VETERANS:
Attain Your Academic Goal

www.cuny.edu/veterans
The City University of New York (CUNY) welcomes and supports veterans, reservists, survivors and family members on its campuses and recognizes the contribution that they make as citizens and students. The CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs serves as an information source, advocate and guide for approximately 2,000 student veterans. We are dedicated to fostering a sense of community and developing a channel of communication among student veterans and reservists, faculty, staff and administration.
ACADEMICS

CUNY offers approximately 1,400 academic programs, more than 200 majors leading to associate and baccalaureate degrees, and more than 100 graduate degree majors.

Programs of Note:
- CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies—a flexible program offered by the University, leads to either the Bachelor of Arts (BA) or the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree. Students design their own program of study with guidance from a faculty mentor. Each student in the program is matriculated at one CUNY college, but can take classes at any CUNY campus.

- CUNY Online Baccalaureate—offers two majors: a distinctive online Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and Culture, and an innovative online Bachelor of Science degree in Business. Both of these outstanding, accredited degree programs use an interactive online format to take full advantage of current technologies. They also provide flexible and convenient ways for working adults to complete their baccalaureate degree.

Athletics
CUNY competes in 14 men’s and women’s intercollegiate sports. Each year more than 2,500 student-athletes participate on the athletic teams of CUNY institutions. Four-year college varsity teams compete in the NCAA. Community college teams belong to the NJCAA.

Admissions
CUNY consists of 11 four-year colleges, six community colleges, the Graduate Center, the Graduate School of Journalism, the Law School, the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education, the School of Professional Studies, the CUNY Baccalaureate Program, the Macaulay Honors College and the Online Baccalaureate Program.

Veterans seeking freshman status may apply, using the freshman application, to up to six of the CUNY colleges. Veterans seeking undergraduate transfer status may apply, using the transfer application, to up to four of the CUNY colleges.

CUNY evaluates undergraduate applications on a rolling basis with the exception of several special programs.
Students will be notified directly by the colleges to which they have applied.

Veterans seeking undergraduate non-degree status at a CUNY college should apply directly to the college they would like to attend.

For more information on how undergraduate admissions works at CUNY, attend one of our admissions events tailored for veterans and sign up to be a CUNY VIP.

For more information, visit: cuny.edu/veterans.

Veterans wishing to apply to graduate programs should apply directly to the college of their choice. Veterans seeking graduate non-matriculated status at a CUNY college should apply directly to the college they would like to attend. For more information, visit: cuny.edu/graduatestudies.

Cost to Attend

For New York State residents, annual tuition for full-time, undergraduate students at CUNY’s six community colleges is $2,800. At the 11 four-year colleges, it is $4,000. For out-of-state residents, community college tuition is $190 per credit and four-year college tuition is $360 per credit.
FINANCIAL AID

Students are advised to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It is the basic requirement for federal aid consideration. This can be done online at www.fafsa.ed.gov or by obtaining a paper application from your local library, high school, or college financial aid office. The FAFSA can be filed as early as January 1st. Students can estimate their tax information and make any necessary corrections later.

New York State residents should also complete a Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) application for state aid assistance. The application is available online at: www.hesc.com.

State Aid

New York State Veterans Tuition Award (VTA) awards aid to eligible veterans matriculated in an undergraduate or graduate program or an approved vocational training program within NYS. Eligible veterans for this program are NYS residents honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces who have served in:

- Vietnam/Indochina between 2/28/61 – 5/7/75
- Persian Gulf on or after 8/2/90
- Afghanistan during or after 9/11/01
- Vets who served in hostilities after 2/28/61 and received an Armed Forces, Navy or Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal

Eligible veterans receive up to 98% of the cost of undergraduate tuition. CUNY part-time students receive awards that are prorated by credit hour. If a student receives TAP and it exceeds tuition, TAP will be reduced accordingly.

Students have to apply yearly for payment by completing the FAFSA, TAP and NYS Veterans Tuition Award Supplement.

For more information, visit: www.hesc.com (then go to “Military Corner”).
New York Army National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance Program (ARNG FTA), formerly the ACES Program, is not specifically a veterans program but offers NY ARNG soldiers from $250 per semester hour to $4,500 annually per soldier, not to exceed the cost of the course or program taken. The institution must be accredited but may include public/private colleges, universities, vocational, technical, or trade schools within and outside of NYS. ARNG also funds non-degree study at accredited institutions. While professional degrees are eligible, doctoral programs are not.

For more information, visit: http://dmna.state.ny.us/education.

Military Service Recognition Scholarship (MSRS) offers awards for spouses, children and financial dependents of a serviceperson whose parent/spouse was severely and permanently disabled or killed at any time on or after 8/2/90 and was a state resident at that time. The awards allow for direct costs (tuition, fees, on-campus room and board, commuter student allowance, books, supplies and transportation) at a public/private university up to the cost of CUNY tuition. The MSRS award may not exceed the cost of attendance and additional awards may result in its reduction. Students must complete the FAFSA, TAP application and the NYS Military Service Recognition Scholarship Supplement.

