Resources for Military Affiliated Students

Serve Well Those Who Have Served!
TOPICS

» The VSO and VRSC
» Veteran Education Benefits
» Military Scholarships
» Financial Aid
» Your New Environment
» On-Campus Services & Support
» Getting Connected
The Pavilion, Room 205
Provides Veterans Education Benefits and Scholarships/Financial Aid Advising and Processing.

Koldus, Room 112
Provides uniquely tailored resources for military affiliated student and their families.
Your “one stop referral shop”!

A map is provided in your handout package!
Veteran Educational Benefits, Scholarships, and Financial Aid
Veteran Educational Benefits

Federal Benefits:
• Chapter Benefits
  • Chapter 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill
  • Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill
  • Chapter 31 – Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment
  • Chapter 1606 – Selected Reserves
  • Chapter 35 - Dependents’ Educational Assistance
• Tutoring Assistance

State Benefits:
• Hazlewood Exemption
Veteran Educational Benefits

VA Chapter Benefits for Veterans:
Pays tuition and fees directly to University. Provides books and housing stipends to student:
  • Chapter 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill
  • Chapter 31 – Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment

Pays a monthly stipend only, directly to the student:
  • Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill
  • Chapter 1606 – Selected Reserve

VA Chapter Benefits for Dependents:
Pays tuition and fees directly to University. Provides books and housing stipends to student:
  • Chapter 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill

Pays a monthly stipend only, directly to the student:
  • Chapter 35 – Dependents’ Educational Assistance Program

*Course Program of Study - All courses must pass a degree audit in order to be certified with the VA. Any courses that are not on a student’s degree evaluation as filed with the university will not be considered by the VA. Please attend the Scholarships and Financial Aid presentation for additional information on Course Program of Study.

*If you are a Gold Star Family Member please meet with me afterwards or stop by the VSO to ensure you use your benefits appropriately.
Veteran Educational Benefits

Non-Resident Tuition & Fees

Military Personnel & Dependents Non-Resident Tuition Exemption

• Must reside in Texas
• Must be receiving VA Chapter benefits or be the spouse/child of an active duty service member
• Must intend on ultimately becoming a Texas resident
• Processed by Student Business Services

Post 9/11 GI Bill Yellow Ribbon Program

• Must have a 100% VA Chapter Benefit rating
• Fry Scholarship recipients are ineligible
• Active duty and spouses of active duty are ineligible
• Processed by the Veteran Services Office
Veteran Educational Benefits

Tutoring Reimbursement:

• Students receiving Chapter 30, 33, 35, or 1606.
• The courses the student is receiving tutoring for must be required for their degree plan.
• Students can be reimbursed up to $100 per month.
• Must submit Application for Individualized Tutorial Assistance to receive reimbursement.
  *Application can be found at veterans.tamu.edu.
Veteran Educational Benefits

Hazlewood Exemption

What it Pays For:

• Pays resident tuition and required fees for a total of up to 150 credit hours*.

• Can be applied to Undergraduate, Graduate, or Professional School.

• Students using Legacy benefits will only be eligible for the hours needed to graduate from their program (maximum degree certified hours).

* Pays up to 150 hours for veterans. Legacy dependents are eligible only for number of hours required by their degree plan.
Veteran Educational Benefits

Hazlewood Exemption:

Eligibility Requirements:

- Meet at least one of the following requirements:
  - Entered service in Texas at time of entry into the military
  - Declared Texas as Home of Record at time of entry into the military
  - Was a Texas resident at the time of entry into the military
- Served at least 181 days on active military duty excluding training
- Honorably Discharged or a General Discharge under Honorable Conditions
- Reside in Texas
- Not in default on state student loan (federal loans will not impact eligibility)
- Not eligible for Post 9-11 Benefits to pay 100% of tuition and fees

Texas Guaranteed Tuition Fund cannot already be applied to student bill

*Hazlewood is a financial resource and can impact financial aid eligibility.*
Veteran Educational Benefits

How to Apply for Benefits:

• MUST apply for/request benefits every semester.
• First-time recipients can apply after being admitted (prior to registration, but won’t be processed until after).
• Renewal recipients can apply after registering for courses.
• Veterans.tamu.edu explains what documents must be submitted for which benefit.
• Put your UIN on each page of every document.
• Documents will only be accepted via document upload on the “Status” page in the Financial Aid Portal, via fax, via mail, and in-person. Documents will NOT be accepted via email for security reasons.
Veteran Educational Benefits

Requesting Benefits via Financial Aid Portal

Click here and answer questions that follow
Veteran Educational Benefits

Benefit Processing:

• The earlier you submit your paperwork, the earlier your benefits will be processed.

• The “Status” tab of the Financial Aid Portal will reflect the processing status of your documents.

• Standard processing time by the Veteran Services Offices is 5-7 business days but does fluctuate during peak.

• The VA may take another 1-2 months to send BAH deposits/checks once classes begin.

• Tuition and fee payments for benefits will not apply to your bill until your bill has been generated by the University.
Veteran Educational Benefits

Receiving Benefits at Other Institutions:

• You **can** receive VA and Hazlewood benefits at other institutions while attending Texas A&M.

• **Hazlewood Benefits** – Contact other institution’s Veterans office and inquire what documentation will be required.

• **VA Chapter Benefits** – Contact other institution’s Veterans office, but **also** submit a completed Primary Institution Letter Request Form to the TAMU Veteran Services Office.
Veteran Educational Benefits
Specific for Distance Graduate Programs:

• Post 9/11
  • Housing for all distance courses is half the national average.
  • Full time is 9 hours during the long terms.
  • Summer is based on length of course, usually 6 hours is full time.
  • Must be **MORE** than half time to be eligible for housing allowance.

