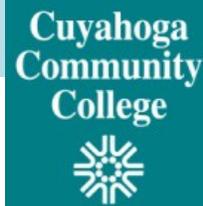


# Front Lines

## June 2018 Edition



Greetings and welcome to this the June 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...



### 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 are already underway, so do not delay!

## VEAP Schedule

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

## **Vietnam Traveling Wall Coming to Tri-C Western Campus June 27: Event Volunteers Needed**

On Wednesday, June 27, 2018, the American Veterans Traveling Tribute (AVTT) Traveling Vietnam Wall will be escorted to the Cuyahoga Community College Western Campus.

Between approximately 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., up to 1,000 motorcycle riders from Rolling Thunder, Inc. will meet at the Northbound Rest Area on I-71 at mile marker 225 in Brunswick to escort the Travelling Wall to the Tri-C Western Campus in Parma. The Wall is expected to arrive and depart the Northbound Rest Area at approximately 5:30 p.m.

"The City of Parma is honored and proud to be a part of bringing the AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall to Tri-C," said Mayor Tim DeGeeter. "I encourage residents to come out along the escort route and welcome the Wall with respect for those who died in this conflict. I'm sure it will be an emotional experience to see the Wall pass on its way to the campus."

The Traveling Wall will be on display on the campus of Tri-C West from June 28 at 1 p.m. until July 1 at 1 p.m. The Wall is open 24 hours a day during this time. The official opening ceremony is at 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 28. The event is sponsored by American Legion Post 703.

The City of Parma and American Legion Post 703 are still in need of volunteers to put up the sidewalk on Wednesday, the wall on Thursday, and assist as guides and family escorts the days the wall will be at Tri-C.

**Those wishing to volunteer should contact Planning Committee member Crystal Jardine at [crystaljardine15@gmail.com](mailto:crystaljardine15@gmail.com), or call her 440-570-3054.**

This is a meaningful service opportunity for any era veteran, and anyone whose family has an association with a Vietnam veteran or the War in Vietnam.

Your support of this event is greatly appreciated!

## 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 Events

**Invitation to USS Cod Submarine Memorial:** Veterans Family Fair, on Saturday, Aug. 4, 2018, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is an event for veterans and their families to enjoy the Cod (free tours and entertainment) and provide an opportunity for them to explore other North Coast Harbor attractions. A brief program is planned at 12:30 p.m. to salute veterans and their families, complete with a deck gun salute.

The event planners are looking for service organizations that provide services to Veterans and families to set up information displays at this event on August 4<sup>th</sup>. This is a call to any organization that provides services to Veterans and their families. Please contact Paul Farace at 216-408-6991 or by email: [pfarace@att.net](mailto:pfarace@att.net), if you have any questions or are interested in participating.

**The following are other 2018 rides and events supporting firefighters and law enforcement such as the Cops Ride on June 24<sup>th</sup> and Never Forget 9/11 Ride and Ceremony on September 19<sup>th</sup>.** Find more information here: [www.firefightersmemorialride.com](http://www.firefightersmemorialride.com) or [www.copsride.com](http://www.copsride.com).

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*