCE enrollment certifications, Outreach and Website updates.
- Increasing access for student veterans and military connected students to VA certifications, personal counseling, transfer services and basic needs
- Alignment of veteran services across all three campuses
- Streamline communications and enrollment process
 - Student Success Link (SSL)
- Outreach and Website updates

How Many Student Veterans Are There?



Cañada College Mission Alignment

VROC supports a learning centered environment that ensures that **all veterans** and their dependents **have equitable opportunities** to achieve their transfer, career education, lifelong learning and educational goals.



Cañada College Goal Alignment

Goal #1: Student Completion / Success

Provide educational and student services programs that highlight inclusivity, diversity and equity in their mission to **help students meet their unique educational goals and minimize logistical and financial barriers** to success.

Goal #2: Community Connections

Build and strengthen collaborative relationships and partnerships that support the needs of, reflect, and enrich our diverse and vibrant local community.

Closing Equity Gaps

- Student veterans are a disproportionately impacted (DI) community.
- They are often non-traditional aged students who may find it difficult adjusting to civilian life from the military.
- Student veterans are also often in need of personal counseling to address PTSD.
- Student veterans are diverse
 - (LatinX, AANAPISI, Black and African American)
- Connections to campus and community resources

Funding Request

- **The majority of the funding will be covered by the CCCCO Veterans Resource Center funding**
- The CCCCO provides on-going Veterans Resource Center Funding year over year
- Funding is partially based on certified veterans at Cañada
 - As we increase our student veterans certified, our CCCCO allocation will increase



How Will this Position Strengthen VROC

- We will **meet the CCCCCO minimum guidelines** Veterans Resource Centers
- **100% in-person support** will be available for our student veterans in VROC as we transition back to in-person services
- Our student veterans will experience an increase in the quantity and quality of wrap-around services and **support available** to our Cañada College veterans and military connected community.
 - Academic, mental health, basic needs and legal assistance
- Increase the number of veterans certified, units that veterans are enrolled in and overall veteran enrollment at Cañada College
 - **More Veterans leads towards More Funding**

How Will this Position Strengthen VROC (continued)

- Connect veterans to academic support programs and services designed to **increase** their **retention, success and persistence**
- **Ease the transition** from military to civilian life. Connecting veterans to necessary campus, Veterans Administration and community resources
- Strengthen **District-wide** Veterans support services by streamlining services
- Improve success and remove financial barriers for veterans
 - Basic Needs, Book Voucher Program, veteran tutoring & peer mentorship
- **Referrals** to ASCC, Career Services, Transfer Services, Financial Aid, Tutoring, Personal Counseling, Disability Resources and so many more programs

If This Position is Not Filled

- Cañada College will not meet the CCCCCO mandate of minimum requirements for Veterans Resource Centers
- It's an equity issue. We will not serve this DI population. Veterans' academic, social, emotional and financial needs will not be met
- Veterans will not select Cañada leading towards decreased veteran enrollment → decreased future funding
- Veterans will not receive necessary supports unique to our veteran population.

Questions?



V-ROC | VETERAN
RESOURCE AND
OPPORTUNITY CENTER
— AT —
Cañada College