

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

VETERANS resource

A guide to
attending

CUNY

www.cuny.edu/veterans



CUNY | Academics | Access | Affordability

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ABOUT THE CUNY OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



Leading the Way

The City University of New York (CUNY) welcomes and supports veterans and future veterans, reservists, survivors and family members at its colleges 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 3,000 student veterans, and growing. We are dedicated to fostering a sense of community and assisting student veterans and reservists, faculty, staff and administration throughout their experience at CUNY.

ACADEMICS

CUNY offers 1,750 academic programs, more than 230 majors leading to associate and baccalaureate degrees and more than 160 graduate-degree majors.



Our aim is to help you find a curriculum appropriate to your needs, so that your college experience will be as rewarding as possible. All CUNY colleges welcome veterans and future veterans, whether you are a first-time college applicant, returning to college to complete your degree or looking to change or advance your existing career. Here are a few programs geared toward adult learners and veterans:

» UNIVERSITY-WIDE PROGRAMS

- CUNY BA: Unique & Interdisciplinary Studies
- School of Professional Studies (SPS)
- CUNY Online Baccalaureate at SPS
- Murphy Institute for Worker Education & Labor Studies at SPS

» INDIVIDUAL COLLEGE PROGRAMS

- BMCC Evening/Weekend Associate Degree Programs
- The City College Center for Worker Education
- Queens College Adult Collegiate Education Program (ACE)
- Lehman College Adult Degree Program

For more information, visit: www.cuny.edu/admissions/undergraduate/adults

» ACCESS

The University comprises 11 four-year colleges, seven community colleges, the Macaulay Honors College, the CUNY Graduate Center, the CUNY School of Law, the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, the CUNY School of Professional Studies and the CUNY School of Public Health.

We want to make certain your time with us is both rewarding and fulfilling. Housed in and around the greatest city in the world, CUNY offers an incredibly wide variety of ways to enrich your life outside the classroom including athletics, clubs and community service opportunities. Visit www.cuny.edu/explore for more information.

» UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

Applying to CUNY is easy for Veteran Applicants through a few simple steps: Explore, Prepare, Apply.

Explore CUNY: Discover information on academic programs, student life, tuition and fees, financial aid and more. Visit www.cuny.edu/explore to get started.

Prepare to Apply: It is important that you first find out what information will be needed to apply to the college and program of your choice. Download and complete

the Admission Application Worksheet along with a Quick Guide to Apply for Veterans and Future Veterans at www.cuny.edu/prepare to get started.

Apply to CUNY: Visit www.cuny.edu/apply to fill out and submit your Admission Application.

After You Apply: After you submit your application, be sure to review deadlines and notification dates, send in your required supporting documents, request your Veterans Fee Waiver and check your application status. Visit www.cuny.edu/afteryouapply for more information.

» GRADUATE ADMISSION

Veterans wishing to apply to graduate programs and those seeking graduate non-matriculated status should apply directly to the college of their choice. Visit www.cuny.edu/graduate for more information.

POST - 9/11 GI BILL



The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after **September 11, 2001**, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an **honorable discharge** to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Visit www.gibill.va.gov for more information.

FINANCIAL AID

At CUNY there are many options for financial assistance including veterans programs as well as federal and state aid programs. If you seek financial assistance, you should visit www.fafsa.ed.gov to complete the Free

Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You may apply as early as January 1 by estimating your tax information and making any necessary corrections later. New York residents should also visit www.hesc.com to complete a Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) application for state aid assistance. Visit www.cuny.edu/financialaid for further information on financial aid programs. The following pages list the many financial aid opportunities available to veterans at CUNY.



Federal Aid

» POST 9/11 VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (Chapter 33)

The Post 9/11 GI Bill took effect on August 1, 2009. The new chapter provides 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 is 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 (based on college zip code) and a yearly stipend of \$1,000 for books and equipment.

For more information, visit: www.gibill.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: www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp

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

» 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 National Guard

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: www.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: www.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, complete VA Form 22-1990 or apply online at: www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp

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

» 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 22-5490 or apply online at: www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp

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

» 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 called a Subsistence Allowance to help with living expenses. 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 percent. To apply, complete VA Form 28-1900 or apply online at: www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp

For more information, visit:
www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/vrs.htm



Eligible veterans receive up to 98 percent of the cost of undergraduate tuition through NY State's Veterans Tuition Award (VTA).

» 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, starting at the federal minimum hourly wage, are available to eligible veterans.

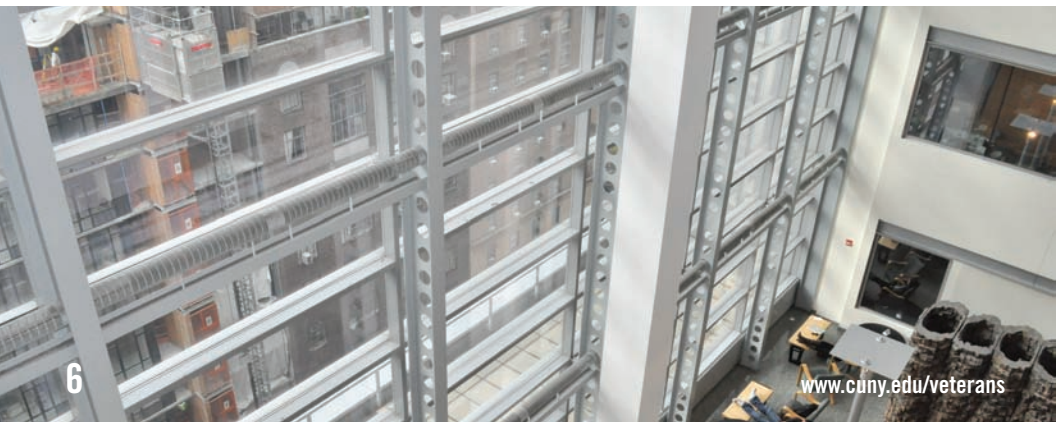
For more information, visit:

