

THE 5 STAR CHALLENGE

About this initiative:

The **5 Star Challenge** is a call to action for West Virginia's public two-year and four-year institutions and their coordinating agencies to adopt a set of exemplary standards for supporting student veterans. Institutions that accept the challenge will have until September 1, 2016, to implement each of the five tenets (stars) of the challenge.

The challenge pays homage to the military tradition of issuing "challenge coins" to military service members who exemplify the values and standards of their military units. Participating institutions will be presented with a "5 Star Challenge Coin" that will be provided by the West Virginia Office of Veterans Education and Training (OVET).

The presentation of the Challenge Coin will signify a compact between the institution accepting the challenge and student veterans. Participating campuses will host a commitment ceremony during which the coins will be exchanged via a handshake between the institution's student veteran organization's president and the institution's president, provost, or other high-ranking official.

OVET encourages institutions to host their Challenge Coin ceremonies during the week of Veterans Day, 2015. Institutions are asked to accept or decline the Challenge by September 15, 2015 by completing the response survey at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5-Star-Challenge>.

Institutions that accept the Challenge will be provided with a detailed guide and ongoing training on how to succeed in implementing each Star in the Challenge, as well as assistance in promoting and carrying out the commitment ceremony.

The Challenge Coin:

