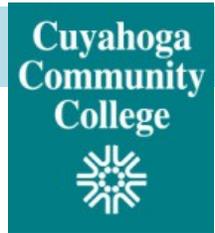


Front Lines

August 2018 Edition



Greetings and welcome to this the August 2018 edition of *Front Lines*, the unofficial newsletter of Cuyahoga Community College's Veterans Initiative Program. Here is a very full look at what is happening...

Welcome Aboard and Welcome Back: On behalf of all associated with the Tri-C Veterans Initiative, I'd like to say "WELCOME BACK" to those student veterans returning this Fall. More importantly, I would like to say "WELCOME ABOARD" to those new student veterans at Tri-C.



Reminders moving into fall 2018

- **Make sure to see your GI Bill Certifying Officer at your respective campus Admissions & Registration Office ASAP.** Now there is no guarantee that Post 9-11/CH 33 benefits (BAH and book stipend) will arrive immediately after the start of the semester which was AUG 29.
- **Note also that anytime you adjust your schedule (i.e., add classes, drop classes, etc.) YOU MUST SEE THE GI BILL CERTIFIER.** Simply going to the Registration Office does not complete the process for student veterans using the GI Bill. The Certifiers are the link with the VA. They handle the submission of paperwork to insure you are getting the proper benefit payment and conversely to insure you are not caught in an overpayment situation.

Veteran Services & Programs Updates

- [2018 Veterans Enrollment Guidelines](#)
- **View new information** on our [website](#) for career fairs, job postings through Ohio Means Jobs, web and community resources.
- RTA U-Pass Program: provides FREE unlimited RTA ridership to Tri-C credit students.
- Graduation Calculator to ensure your personal and academic goals
- Don't want to take classes in summer, but still want to earn rewards? Check out our 15+ Perks Program!

This month's feature spotlight is on your Veteran Services Team!



Marjorie Morrison, Director – Veterans Education Access Program

Veterans Education Access Program (VEAP) – A Great Resource: VEAP has just begun its 44th year of helping veterans navigate the early challenges of college attendance. Since 1973, we have been helping students through tutoring services, refresher courses, and assistance with financial aid forms, to name just a few of our services! Give us a call at 216-987-4938 to see if you (or a friend) can benefit from our program.

Additionally check out:

The Metro Veterans Service Center Representative - Mr. Rick DeChant

Location: MSS 500 5th floor

Phone: (216) 987-3193

The Alfred Learner Veterans Center at Eastern Campus - Representative Mrs. Alaina Foster

Location: ESS LER CTR second floor

Phone: 216-987-2013

Brunswick University Center / Westshore / Corporate College West - Representative Mr. Mick Munoz

Locations: BUC 122 WSHCS 101 CCW 108

Phone: 216-987-3536

Crile Veterans Center /West Campus - Representative Matt Miller

Location: WSS G1112

Phone: (216) 987-5204

Cleveland Louis Stokes VA Medical Center Wade Park: Veteran Education Connection Center - Representative Angela Hobbs

Location: 2nd Floor Atrium-146B

Phone: 216-791-3800 ext. 6830

Post 9-11 GI Bill – Book Stipend Delay

We have been informed by the Veterans Administration that there more than likely will be delays in the issuance of the book stipend for all of those using the Post 9-11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) for Fall 2018 semester. The delay is the result of upgrades being made to the VA-ONCE software system. Please note that this is an issue outside of our control.

That being said, you should be setting aside dollars for books now to ensure you have the necessary books you need when the Fall semester starts. We have not been given a time window as to when the book stipend dollars will be released. Prepare accordingly. We will keep you posted as more information becomes available.

Veteran Campus Support Teams at the Ready: An important reminder to all that the Cuyahoga Community College Veteran's Initiative has been organized in an effort to provide a broader range of services to you. Part of that re-organization has been the development of Veteran Campus Support Teams. The Veteran Campus Support Teams are comprised of specialists from key departments which data tracking has shown are those departments in which veterans require services.

