



Front Lines – May 2017 Edition

Greetings and welcome to the May 2017 edition of *Front Lines*, the unofficial newsletter of Cuyahoga Community College's Veteran Services & Programs. Here's a look at what's happening...

Congratulations Graduates: The College reports that between December 2016 and May 2017, 68 of your fellow veteran classmates will have graduated from Tri-C. Congratulations to all who have worked so hard to "finish the mission!" Job Well Done and best wishes to all in your future endeavors.

Summer 2017 Registration: It's hard to believe but registration for Summer Session 2017 is underway. For those of you planning on attending classes during Summer Session 2017, now is the time to begin getting things in order particularly if you plan on using the GI Bill. The earlier you register, the earlier your paperwork gets to the VA, and the better chance you have that your GI Bill checks arrive in time to avoid being dropped from classes. Check-in with your respective Veterans Campus GI Bill Certifiers. They will be able to assist you if needed. Here's the contact information:

WEST, WESTSHORE & BRUNSWICK Campuses: **Krystie Igancio**. Her office is located in WSS G220 in the Admissions and Registration Office. Damian's direct line is 216-987-5406.

METRO Campus: **Della Hilbert**. Her office is MSS G23 located in the basement of the Student Services Building down the hall from the Business Office. Della's direct line is 216-987-4164.

EAST Campus: **Vanessa Traylor**. Vanessa is located in East Student Services (ESS) - Room 1609. Her direct line is 216-987-2009.

In all cases, it is recommended to call first to schedule an appointment with the Certifier/Coordinator at your campus. **Remember that you must see your respective GI Bill Certifier any time you register for classes, add classes, or drop classes.**

Cuyahoga County Scholarships for Tri-C Veterans and Military Family Members Available: Thanks to the generosity of the Cuyahoga County Executive and the Cuyahoga County Council, the Tri-C Veterans Initiative has been awarded an allotment of dollars from the Cuyahoga County Veterans Fund for use as **ONE-TIME** scholarships to assist student veterans, military affiliates (spouses and dependents, spouses and dependents of disabled veterans), and Active Duty and Reserve personnel *who no longer have any military-related educational benefits left*.

These scholarship dollars **can be used for both credit and non-credit courses (workforce certification courses), books and supplies. Awards will be made on a first come, first served basis as this is a limited, one-time allotment of dollars.**

In all instances the applicant must have the following completed: be registered for classes with Tri-C, current student ID, and student ID number. **Applicants must have completed the FAFSA application process, and have utilized all current Pell funding before this scholarship is approved.**

If approved, the scholarship dollars will be credited directly to your student account. Unused dollars will remain as a balance on your student account. **No refunds will be issued.**

All applications will be reviewed for accuracy and verification of supporting documents before the decision to award or not award a scholarship is made. Applicants will be notified via their Tri-C College e-mail address of their award application status (either approved or disapproved).

The Cuyahoga County Veteran Scholarship application are attached to this message. Both also can be downloaded from the Tri-C Veterans Website (www.tri-c.edu/veterans), or picked up at any one of the campus Veterans Service Offices. **Completed applications, and the required supporting documentation, need to be certified at a campus Veterans Service Office.**

Veterans Upward Bound – Summer 2017: Attention Veterans....

- Do you have fewer than 30 credit hours?
- Still taking remedial math and English?
- Never been through Veterans Upward Bound?
- Not taking classes this summer?

If you answered “yes” to all of these questions, consider enrolling in Tri-C’s Veterans Upward Bound program this summer. Veterans Upward Bound is a FREE academic refresher program, designed to provide academic support to help you succeed in college. Our next session begins May 31, meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Metro campus, and lasts through June 30 – allowing you to sign up for Tri-C’s 2nd 5 week summer session. Can’t make those days? Ask about our Individual Study Plan option! Veterans Upward Bound provides tutoring services as well. Call 216-987-4938 for more information!

Interested in maintaining full time enrollment at Tri-C over the Summer?: For those who wish to maintain full time enrollment at Tri-C over the summer, it is important to know what “full time” means! There are 4 different sessions that students can choose from, based on course availability and the student’s schedule.

