**Portfolio Milestone Assignment: 3: Module 4**

Chioma Chance

Colorado State University Global

CSC510: Foundations of Artificial Intelligence

Dr. Luis Gonzalez

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**Project Update**

I have started building the early structure of my Veteran Support Decision Assistant by designing the initial rule-based questionnaire. Right now, the system presents veterans with a series of guided questions to help narrow down their options for employment, housing, and healthcare benefits. I am currently working on integrating Best-First Search logic to prioritize the follow-up questions based on user responses, allowing the system to focus on the most relevant paths without overwhelming the user. For example, if a veteran indicates they have healthcare experience, the system immediately shifts toward showing healthcare-related career and certification programs. This interactive flow is designed to simulate how a human advisor might guide a veteran toward realistic next steps. According to Sharda et al. (2023), intelligent search methods like Best-First Search are useful for simplifying complex decision spaces, which aligns with the challenges veterans often face when navigating post-service resources. Similarly, Turban et al. (2018) highlight that decision support systems are most effective when they help users filter large amounts of information into personalized, actionable recommendations. My next steps will focus on refining the search logic and testing it with sample user profiles to validate its effectiveness.

**References**

Sharda, R., Delen, D., & Turban, E. (2023). *Business intelligence, analytics, data science, and AI: A managerial perspective* (5th ed.). Pearson.

Turban, E., Sharda, R., & Delen, D. (2018). *Decision support and business intelligence systems* (10th ed.). Pearson.