

# GATOR RECON

University of Florida Association of Military Alumni group's newsletter for  
Gator veterans and UF military-affiliated alumni

February 2026

[www.gatormilitary.org](http://www.gatormilitary.org)



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## "Stand Up & Holler": Contribute to the Gator Nation Giving Day Initiative & Support UFAMA

Your chance to help fund the next generation of Gator veterans is coming to a close Feb. 19, so **make a [donation](#) and let's flood the leaderboard today!**

All contributions made on behalf of UFAMA will be directed UFAMA scholarships for incoming freshmen and get us closer toward our goal of earning an endowment.

The campaign will reward the Top 3 affiliate groups that have the highest percentage of increase of donors compared to last year. In 2025, UFAMA finished third so let's do a full court press!



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## Coming soon! 2026 UFAMA Scholarships Application Deadline

We are proud to once again offer \$5,000 in scholarships to five incoming University of Florida freshmen with military, veteran, Defense Department, and/or ROTC affiliations, including those meaningfully influenced or inspired by military service.

Scholarship applications for the 2026-2027 school year must be submitted either [online](#) or by emailing a completed [form](#) no later than 5 p.m., April 17, 2026.

Questions? Contact [scholarships@gatormilitary.org](mailto:scholarships@gatormilitary.org).

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## Getting the Most of Your UFAMA Membership

The first -- and most convenient -- step toward maximizing the value and pride of being a part of this esteemed group is to meet Gator vets & our military-affiliated partners where they already hang out:

- Join the [UF Alumni Association](#) -- the broadest group of Gator grads -- **as a member of the "Association of Military Alumni"**
- Follow us on social media: [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

- Subscribe to the Gator Recon newsletter (hint: check the bottom of our [website](#))

Second, use those channels to get involved! It could be promoting UFAMA at your next Gator Club meeting, serving on a committee or bringing a local business on as a UFAMA sponsor.

And the third way is to help us help you! Have a general idea on how to strengthen the ranks of former and current Gator vets? Fire it over to [contact@gatormilitary.org](mailto:contact@gatormilitary.org) and we'll figure out how to bring it in for a landing.

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## **Roll Call: Military Reunion Weekend, Nov. 19-22**

Consider yourself invited to this year's military reunion weekend and share your embellished war stories with UFAMA members, friends and families. Pop in for the awards dinner, stay for the entire weekend or just watch the Gators beat Vanderbilt at the Swamp Nov. 21.

Lesson Learned #1 from last reunion weekend: Make your lodging reservations now.

Updates regarding the weekend agenda will be provided as information becomes available.

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## **OPLIGN: No-Cost Career Help**

Among the challenges veterans face after graduation or military service is access to career development. UFAMA is excited to introduce a powerful solution called OPLIGN, a free and automated platform that can help:

- Match members instantly to internships and jobs from 10,000+ employers
- Translate military skills and experience for civilian "consumption"
- Connect alumni and employers online, where 85% of real hiring occurs

This partnership is a new and creative way to help UFAMA members navigate the fog of the job hunt. Visit the OPLIGN office in person (Level 1 of the Reitz Union) or online today!

Visit **OPLIGN**

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