- 1) The Full Term is 10 weeks, and runs from May 30-August 6.
Full time for the full 10 week term is 7 credit hours.
- 2) Session J is 5 weeks, and runs from May 30-July 2. Session K is also 5 weeks, and run from July 3 to August 6.
Full time for the 5 week terms is 4 credit hours.
- 3) Session L is 8 weeks, and runs from June 12-August 6.
Full time for the 8 week term is 6 credit hours.

Each session completes the same material as a traditional 16 week semester, in a condensed amount of time. This is why it *appears* as though you can take fewer credit hours to maintain full time, but remember: the pace is accelerated! Please be sure you work closely with your academic counselor and your certifying official to ensure you are enrolled in courses within your major.

Planting of the Poppies – May 26 at West Campus: The College will again be hosting a ceremonial “Planting of the Poppies” in the Veterans’ Memorial Garden at West Campus. This event, established at the College to commemorate Memorial Day, will begin at 12:00 noon and will be followed by a FREE hot dog picnic. The event is FREE and open to the public.

2nd Annual Tri-C Workforce Job Fair – May 22nd: The Tri-C Veterans Initiative wants to alert all veterans and military dependents about the College’s 2nd Annual Workforce Job Fair, this coming May 22nd. The event will be held from 10 am – 5 pm at the Tri-C Advanced Technologies Training Center (ATTC) at the corner of East 30th Street and Woodland Ave. on the Tri-C Metro Campus. This event is FREE and open to all veterans and military dependents. Note that numerous veterans’ community resources will also be on-site at this event. You can register at: www.tri-c.edu/workforcefair You can also get further information by calling: (216) 987-4391.

Attention all Veteran Job Seekers: Josh Collins is an Account Executive for the Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services Veterans Program. In this program, Josh and his team assist veterans that are unemployed and underemployed with finding gainful employment. The program has Veterans Representatives that work very closely with the veterans regarding job search, resumes, interview skills, and other job related assistance. As the Account Executive, Josh works with area employers to fill open positions with qualified veterans. Josh and his team are continuously meeting with employers and have a number of great companies (Cintas, Frito-Lay, Arrow International, etc.) and positions that are looking to be filled. Union position, technical positions, labor, and much more. If you are currently going to school, getting ready to graduate or have already graduated and looking for work. Please contact Josh Collins or Mike Ellis and they will try to assist you in any way that they can. They also assist Veterans in non job related issues, questions and opportunities as well. Josh and Mike are both Army Veterans. Mike served in Somalia and Josh was an Infantry Squad leader that served 15 months in Iraq for 2ID. They are passionate about assisting our fellow Veterans and want to assist you any way that they can. Here is their contact information:

Michael Ellis - Veterans Representative
Phone: (216) 898-6102
Email: michael.ellis@jfs.ohio.gov

Josh Collins - Veterans Representative
Phone: (216) 898-6102
Email: joshua.collins@jfs.ohio.gov

May is Military Appreciation Month. A reminder to all that May is Military Appreciation month. All of us need to stop a moment and think about those who serve our nation. MilitaryConnection.com - The Go to Site sends our Armed Forces a big thank you. We also thank their loved ones who make sacrifices and serve too. In addition to serving country, education is one of the main reasons that many men and women join the Armed Forces. It is a tremendous benefit. You will find a dedicated area about education on MilitaryConnection.com [here](#). There are some direct links to key education resources. Please check out some of the featured military/veteran friendly schools. We also encourage you, your family members and friends to sign up for SAT, ACT and LSAT test programs worth hundreds of dollars for a small handling fee. When the next tour of duty is back home, it's on MilitaryConnection.com.

In Closing... A few thoughts as Memorial Day approaches... Despite the constant barrage of news about the struggling economy I think we all would agree we have a lot to think about and be thankful for this Memorial Day. First and foremost if you're reading this you're probably home and not deployed. For all who have "been there and done that" we know there are no "bad days" here at home. That being said as we head into Memorial Day let us not forget those we have served with who made the supreme sacrifice in service to our nation. Let us also not forget those who served long ago in Europe, Africa, Korea the jungles of Vietnam, Somalia, Bosnia and Kuwait and did come home but have passed on. And finally, let us not forget some our fellow veterans who, although they are home, are still struggling with multiple issues affecting their lives. Keep an eye out for them and let's do what we can "to cover their six."

That's it for now... More as I get it...

CDR Rick DeChant, USCG (ret)
Executive Director
Veterans Initiative
Cuyahoga Community College