For more information, visit: www.hesc.com (then go to “Military Corner”).

NYS Regents Awards for Children of Deceased and Disabled Veterans will grant $450 to eligible students whose parent(s) served during specific periods of time and died or suffered 40% or more disability, or are classified as missing in action or prisoner of war. Parent(s) must be current NYS residents or have been NYS resident(s) at the time of death/classified status. The FAFSA, TAP application and NYS Children of Veterans Award Web Supplement is required. Students born with spina bifida whose parent(s) is a Vietnam veteran are also eligible and should contact HESC for detailed application instructions. Students should also request a Scholarship & Grant Payment Application to request payment.

For more information, visit: www.hesc.com (then go to “Military Corner”).

Eligible veterans receive up to 98% of the cost of undergraduate tuition.
The new G.I. Bill will provide up to 36 months of educational benefits for individuals who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.

Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP) is a tuition benefit for active NYS National Guard members. It provides eligible, qualified applicants who have completed advanced individual training within the NYS Military Forces (Army and Air National Guard, Naval Militia) the cost of tuition up to $4,350 per calendar year. It will cover tuition after all other financial aid has been applied to charges. Students complete the FAFSA, TAP and DMNA96-1 form (available from one’s individual National Guard unit).

For more information, visit: http://dmna.state.ny.us/education.

NOTE: NYS residency eligibility for awards is waived for a dependent or spouse of the serviceperson who is on full-time active duty and is stationed in NYS. Questions regarding eligible service or documentation may be directed to the HESC Scholarship Unit at 1-888-697-4372.

Federal Aid

Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Chapter 33): The Post 9/11 GI Bill will take effect on August 1, 2009. The new chapter will provide up to 36 months of educational benefits for individuals who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Eligibility for benefits is extended to 15 years from the last period of active duty. Benefit entitlement will be determined by length of active duty service after September 10, 2001. In addition to tuition and fees (not to exceed the most expensive in-state undergraduate tuition at a public institution), there are provisions for a monthly housing allowance equal to E-5 basic allowance for housing with dependents (in same zip code as college), and a yearly stipend of $1,000 for books and equipment.

For more information, visit: www.gibiill.va.gov.

Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (Chapter 30): The MGIB program provides up to 36 months of education benefits payable for 10 years following release from active duty. This benefit may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved.
To apply, use VA Form 22-1990 or apply online at: http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp.

Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606): The MGIB-SR program provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserve, including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reserves, and the Army and Air National Guard. This program does not require a person to serve on active duty to qualify. To apply, obtain a Notice of Basic Eligibility (DD Form 2384 or 2384-1) from your unit and complete VA Form 22-1990. To apply online, visit: http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp.

For more information, visit: www.gibill.va.gov.

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607): REAP is an education program that provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserves, Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), and National Guard who are called to active service. The educational assistance allowance payable under REAP is a percentage of the MGIB rate based on the number of continuous days served on active duty. To apply, complete VA Form 22-1990 and indicate you are applying for REAP. To apply online, visit: http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp.

For more information, visit: www.gibill.va.gov.

Veterans Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 32): VEAP is available if you first entered active duty between January 1, 1977 and June 30, 1985 and you elected to make contributions from your military pay to participate in this education benefit program. Your contributions are matched on a $2 for $1 basis by the government. To apply,
Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (Chapter 35): Dependents Educational Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans who died or are permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. Spouses have 10 years from the date the VA establishes eligibility to use the benefit. Surviving spouses of veterans who died while on Active Duty have 20 years from the date of the veterans’ death to use the benefit. Children may use the benefit while they are between the ages of 18 and 26. Time limits can be extended under certain circumstances. To apply, complete VA Form 28-1900 or apply online at: http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp.

Veterans Work-Study Program: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs work-study program recipients must be receiving full-time G.I. Bill benefits to be eligible. Up to 750 hours per year are available to eligible veterans, at least at the federal minimum hourly wage.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Chapter 31): The VR & E Program aids veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs. If any training is needed, the VA will pay your training costs, such as tuition and fees, books, supplies, equipment, and, if needed, special services. While in training, the VA will also pay a monthly benefit to help with living expenses called a Subsistence Allowance. To receive an evaluation for VR & E services, a veteran must have received, or will receive, a discharge that is other than dishonorable, and have a service-connected disability rating of at least 10%. To apply, complete VA Form 22-5490, or apply online at: http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp.
CREDIT TRANSFER

CUNY values the training and experience you received during your military service. Our 23 institutions administer more than 1,400 degree programs, and each institution will evaluate your military experience as it applies to their academic requirements for a specific program.

The first step to obtaining credits is to request a transcript from your military service. Each service will provide unofficial personal copies and will send colleges an official copy of your transcript at no charge.