Those departments include:

- GI Bill Certification
- Counseling
- Financial Aid
- Recruiting
- ACCESS (disability Enrollment Services)
- Key Career Transition Centers
- Veterans Education Access Program

As noted, the documented experience of the Veterans Initiative has shown that these are the major areas of inquiry from our student veterans. A complete list of your respective Campus Veteran Support Team members is found on the Veterans' website at: www.tri-c.edu/veterans

Veterans Education Access Program – At the Ready: The Veterans Education Access Program (VEAP) at Tri-C provides FREE comprehensive support services to eligible veterans who need additional help in Math, English and Science to complete their first degree. If you are enrolled or have been placed in a remedial Math or English course and are in need of additional help in these areas, please call the VEAP main office at 216-987-4938 to schedule an appointment with our Student Advisor. Classes are already underway, so do not delay!

New Support Resource – Veterans' Success Tool Kit: The Tri-C Veterans Initiative has partnered with HealthJourneys, to bring to you free of charge a series of self-guided streaming meditations known as the *Veterans' Success Tool Kit*. Listening to guided imagery and meditation yields a wide variety of benefits. Research shows it helps with stress, sleep, pain, confidence, focus, emotional resilience and inner peace. That's why we've brought together some of the best streaming meditations we could find, by some of the foremost masters in the mind-body. These are available free, 24/7, for you and your family, courtesy of Health Journeys and Sounds True. All can be accessed via the College's Veterans website: www.tri-c.edu/veterans. The link is the upper right, teal-colored tab labeled: NEW RESOURCES FOR STUDENT VETERANS.

Employment Opportunities / Links

[Department of Veterans Affairs Link with the VA on Facebook](#)

[City of Cleveland](#)

Veteran Job Search Assistance: If you know a Veteran or Military Spouse who could benefit from FREE, UNLIMITED job search coaching, please have them visit www.gunnyret.com to schedule a "First Call".

[Ohio National Guard Employment Enhancement Support:](#)

[VA JOBS Home](#)

Ohio.gov

[USAJobs](#)

[Veterans MilitaryJobs.com](#)

[Ohio Federal Government Jobs](#)

Unsure of a career path? [Check out Career Coach](#)

Create an Account, discover your interests, potential career stats, and career scopes in your local area that are adjacent degree paths with Tri-C programs. Make sure to check out the MOS option to see what your military skills transfer to in our programs.

DAV Recruit Military Veterans Job Fair Coming to CLEVELAND on August 30th, 2018: The DAV Recruit Military Veterans Job Fair is being held on Thursday, August the 30th at The Windows on the River at the Nautica Entertainment Complex, Cleveland, OH . Please assist me in passing this information to all the veterans, Active Duty, transitioning military personnel. National Guard members, Reserve members, [spouses and dependents](#) that you know and could help. Free for all to attend!! Get the Veterans there!!!

What: DAV Recruit Military Veterans Job Fair

Where: Windows on the River at the Nautica Entertainment Complex, 2000 Sycamore Street, Cleveland, OH

When: Thursday, August 30, 2018, 11 AM - 3 PM

Register to Attend: <https://events.recruitmilitary.com/events/cleveland-veterans-job-fair-august-30-2018>

Applying for Benefits

First-time users of educational benefits must complete the 22-1990 form at www.vets.gov/education/apply/.

The VONAPP system (old 22-1990 site) still contains other important forms such as compensation, pension, vocational rehabilitation, employment, burial benefits, change in place/training and dependent application for VA benefits.

Do not use forms 22-1990N or 22-1990E to apply for Post 9/11 GI Bill, CH30 or CH1606. The 22-1990N is for National Call to Service only. The 22-1990E is for family members to use transferred benefits.

CONTACTS:

VA Regional Office
(St. Louis, MO)
1-888-GIBILL-1
(1-888-442-4551)

Direct Deposit Center
1-877-838-2778

Enrollment Certification
1-877-823-2378

Military Transcripts

Be sure to have your transcripts evaluated to determine if you can receive academic credit for your military training. The process can take up to four weeks, so keep an eye on your Tri-C email for notification that your transcripts have been evaluated. A counselor and program manager will advise you on how credits can be applied to your specific degree. The primary contact for military transcripts is Chris Dorsten at 216-987-3664 or chris.dorsten@tri-c.edu.

