

Syracuse University

SURFACE at Syracuse University

Institute for Veterans and Military Families

Institutes, Research Centers, and Campus
Groups

4-2024

Research Review: "Entrepreneurship Education and its Role in Transitional Entrepreneurship as Veterans Transition from Military to Civilian Life"

Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://surface.syr.edu/ivmf>



Part of the [Military and Veterans Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University, "Research Review: "Entrepreneurship Education and its Role in Transitional Entrepreneurship as Veterans Transition from Military to Civilian Life"" (2024). *Institute for Veterans and Military Families*. 456.

<https://surface.syr.edu/ivmf/456>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Institutes, Research Centers, and Campus Groups at SURFACE at Syracuse University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Institute for Veterans and Military Families by an authorized administrator of SURFACE at Syracuse University. For more information, please contact surface@syr.edu.

RESEARCH REVIEW | ISSUE 264

■ Entrepreneurship Education and its Role in Transitional Entrepreneurship as Veterans Transition From Military to Civilian Life

AUTHORS:

Mirza Tihic, Adam J. Pritchard, Alexander McKelvie, and Rosalinda Vasquez Maury

SOURCE: Sage Publications: Entrepreneurship Education and Pedagogy

YEAR: 2024

PUBLICATION TYPE: journal article

LINK: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/25151274241232357>

KEYWORDS: entrepreneurship education, transitional entrepreneurship, transition, military veterans, disability

ABSTRACT:

“Programs dedicated to entrepreneurship education of military veterans in the U.S. have expanded remarkably in the last decade. However, much remains to be discovered about the current state of the effectiveness of these programs. This empirical analysis uses the National Survey of Military-Affiliated Entrepreneurs (NSMAE) (n = 2649) to investigate the effectiveness of entrepreneurship education and training as veterans transition from military to civilian life. This paper provides evidence that entrepreneurship education and training are significant for individuals during their transition. Our results emphasize the need for greater interdisciplinary research focusing on entrepreneurship education and transitional entrepreneurship to inform and expand theorizing and new policy development in supporting of military veterans.”

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS:

- This study pioneers a novel approach by treating transition as a dependent variable in evaluating entrepreneurship education, providing insights into the effectiveness of interventions for military veteran entrepreneurs, diverging from traditional research to inform tailored interventions.
- Leveraging data from the National Survey of Military-Affiliated Entrepreneurs, this research fills a critical literature gap by exploring how entrepreneurship education aids veterans' transition to civilian life, emphasizing its potential to provide purpose and facilitate smooth transitions, thus contributing to transitional entrepreneurship knowledge and guiding policies for transitioning populations beyond mental health challenges.
- Findings suggest the effectiveness of entrepreneurship education programs for veterans, signaling the success of veteran entrepreneurship policies and supporting the expansion of such initiatives to other transitioning groups; additional research on the intersection of entrepreneurship education and transitional entrepreneurship is essential for informing policy development.

Implications

FOR PRACTICE

Given the effectiveness of non-SBA resources in facilitating veterans' transition from military to civilian life, practitioners should engage in the development of entrepreneurship education programs tailored specifically to meet the needs of transitioning veterans. They should also prioritize personalized and specialized entrepreneurship education programs. Such programs involve customizing curriculum content, delivery methods, and support services to address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by veterans during their transition from military to civilian life. Practitioners should also actively seek partnerships with local small business incubators, universities, community colleges, and other relevant organizations to enhance the effectiveness of entrepreneurship education programs. By leveraging the expertise and resources of these partners, practitioners can offer veterans access to specialized services, networking opportunities, and hands-on experiential learning experiences.

FOR POLICY

Policymakers should recognize the success of veteran entrepreneurship policies and extend similar programs to other transitioning groups, such as immigrants, individuals with disabilities, and retirees. This extension should be informed by further research and theorizing on the intersection of entrepreneurship education and transitional entrepreneurship to ensure the development of effective policies that support economic and social integration for transitioning individuals and marginalized groups.

FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

Future research should continue to broaden the scope of entrepreneurship education beyond traditional settings like higher education institutions. By focusing on transitional entrepreneurship, researchers can shed light on how entrepreneurship education can effectively address challenges related to transitioning across various contexts, including military to civilian life. This expanded focus can inform the development of inclusive entrepreneurship ecosystems and policies that enable participatory citizenship. Researchers should also further explore the application of transition as a dependent variable in entrepreneurship education research. This approach offers valuable insights into the impact of educational interventions on transition experiences beyond traditional outcome measures like self-efficacy or venture performance. By evaluating the effectiveness of entrepreneurship education across different transitional contexts, researchers can inform the development of tailored interventions and policies that facilitate successful transitions for diverse populations.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Mirza Tihic <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2330-0316>