



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Joseph Garcia

Executive Director, Education Service Veteran Benefits Administration



Joseph Garcia was appointed as Executive Director of Education Service on August 1, 2022. He previously served in the higher education sector as a Vice President at William Jewell College in Missouri, Empire State College in New York, and The Citadel: Military College of South Carolina. He served in Senior Executive Service (SES) positions at Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/FEMA and at the US Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Food Safety Inspection Service. He also worked in the private and nonprofit sectors in Washington, DC. Garcia spent 28 years in the Air Force, including tours at the Pentagon, Air Force Academy, Germany and South Korea, and a Middle East deployment. He taught leadership courses at the Air Force Academy and The Citadel and has authored four leadership books. Among his awards are Male Boss of the Year from the Federal Woman’s Program, CFO of the Year from the Kansas City Business Journal, and a superior mission achievement award from DHS.

Mr. Garcia holds an Executive Master’s in Leadership from Georgetown University, a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Central Oklahoma, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Arizona.

CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

2022	Executive Director, Education Service
2013 - 2022	Vice President roles at William Jewell College, Empire State College, The Citadel
2011 - 2013	Chief Financial Officer, USDA, Food Safety Inspection Service, Washington, DC

EDUCATION:

2007	Executive Master’s in Leadership, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
1997	Air Command and Staff College, in-residence, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
1986	Master’s in Business Administration, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK
1984	Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, University of Arizona, AZ