• Hazlewood
  • Student must reside in Texas
  • Residency requirements for Legacy students and veteran parent must reside in Texas as well.
Veteran Educational Benefits

Reminders:

• Check your Financial Aid Portal for requested documents and processing status of your veteran’s educational benefits.
• Check your student bill to ensure your benefits have posted.
• Students are responsible for the payment of their bill and any late fees that are incurred.
• Check your student email, veterans.tamu.edu, and the Scholarships & Financial Aid Facebook and Twitter accounts for notifications and reminders.
• The General Deposit is not covered under Ch. 33, Ch. 31, or the Hazlewood Exemption.
Military Scholarships

University –Military Affiliated:
• Honored Service Scholarship
• Aggie Ring Scholarship for Veterans
• Faye Leeth Memorial Endowed Scholarship
• Heroes of the War on Terrorism
• Jorge Bermudez
• Association of Former Students
• Aggie Ring Scholarships

*Please complete the University Scholarship Application on scholarships.tamu.edu. Be sure to check the veteran/dependent indicator and answer all the questions that follow.

Outside –Military Affiliated:
• Tillman Military Scholarship
• Folds of Honor Foundation
• Marine’s Memorial Association Scholarships
Financial Aid

Applying for Financial Aid:

• Don’t miss the Scholarships & Financial Aid Presentations today! Visit one of our resource tables!

• You can receive veterans educational benefits and financial aid.

• Some military scholarships require that a FAFSA be submitted.

• Submit your FAFSA early so that you are considered for as many grants as possible.

• Extenuating financial circumstances can sometimes be taken into account, causing a student’s financial need to increase and their grant eligibility to increase.
veterans.tamu.edu

News

New Tax Scams & Consumer Alerts
Feb 23, 2016

VA Tutoring Benefits Available
Feb 17, 2016

February is Financial Aid Awareness Month
Feb 05, 2016

Veteran Services

Founded in 1876 as a military academy, Texas A&M University is proud of its long standing tradition with the military. Texas A&M University has served student veterans since 1919 and is a national leader in service to our students who are veterans, active duty, military dependents and survivors. We are committed to providing the best possible educational experience and service to all that attend our University and are proud to have eight Medal of Honor recipients among our Aggie Former Students. The Military Admissions Office, the Veteran Services Office, and the Veteran Resource & Support Center partner to fully support our military affiliated students.

Military Admissions Office
The Military Admissions Office is available to help veterans and their dependents become admitted to Texas A&M University.

Contact Us

veterans.tamu.edu

Calendar

Sunday
Apr 10
National Student Employment Week Begins

Tuesday
Apr 12
Buying a Home

Wednesday
Apr 13
Money Management for College Students

979-845-8075  veterans.tamu.edu
On-Campus Resources, Services & Support
How does Texas A&M… Serve Well Those Who Have Served??

It’s all about helping YOU connect with the right people & resources FOR SUCCESS!
On-Campus Services & Support

- VSO, VRSC & VSOC
  - Veteran: Scholarships (SAVE), Aggie Rings, FREE Tickets to various sporting events
  - All military affiliated: Study Lounge and Text Book Library
- MAPIT
- Peers & Peer Mentors
- Aggie Vet Network
- Academic Success Center
- Career Center
- Academic Advisors
- Scholarships
- Free Parking for decorated/disabled
- Student Counseling Center & Disability Services
- Newsletters, emails, Facebook, Text Notices from the VRSC…and more
- 1000+ Student/Professional Organizations

Just like on a military base…at TAMU the resources are available…

But **YOU** have to connect!
Military Affiliated Student Strengths

- Maturity & Discipline
- Diverse Experiences
- Leadership
- Core Values
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Interpersonal Skills/Team Player
- Focused on Achievement & Success
- You just know how to “get things done!”

Focus on “identifying & applying your strengths!”
Student Challenges (Real & Perceived)

• Isolation or Alienation
• Sense of Purpose
• Change of Identity ("Hero to Zero" & "Priority of Self")
• Time Management
  • Family, School, Work, Commute, Social
• The BIG 5: GI Bill benefit processing, Health Care, Insurance, Academic Advising, & $$$ (bills, billing cycles, living expenses)
Ways to Meet & Beat Challenges

• Get Connected…COMMUNICATE!
• Find your “new tribe…”
• You have a role to play…GET INVOLVED!
• Apply your Experience & Strengths
• Seek Resources for Yourself Early!!
  • Learn how to “Pull!”
• Balancing vs. juggling
• Maintain Your Core Values
Advice from recent students…

• Introduce yourself to your professors. Many have experiences to help you & will respect your opinion in class.

• Graduation comes faster than you think – be prepared.

• Get involved. Develop a plan early and follow through.

• Ask for help; there are a tremendous amount of people who want to see you succeed.

• Make sure that you utilize all of the available services. Take advantage of FAFSA from the beginning.
Physical location: Suite 112, Koldus, Adjacent to the UCG Parking Garage

Phone number: 979-845-3161

Email: aggievets@tamu.edu

Web Address: http://aggieveterans.tamu.edu/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TamuVeteranResourceSupportCenter/

SVA: http://www.facebook.com/groups/TAMUveterans/

Twitter: @vrsctamu

Monthly Newsletter: Sent to all student veterans.
Physical location: Suite 205, Pavilion, Adjacent to the Central Campus Parking Garage

Phone number: 979-845-8075

Email: veterans@tamu.edu

Web Address: http://veterans.tamu.edu/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/tamusfaid/

Twitter: @TAMU_SFAID
Final Thoughts

Surveys...turn them in!
Sign up for Vet Camp!