Joint Services Transcript (JST):

Order your free official transcripts and review unofficial transcripts and summaries of equivalent credits. Register at <https://jst.doded.mil>.

Air Force veteran?

Check out Air University at www.airuniversity.af.mil/Barnes/CCAF/ to review various options for ordering your transcripts.



Which Veterans Education Benefit Should I Use?

DEPENDENT

- Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill
- Chapter 35: Dependents Educational Assistance

VETERAN

- Chapter 30: Montgomery GI Bill (exhaust, then switch to Chapter 33)
- Chapter 31: Voc Rehab (Service-Connected Rehability)
- Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill (cannot switch after applying)

PLEASE NOTE: The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs determines eligibility for veterans education benefits.

STILL SERVING?

ACTIVE DUTY

- Tuition Assistance

RESERVIST OR NATIONAL GUARD

Deployment

- **ONGSP:** NG only (exhaust, then switch to Chapter 33)
- **Chapter 33:** Post 9/11 GI Bill (cannot switch after applying)
- **Chapter 1607:** REAP*
- **Tuition Assistance**

No Deployment

- **ONGSP:** NG only (Montgomery GI Bill for Selected Reserves)
- **Chapter 1606**
- **Tuition Assistance**

*REAP has been terminated for all applicants, with complete termination expected in November 2019.

Disclaimer: This is a visual aid and not an exhaustive explanation of benefits; nor does it include every possible scenario of benefits eligibility.



Education Benefits Deadlines & Reminders

Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program Application Deadlines:

November 1st for Spring Semester

April 1st for Summer Semester

July 1st for Fall Semester

CAC ONLY Access

Scholarship letter changes to another school?

NOBE issue? [see link](#) for NG contacts

GI Bill Semester Certification Form Submission

Dates: Need to be submitted in advance to the academic start date of intent (typically 30 prior window).

[GI Bill Semester Certification Form](#)

Transferring benefits to another school?

[VA Form 22-1995](#)

But I am a dependent?

[VA Form 22-5495](#)

Make sure you turn these in to your certifier to report changes in class schedule, major, transferring from one school to another so you are certified correctly.

Special Events

**17TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEVER FORGET 9/11
CEREMONY 11:00 AM
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2018
VETERANS PARK BROOK PARK, OHIO
(OFF SYLVIA DRIVE)**

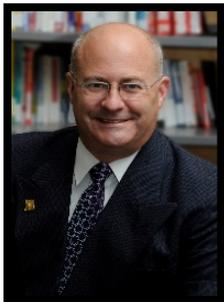
ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH AT 11:00 AM THE 17TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEVER FORGET 9/11 CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT BROOK PARK VETERANS PARK OFF SYLVIA DRIVE. DURING THE CEREMONY WE WILL BE READING THE NAMES OF THE 125 LIVES LOST AT THE PENTAGON WHEN AMERICAN FLIGHT 778 CRASHED INTO THE WESTERN WALL OF THE COMPLEX.

UPON CONCLUSION OF THE CEREMONY THERE WILL BE A PROCESSIONAL RIDE AT 12 NOON TO LAKE ERIE HARLEY DAVIDSON IN AVON FOR FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT. NO COST TO ATTEND OR RIDE BUT YOU MUST SIGN A WAIVER OF LIABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCESSIONAL RIDE. CEREMONY AND RIDE WILL TAKE PLACE REGARDLESS OF THE WEATHER.

LIMITED PINS WILL BE AVAILABLE WITH NET PROCEEDS TO RED KNIGHTS CHAPTER IX FOR DONATION TO THE FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL RIDE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. COST \$10 A PIN HONORING AMERICAN FLIGHT 77 AND THE VICTIMS AT THE PENTAGON.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT JOHN KIKOL or KIKSHARLEY EVENTS LLC AT KIKSHARLEY@AOL.COM OR CALL 440-263-8121.

That's all for now...



Signing off.... Sincerely,

*CDR Rick DeChant, (USCG, ret)
Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame – 2017 Inductee
Executive Director
Veterans Initiative
Cuyahoga Community College*