

Education Is Now More Affordable for Veterans

Education is now more affordable for military veterans inside the LP industry as well as those interested in a career in our industry who are transiting from their military careers.

Recently, we were delighted to announce to our veteran community that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has evaluated, approved, and included the exams for first-level LPQualified(LPQ) and the advanced-level LPCertified(LPC), making both exams eligible for G.I. Bill reimbursement. This new financial assistance for veterans is a key component of the LPF's mission to offer comprehensive, start-to-finish service packages for those desiring a career in this industry. While much has been written on attracting veterans into LP and assisting them with the transition, the Foundation and its military transition committee has also been committed to the professional advancement and assistance of those veterans currently employed in our industry.

Our success in having the VA recognize the Foundation's certification programs was a tremendous achievement. This now provides us with the ability to bring even more value to our transitioning men and women of the military as well as our veteran community; and affords these professionals an opportunity to transition that skill set to organizations that will certainly value the experience and knowledge they bring to the table.

One of the many things veterans learn while serving in the military is the importance of possessing an attitude for continuous learning; and how that attitude for learning enhanced their chances for advancement. This attitude is carried over into civilian life by their desire to actively pursue a college degree and professional certification.

Recognizing the need to support veterans in their pursuit of a degree, the Foundation established a partnership with the American Military University (with over 65,000 military/veteran students) and helped to create a concentration in loss prevention. The Foundation also had the LPQ and LPC evaluated for academic credit. By obtaining AMU approval for credit, it allows veterans who are certified to get three free credits towards a bachelor's degree. Getting free credit hours

by John Clark



Clark is the director of corporate asset protection for Sports Authority, where he is responsible for corporate AP operations and investigations, global supply-chain security, and emergency management operations. Clark also is a board member as well as the retail vice president for the Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail (CLEAR). He is the committee chairman for the Loss Prevention Foundation's military transition committee. Prior to his career in the private sector, Clark served in various roles in law enforcement and was a member of the U.S. Air Force. While serving our country, he earned degrees in criminal justice administration and industrial security management from the U.S. Air Force Air University and the Community College of the Air Force.

simply makes pursuing a degree a little more affordable and helps to demonstrate the value of the certifications.

Many military veterans that are already a part of our industry are fortunate to work for companies that eagerly fund tuition reimbursement and professional certification. Unfortunately, others are not so fortunate and do not have the funds to pay for profession certification. Therefore, one of our goals has been to make becoming LPQ and LPC certified more affordable for those wishing to advance their career. That is why the Foundation submitted the LPC and LPQ for VA evaluation and approval.

Some retailers pay for both the prep courses and exams. In other situations companies may only pay for the course, while leaving the cost of the exam to the individual. Some retailers may not pay for either due to budget restrictions. Now, the Foundation has helped to make it more affordable for everyone.

"The VA funding available for the LPC exam is a path to advance one's employment in the retail loss prevention profession. *Fortune 500* corporations put a premium on the LPC designation, which helps to improve employment opportunities," said Kevin Lynch, LPC, former Navy Academy graduate and member of Foundation's military transition committee.

"Retail loss prevention has a tremendous need for knowledgeable talent. An industry-specific course such as the LPC really helps the veteran understand the retail business better, allowing them to perform more effectively in their current position. It also demonstrates their continued desire to learn, proves they possess an advance level of retail specific knowledge, and gives them information often not obtained even with twenty-plus years of experience," said Gene Smith, LPC, president of the Loss Prevention Foundation.

It is this not-for-profit organization's mission to elevate the professionalism of the entire loss prevention industry. The Foundation has many services that help anyone who desires a career in this field or who needs a career boost, including students, those in job transition, those seeking career advancement, retirees, and international LP practitioners. Contact the Foundation to discover the services available to help you grow your loss prevention career.

Newly Certified

Following are individuals who recently earned their certifications.

Recent LPC Recipients

Sharjeel Ahmad, LPC, Walgreens
Raymond Aldaco, LPC, Nike North America
Mattia Bartolini, LPC, Nike North America
Briana Burgess, LPC, Nike North America
Kenneth Carter, LPC, Walmart
Jacklyn Cato, LPC, Cracker Barrel
Old Country Store
Justin Ciampi, LPC, Rite Aid
Frank Dara, LPC, Nike North America
Frederick Dunn, LPC, Nike North America
Adam Ennis, LPC, Cabela's
Robert Frasco, LPC, Nike North America
Benjamin Friedman, LPC, Walmart
John Gammon, LPC, Big Lots
Frank Gassmann, LPC, Walmart
Timothy Hall, LPC, 7-Eleven
Tony Hiatt, LPC, Lowes Foods
Becky Hillyer, LPC, Walgreens
Yiu Ho, LPC, Nike North America
Elena Hollenbeck, LPC, Nike North America
Tracy Johnson, LPC, Nike North America

Christyn Keef, LPC, Walmart
Jason Lundy, LPC, Walmart
Kevin Mahoney, LPC, Nike North America
Kevin Martin, LPC
Donna Matty, LPC
Corey May, LPC, Nike North America
Doug McKendry, LPC, Nike North America
Clint Middlebrooks, LPC, Lowes Companies
Tamara Murray, LPC, Walmart
Thomas Nickel, LPC, Family Dollar
Toby Norton, LPC, Walmart
Ted Nosek, LPC
Adam Oberdick, LPC, Nike North America
Mark Obert, LPC, Rite Aid
Jessica Pierce, LPC, DICK'S Sporting Goods
Chuck Posey, LPC, Office Depot
Joshua Rea, LPC, Nike North America
Patty Rhodes, LPC, Goodwill Industries of
Central Indiana
Carol Rusinko, LPC, Nike North America
Barry Smith, LPC, Nike North America
Curt Steele, LPC, Nike North America
Steven Sturgill, LPC, 7-Eleven
Karl Suhanyi, LPC, 7-Eleven
Susan Torell, LPC, HUGO BOSS Fashions
Doug Victor, LPC, Marshalls

Justin Voss, LPC, Kmart
Keith White, LPC, The Gap, Inc.
Terrell Williams, LPC, Nike North America
Kevin Wolfe, LPC
James Woolverton, LPC, 7-Eleven
Eric York, LPC, Lowe's

Recent LPQ Recipients

Kwame Acree, LPQ, Hermes of Paris
Matthew Brazaitis, LPQ, American Eagle
Outfitters
Kenneth Carlson, LPQ, Lowe's
Edward Collins, LPQ, Simmons Foods
David DeSousa, LPQ, United Technologies
Frances Egbert, LPQ, Macy's
Sarah Hammel, LPQ, Nike North America
Devin King, LPQ, Hermes of Paris
Kevin New, LPQ, 7-Eleven
Jesus Ramirez, LPQ, Hermes of Paris
Jude Rosagaron, LPQ, Goodwill Industries of
Seattle
Eric Roth, LPQ, Nike North America
Pradeep Sengupta, LPQ, Garda
Robert Walker, LPQ, Goodwill Industries
International
Ann Morin Youssef, LPQ, American Eagle
Outfitters ■

ONE SOURCE MORE SOLUTIONS

North America's only one-touch solution for loss prevention, new construction and facilities with nearly 40 years of service to the retail market.

 **Bass Security**®

Providing 24/7 service, repair and emergency response
888.774.3400 | sales@bass-security.com



OFFERING A FULL LINE OF THE LATEST PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

- Analog and IP Video
- Access Control
- Intrusion and Fire Systems
- Electronic Article Surveillance
- Locks and Keys
- Doors and Frames
- Door Hardware

visit us at www.bass-security.com