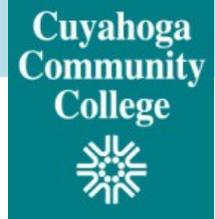


# Front Lines

## May 2018 Edition



Greetings and welcome to this the May 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...

### Congratulations Graduates

Once again you as Tri-C student veterans are "leading the way" when it comes to completing the mission. As of commencement on May 17, 60 of this year's cohort will have earned a total of 130 degrees and/or certificates, a number of you earning double degrees. Congratulations on a job well done and best of everything as you move into the next phase of your future endeavors!



### Fall 2018 Registration is Underway

The following are important steps for all to follow:

- **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.
- **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.

**Get ahead of the game and submit your 2018-19 FAFSA!** Call us at [216-987-4938](tel:216-987-4938) to schedule an appointment or to have your financial aid questions answered. Filing near or after the deadline may impact your access to Financial Aid.

**County Scholarships 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. In turn these funds are being used to create general scholarships to assist student veterans, military affiliates (including spouses and dependents of disabled veterans), and Active Duty and Reserve personnel **who no longer have any military-related educational benefits remaining or has exhausted all funding sources (partial GI-Bill, FTA, FASFA-Pell grant, OCOG).**

This **non-refundable** general scholarship will be distributed as **one award per semester** and can be reapplied for the following semester if funds remain. *You cannot apply twice for an award in the same semester.* Scholarship dollars can be used for **both** credit and non-credit courses (workforce certification courses) and books. Awards will be on a case-by-case basis for students that are full time or part time. If approved, the scholarship dollars will be credited directly to your student account.

You will have an option to select \$500 **or** \$1,000 general scholarship. You may **either** directly apply the funds towards your tuition **or** have the amount desired separated into tuition and book money. *If you opt into separating your chosen amount this decision cannot be reversed.* Applicants must have the following completed: Must be an active and registered Tri-C student (current student photo ID and student ID number) and ready to register for classes for the semester of scholarship use. Students that receive FASFA-Pell and/or Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) must have **exhausted** those benefits before being considered for this scholarship. Check [www.tri-c.edu/veterans](http://www.tri-c.edu/veterans) to download a copy of the application, or stop by your respective campus Veterans Service Office. **All applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.**

## 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!

**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](http://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 begin soon, so do not delay!

## VEAP Schedule

Date	Description
<b>May 09</b> 1:00 PM—3:00 PM	<b>VEAP Workshop: Staying Engaged during Summer</b>
<b>May 15</b> 2:00 PM—4:00 PM	<b>VEAP Pinning Ceremony</b>
<b>May 25</b> 12:00—12:30 PM	<b>Planting of the Poppies at Western Campus</b>
<b>May 29</b> 10:00 AM—3:45 PM	<b>Summer I Weekday Session Begins</b> Tell your friends and family to sign up!
<b>June 2</b> 9:00 AM—1:30 PM	<b>Summer I Saturday Session Begins</b>
<b>June 6</b> 1:00 PM—3:00 PM	<b>VEAP Workshop</b> Pay it Forward to Yourself and Others
<b>June 8</b> 10:00 AM—1:00 PM	<b>Re-entry Fair</b> Employers and community agencies will provide assistance to people with legal barriers to employment
<b>June 27—July 1</b> Open 24 hours	<b>Traveling Wall: Tri-C Western Campus</b> This 80% scale version of the Vietnam Memorial Wall will be stationed and lit at Tri-C's Western Campus.
<b>July 10</b> 10:00 AM—3:45 PM	<b>Summer II Weekday Session Begins</b>
<b>July 14</b> 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM	<b>Summer II Saturday Session Begins</b>

# 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](http://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.

*Are you looking for a job?  
Do you have significant legal barriers to employment?  
We can help!*

JOIN US FOR THE  
**Second Annual**  
**BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS**  
**HIRING EVENT**

**Friday, June 8, 2018 | 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
Cuyahoga Community College  
Metropolitan Campus Recreation Center  
2900 Community College Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
*(At the corner of E. 30th St. and Community College Ave.)*  
Please use north entrance.

**Free parking | RTA Accessible**  
9:30 a.m. Opening Remarks  
10 a.m.–1 p.m. Hiring Event

**Registration is required.** RSVP at  
[www.cognitofirms.com/BDDB/Register](http://www.cognitofirms.com/BDDB/Register).  
Call 216-391-0264 or email  
[breakingdownbarriersinitiative@gmail.com](mailto:breakingdownbarriersinitiative@gmail.com)  
for more information.

**Event will feature:**  
Champion employers offering on-site interviews  
Community resources including information on expungement/sealing of record, work opportunity tax credit, federal bonding, Certification of Qualification for Employment, employment services and more



This event is part of the  
Dominion Energy Ohio and Tri-C  
Military Community Outreach Series.



Additional support provided by:



18-0019

## Applying for Benefits

First-time users of educational benefits must complete the 22-1990 form at [www.vets.gov/education/apply/](http://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](mailto: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/](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> for Spring Semester

April 1<sup>st</sup> for Summer Semester

July 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Event



**We remember the fallen.**

**Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) is committed to veterans.**

Whether you're a discharged veteran, a member of the Guard or Reserve or on active duty, you and your family are welcomed home at Tri-C.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Tri-C's Annual Memorial Day Remembrance Event  
May 25, 2018  
Western Campus  
11000 Pleasant Valley Road  
Parma, OH



This event is part of the  
Dominion Energy Ohio and Tri-C  
Military Community Outreach Series.



[tri-c.edu/veterans](http://tri-c.edu/veterans)  
216-987-3193

**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](http://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](http://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](http://MilitaryConnection.com).

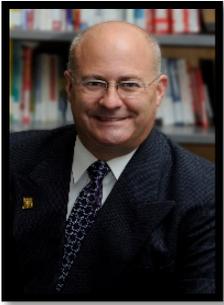
**In Closing...** A few thoughts as Memorial Day approaches... Despite the constant barrage of news about the struggling economy I think we all would agree we have a lot to think about and be thankful for this Memorial Day.

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 few "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, as well as those who 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 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*