

ETS Sponsorship Training

ETS-SP trains and certifies our sponsors to ensure that we provide the most effective mentoring possible for our service members/Veterans. Their role as a sponsor is what makes our program so unique. Their training - along with their passion to assist our Veterans - is what makes our program so effective.

Sponsor candidates will participate in three training sessions in order to obtain certification. Training events are virtual and in person with assigned cohort groups. Typically, the sessions are about two hours long and conducted on a weeknight. Depending on an individual's schedule and when the training is offered, it may take a sponsor a month or two to complete the training and become certified.

Throughout the sponsorship journey, sponsors will be offered continued education to ensure that they are current on the latest developments and changes, and are best equipped to assist the service member/Veteran with whom they are matched. Professional development classes are one-hour virtual meetings that begin at 7:00 pm EST. They are offered monthly on the second Tuesday of every month. ETS-SP sponsors are required to participate quarterly and encouraged to participate monthly.

Overview of ETS-SP Training Sessions:

[Training Session 1 - Building Positive Interpersonal Relationships with Veterans](#)

[Training Session 2 - Goal Setting Theory/Orientation to Resource Networks](#)

[Training Session 3 - Having Hard Conversations with Veterans/Suicide Prevention and Certification](#)

Typically, ETS-SP Training will be conducted between the hours of 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. EST for CONUS participants. Training times and dates may be adjusted to accommodate OCONUS partners.

Day long training may be accommodated *pending Support Director approval*.

The schedule will be revisited at monthly meetings and adjustments will be made to ensure the most optimal times/dates are selected. Criteria for making such adjustments include, but are not limited to:

- cohort sizes
- staffing capabilities
- holidays
- location and time zone of cohorts
- organizational requests (i.e., if a specific organization requests their own cohort)
- increased mission needs

Note: Adjustments are made by the Support Director with input from Senior Trainers.