**Army**
The American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS) captures academic credits from military training and standardized tests with descriptions and college credit recommendations developed by the American Council on Education (ACE). Officers must use form DD-295 (Application for Evaluation of Learning).

For more information, visit: www.aarts.army.mil.

**Navy and Marines**
The Sailor/Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript (SMART) is an academically accepted record that is validated by ACE.

For more information, visit: www.navycollege.navy.mil/transcript.

**Air Force**
The Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) automatically captures training, experience and standardized test scores. Transcript information may be viewed on the CCAF website at: www.maxwell.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp.

**Coast Guard**
The Coast Guard Institute (CGI) requires each servicemember to submit documentation for all training, along with an enrollment form, to receive a transcript.

For more information, visit: www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi/downloads/forms/CG_Form_1564.pdf.
BEING CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY

Mobilization/Activation/Deployment

CUNY supports students who are called away to duty during their college career. The college’s registrar is the initial point of contact for a military-related interruption of attendance. Students may also seek the help of the veterans affairs representative on their campus, the Student Services Office, or the campus Ombudsman. For more information, visit: www.seamlesstransition.va.gov and cuny.edu/veterans.

Grades

A student who is called to active duty in the armed forces of the United States after having attended regularly for 13 or more weeks or having completed 85% of the term’s work through acceleration may be given full credit for each course in which he or she has a grade of C or better.

Refunds

Students called to active duty or drafted who do not meet attendance requirements sufficient to earn a grade are entitled to a 100% refund of tuition and fees, except application fees.

Readmission Fee

Upon return from military service, a student will not be charged a readmission fee to register at the same college.

Special Continuing Problems

If students are unable to resolve their issues at their home campus, they may contact CUNY’s Office of Veterans Affairs, at (212) 652-2002.
Pre-Semester Checklist

- **APPLY** to CUNY before the semester deadline.
  **VISIT:** cuny.edu/admissions

- **FILE** FAFSA before deadline.
  **VISIT:** www.fafsa.ed.gov

- **APPLY** for NYS TAP.
  **VISIT:** www.hesc.com

- **APPLY** for NYS national guard tuition benefit before deadline, if eligible.
  **VISIT:** www.dmna.state.ny.us/education

- **APPLY** for G.I. Bill Benefits
  (see your college’s certifying official).

- **PROVIDE** copy of DD214 or DD2384
  to your college’s certifying official and the VA.

- **APPLY** for NYS veterans tuition award.
  **VISIT:** www.hesc.com, then go to “military corner”

- **APPLY** for veterans work-study.
  **VISIT:** www.gibill.va.gov/pamphlets/wkstud.htm
Contacts
Veterans Affairs Representatives (CO = Veterans Affairs Certifying Official)
FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES

Baruch College
Deborah Mazzia
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Deborah Mazzia

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SI, NY 10314
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NY, NY 10065
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Deborah Mazzia

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Deborah Mazzia

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COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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Bronx CC
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Hostos CC
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Kingsborough CC
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LaGuardia CC
Stanley Rumph CO
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Meet Our Team

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Other Phone Numbers

CUNY Central Veteran Affairs
(212) 652-2002

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
(877) 222-VETS
(8387)

VA Benefits Hotline
(800) 827-1000

VA Education & Training Hotline
(888) 442-4551

NYS Department of Labor
(800) 342-3358

VA Life Insurance Hotline
(800) 669-8477

VA Medical/Health Care Hotline
(877) 222-VETS

Health Benefits Provided by VA
(800) 222-8387

VA's Gulf War Helpline
(800) 749-8387

DOD Gulf War Veterans Hotline
(800) 796-9699

DOD Direct Veterans Hotline
(800) 497-6261

NYS Division of Veterans Affairs
(888) VETS-NYS

NYS DMNA Education Office
(518) 272-6349

HESC
(888) 697-4372

Visit Our Website
The CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs website (cuny.edu/veterans) is a virtual one-stop source of information for returning military veterans and their families. It is a guide to educational benefits, entitlements, counseling, advocacy resources, and the latest news, which will aid you in attaining your academic, personal and professional goals.

Other things you can do on our site:
- Reserve a seat for an upcoming CUNY Veterans Affairs event
- Register to be a CUNY VIP to receive veterans-related communication and updates
- Link to our Facebook page (group: CUNY Student Veterans)
CUNY Colleges & Schools

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES
Baruch College
Brooklyn College
The City College
College of Staten Island
Hunter College
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Lehman College
Medgar Evers College
New York City College of Technology
Queens College
York College

COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Borough of Manhattan Community College
Bronx Community College
Hostos Community College
Kingsborough Community College
LaGuardia Community College
Queensborough Community College

HONORS COLLEGE AND GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS
Macaulay Honors College (at 7 Four-Year Colleges)
The Graduate & University Center
The CUNY School of Law
The CUNY Graduate School of Journalism
The Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education
The CUNY School of Professional Studies