



## **AUSA National: NCO & Soldier Programs Initiative**

### **What is AUSA NCO & Soldier Programs?**

AUSA's Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) & Soldier Programs is a department within AUSA National, dedicated to providing and supporting professional development, networking, resources and Soldier-related content through various avenues of participation and communication to the Army's NCO and Soldier population.

The NCO & Soldier Programs initiative is led by the vice president of NCO & Soldier Affairs at the chapter level and supported by the NCO & Soldier Programs staff at the national level.

### **What AUSA Offers NCOs and Soldiers**

- Career enhancement and professional development forums and seminars
- Social events and gatherings with other NCOs and Soldiers, senior military personnel and AUSA sponsors and personnel
- Content and literature that directly impact and highlight points of interest for NCOs and Soldiers
- Livestreaming of AUSA programs
- Direct support from NCO & Soldier Programs national staff

### **How to Bring NCO and Soldier Programming to Your Chapter**

- Appoint a vice president of NCO & Soldier Affairs (NCOSA) for your chapter
- Enter your appointee's name into the Chapter Leadership Portal to ensure they receive updates and valuable information
- Follow, like and share the vice president of NCO & Soldier Programs' Twitter page @15thSMA
- Connect with local businesses and other organizations that would sponsor NCO and Soldier events, awards and recognitions
- Connect with local recruiting stations and U.S. Army Reserve and U.S. Army National Guard units to create a partnership with the chapter
- Subscribe to Soldier Today



### **Duties of the Chapter Vice President of NCO & Soldier Affairs**

- Take advantage of opportunities within the chapter footprint to invite and encourage NCOs and Soldiers to participate in chapter activities that relate to the recruitment of NCO and Soldier membership
- Build upon, create and encourage partnerships that engage the community and spur Soldiers and their families to get involved in AUSA
- Take advantage of opportunities to highlight NCO and Soldier competencies and incorporate them in events, forums and seminars
- Coordinate with local likeminded organizations to do cooperative events
- Create, develop and execute new initiatives that directly impact and benefit the NCO and Soldier population
- Create a partnership with local recruiting offices (all components)
- Create and submit an annual summary of all chapter activities that directly served, acknowledged or benefited NCOs and Soldiers

### **Support Available from the AUSA National Office**

- Guest speakers from AUSA leadership
- Literature created and distributed by AUSA
- Promotional items and giveaways

### **NCO & Soldier Programs Ideas**

- Host a transition (entering or leaving the military) event on topics such as employment, health care and spouse support
- Participate in NCO and Soldier recognition award ceremonies
- Host NCO leadership seminars led by senior enlisted personnel (E-7 or above)
- Host social events for members
- Establish and maintain a newsletter or social media presence
- Establish NCO Day with activities
- Organize an event in collaboration with groups such as BOSS, the USO, Blue Star Families, AUSA Young Professionals and spouses clubs
- Visit, host an event or volunteer at a local Fisher House
- Participate in Chamber of Commerce events
- Participate in community partner or local sponsor outreach events
- Host an NCO Common Core Competencies Forum led by senior NCOs
- Host an AUSA podcast listening party
- Conduct VTCs with AUSA NCO & Soldier Programs staff members
- Host Master Resilience Competency training
- Brief at newcomer events, brigade/battalion steering meetings or senior spouse meetings
- Host a spirit week with events that build on opportunities to engage the local community
- Host a viewing party for AUSA livestream events
- Reach out to local recruiters, Army National Guard and Army Reserve personnel



### **AUSA National Ribbon Attainment:**

**A chapter must complete and report the following in order to obtain an NCO & Soldier Programs Ribbon at the Annual Meeting; *Open Category; No chapter limit, CARs must be received by June 30 of each year***

- **Have an actively serving NCO or Soldier from one of the three service components, Regular Army, National Guard or Army Reserve, on the chapter board**
  - The name of the NCO or Soldier must be recorded and submitted by the chapter president
  - Due to some demographic challenges, this person does not have to always be present for meetings, it is acceptable for them to offer their insight and guidance via phone calls or emails
- **Appoint a vice president of NCO & Soldier Affairs**
  - This person should be supervised by and report to the chapter president
  - The sole responsibility of this person is to seek sponsorship for NCO & Soldier Programs for the chapter, create and host events that bring awareness to NCO and Soldier programs, and create opportunities to increase membership and visibility
- **Participate in or attend an NCO or Soldier recognition or retiree award ceremony**
- **Host a minimum of one organization collaboration event (BOSS, Blue Star Families, USO, Spouses Club, etc.)**
  - This event should be with likeminded organizations with the purpose of cross promotion and to share audiences
- **Host a minimum of one NCO or Soldier leadership seminar led by a senior NCO E-7 or above**
  - This can be done in the form of a seminar, social, professional development or luncheon forum, or workshops to listen to the AUSA podcast or view an Education and Programs event



## **AUSA National NCO & Soldier Ribbon Plus Challenge**

- **To compete, chapters must complete all ribbon attainment criteria plus an additional five challenges. The chapter vice president of NCO & Soldier Affairs must then submit a \*cumulative annual summary of all chapter activities that directly served, acknowledged or benefited NCOs and Soldiers. The NCO & Soldier national staff will review each submitted summary and a first-, second- and third-place winner will be chosen.**

\*Please note that the cumulative summary does not take the place of a CAR for events

- **Participate in chamber of commerce event**
  - AUSA national pays for one chamber of commerce yearly fee
  - See if there is a military representative in the chapter's local chamber or an opening for AUSA to get involved
  - This can include going to a monthly chamber meeting
- **Host an AUSA livestream viewing party, Soldier Today discussion group or podcast listening party featuring an NCO or Soldier as a guest**
  - The Soldier can be serving or retired
- **Register five new actively serving Soldiers**
  - When completing the CAR report and cumulative summary for this activity, be sure to include the names of the Soldiers as you sign them up
- **Conduct an AUSA briefing**
  - This can be done at a steering meeting, chamber of commerce meeting, town hall, newcomer event or wherever there is an opportunity to speak about the benefits of AUSA
- **Host a minimum of one additional NCO or Soldier leadership seminar led by a senior NCO, E-7 or above**
  - This can be done in the form of a seminar, social, professional development or luncheon forum, or workshops to listen to the AUSA podcast or view an Education and Programs event



### **Prizes for Winning Chapters**

**First Place:** Trophy presentation by the NCO & Soldier Programs national staff, along with a check for \$1,000 to be used at the discretion of the chapter for NCO and Soldier programming. In addition, the winning chapter will receive head table seating for 10 and chapter recognition at the SMA luncheon at the Annual Meeting

**Second Place:** Check for \$500 to be used at the discretion of the chapter for NCO and Soldier programming

**Third Place:** Check for \$250 to be used at the discretion of the chapter for NCO and Soldier programming