www.gibill.va.gov/pamphlets/wkstud.htm

» TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE

The Department of Veterans Affairs will pay up to \$100 per month for your tutorial assistance in addition to your regular monthly education benefits. The limit for tutorial assistance is \$1,200. If you are training under Chapter 33 or Chapter 35, VA will not charge you any entitlement for tutorial assistance. If you are training under Chapter 30, 32 or 1606, VA will not charge entitlement for your first \$600 of tutorial assistance. For tutorial assistance over \$600, VA will charge one month of entitlement whenever you receive an amount equal to the full-time monthly rate you get for going to school.

For more information, call the VA's toll-free number at: **1-888-442-4551**



State Aid

» NEW YORK STATE VETERANS TUITION AWARD (VTA)

provides 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 12/22/61–5/7/75
- Persian Gulf on or after 8/2/90
- Afghanistan during or after 9/11/01
- Vets who served in hostilities after 12/22/61 and received an Armed Forces, Navy or Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal

Eligible veterans receive up to 98 percent 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:
www.dmn.state.ny.us/education

» MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIP (MSRS)

offers awards for spouses, children and financial dependents of a service person 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”)



The new **G.I. Bill** provides up to **36 months** of educational benefits for individuals who served on active duty on or after **September 11, 2001**.



» **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 percent or more disability, or are classified as missing in action or prisoner of war. Parent(s) must be current NYS resident(s) 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")

» **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: www.dmna.state.ny.us/education

» **Note:**

NYS residency eligibility for awards is waived for a dependent or spouse of the service person 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.



MILITARY CREDIT TRANSFER

CUNY values the training and experience you received during your military service. Each institution will evaluate your military experience as it applies to their academic requirements for a specific program, at their own discretion. 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. Each CUNY college has a veteran liaison who will assist with the transfer of credits and other steps needed to complete your enrollment and obtain your benefits. Visit www.cuny.edu/veterans for more information.



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: <http://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:
<https://smart.navy.mil/smart/welcome.do>

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.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp

Coast Guard

THE COAST GUARD INSTITUTE (CGI) requires each service member to submit documentation for all training, along with an enrollment form, to receive a transcript.

For more information, visit:
www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi/forms/CG_Form_1561.pdf

MILITARY-RELATED INTERRUPTION OF ATTENDANCE

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.

Visit www.seamlesstransition.va.gov and www.cuny.edu/veterans for more information.



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 percent 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 percent 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**.



VETERANS RESOURCES AT CUNY

Visit Our Website

The CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs website 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
- Link to our Facebook page (group: CUNY Student Veterans)

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

Veterans Events

Throughout the year, CUNY offers a number of events for Veterans to attend and learn about student life at our colleges, the admission process and financial aid and benefits.

Meet Our Team

UNIVERSITY COORDINATOR FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

Wilfred Cotto

**CUNY Office of
Student Affairs**

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New York, NY 10001

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ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF DISABILITY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

Stephen Clark, MA

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VETERANS ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

Mark O'Connor

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To contact the Office of Veterans Affairs team, email: veterans@mail.cuny.edu

Did you know...

CUNY is one of America's Top Military-Friendly Universities

As rated by Military Advanced Education Magazine for the 3rd Consecutive Year.



OTHER VETERANS RESOURCES

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

VA Benefits Hotline
(800) 827-1000

VA Education & Training Hotline
(888) 442-4551

NYS Department of Labor
(800) 342-3358
www.labor.ny.gov

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

Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs
(212) 442-4171

NYS Division of Veterans Affairs
(888) VETS-NYS
www.veterans.ny.gov

NYS DMNA Education Office
(518) 272-6349
www.dmna.state.ny.us

HESC
(888) 697-4372
www.hesc.com

QUICK GUIDE TO APPLY

Step 1: Explore CUNY www.cuny.edu/explore

Step 2: Prepare to Apply www.cuny.edu/prepare

Step 3: Apply to CUNY www.cuny.edu/apply

After You Apply www.cuny.edu/afteryouapply

Request Your Veterans Fee Waiver

Send Your Supporting Documents

Enroll in the Post-9/11 GI Bill

Apply for Financial Aid at www.fafsa.ed.gov

Apply for Additional Veterans Benefits

New York State TAP at www.hesc.com

New York State Veterans Tuition Award at www.hesc.com

NY National Guard Tuition Benefit before the deadline (if eligible) at www.dmna.state.ny.us/education/

G.I. Bill Benefits at your home college by providing a “Certificate of Eligibility” to your college’s certifying official from the VA. Visit www.cuny.edu/veterans for more information.

Step 4: After You Are Admitted

Provide Proof of Military Status to College

Apply for Veteran Work-Study

Join Your College’s Student Veterans Organization!

Please visit www.cuny.edu/prepare to download the full version of this guide.

COLLEGES

Four-Year Colleges

BARUCH COLLEGE
BROOKLYN COLLEGE
THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK
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
MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE

Honors College
and Graduate &
Professional
Schools

CUNY GRADUATE CENTER
CUNY SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM
CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW
CUNY SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
CUNY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

To learn more about CUNY,
please visit www.cuny.edu/explore



Welcome Center

www.cuny.edu/welcomecenter