



“ Transitioning service members, veterans and military spouses find the Skillsoft curriculum ideal because it not only translates existing military skills into a civilian career, but aligns with in-demand expertise for which employers are in need. ”

Laura Cooper, Director, Advising & Enrollment Services Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

The Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) at Syracuse University provides career training and education for post-9/11 veterans, active duty service members and their spouses. The Onward to Opportunity-Veterans Career Transition Program (O2O-VCTP) has grown exponentially since switching to a monthly admissions cycle in January 2017, and there was an urgent need for scalable eLearning content to keep up with students' demands. In addition, the students needed flexibility whether learning on installation or online. Members of the O2O-VCTP program often had foundational experience in HR, Project Management, or IT as part of their military role but needed certification in their field to remain competitive as a civilian employee. The O2O-VCTP covers certification exam fees, making it a magnet for students.

HOW SKILLSOFT® HELPED

O2O-VCTP partnered with Skillsoft to prepare thousands of students for their professional certification exams. Skillsoft's extensive eLearning library includes comprehensive online courses, practice tests, and expert mentorship for students preparing for business certifications (e.g., Project Management Professional (PMP), HRIC, Six Sigma) or IT certifications (e.g., CompTIA Cloud+, CompTIA Linux+, CISSP, Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH), etc.). Over half of all O2O-VCTP students completed at least one Skillsoft learning program, and students emphasized the Skillsoft courses were vital in preparing them for their exams. In addition to certification preparation, the program included Skillsoft Digital Skills content to improve student fluency in MS Office programs.

KEY METRICS

850+ Industry certifications have been achieved by graduates of the program

82% Students indicate having more confidence in their ability to perform their jobs

63% Foresee opportunities for advancement at their job after the program

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

The Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) is the first interdisciplinary national institute in higher education focused on the social, economic, education, and policy issues impacting veterans and their families. Through its professional staff and experts, the IVMF delivers leading programs in career, vocational, and entrepreneurship education and training, such as O2O-VCTP, while also conducting actionable research, policy analysis, and program evaluations. The IVMF also supports communities through collective impact efforts that enhance delivery and access to services and care.

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