



Military Connection Center

Newsletter | August 2017

Upcoming Events

August 15, 2017 - MTOP

Military Transition to ODU Program

Location: Webb Center, North Cafe

Time: 11:30- 3:30 p.m.

Questions?

Military Connection Center

Office Hours

Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm

Email: military@odu.edu

Phone: (757) 683-7153

VA Services

GI Bill Certification

Email: VAservices@odu.edu

Vet Success on Campus

Counselor: April Miller

Email: April.C.Miller@va.gov

Student Veterans Association

Facebook: <https://tinyurl.com/FB-ODU-SVA>

Email: odustudentveteran@gmail.com

Welcome Veterans and Military Affiliated Students!

We hope you've had a relaxing and fun summer so far. This newsletter will provide you with information on the many services ODU provides to our military affiliated population as you prepare to return in the fall.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding GI Bill benefits, transitional assistance, or simply desire a friendly face to help guide you through the administrative complexities of the VA or the university, please know you are always welcome at the Military Connection Center (MCC). We have a trained staff of student veterans ready to assist you in any way.

Look out for our monthly newsletter with information about MCC updates, campus resources and special events.

Good luck this semester!

Respectfully,

America E. Luna, M.S. Ed.
Director, Military Connection Center
Old Dominion University

Military Connection Center



Old Dominion University's Military Connection Center is committed to assisting veterans including active duty service members, reservists, guardsmen, and their families to successfully navigate the transition to academic life.

Our goal is to provide comprehensive support for students at ODU from the point of admission through graduation and ultimately on to a productive career. Visit our website: <http://odu.edu/military/students/connection>



FROM MILITARY TO MONARCH

First Steps in Transitioning to ODU



Military Transition to ODU Program-MTOP

AUGUST 15TH, 2017 • 11:30AM- 3:30PM • NORTH CAFE, WEBB CENTER

Click here to RSVP

Attend our Military Transition to ODU orientation program at the beginning of both the fall and spring semesters. This program is designed to provide new military affiliated students with information regarding military benefits and paying for college, academic supports, and campus resources.

Topics covered include the following:

Paying for College

- G.I. Bill
- Tuition Assistance
- Tuition Deadlines
- Financial Aid
- Federal Work Study

Academic Support

- Transfer Credit Evaluations
- Academic Advising
- Degree Plans
- Regional Higher Education Centers

Campus Resources

- Peer Sponsors
- Educational / Social Programs
- Vet Success
- Student Organizations

- Career Development
- Tutoring
- Educational Accessibility
- Counseling Services



SPOTLIGHT

**Click on bolded underlined text for more information or forms

GI BILL

Is this your First semester at ODU?

Once you have been accepted and have selected your classes, send in your Veterans Clearance Form to Vaservices@odu.edu so that the VA Services team can certify your enrollment.

In State Tuition

Active Duty-In-state Tuition Benefit

To request in-state tuition, fill out the Active Duty/Veteran Tuition Benefit Form below and email it to instate@odu.edu.

- Active Duty/Veteran Tuition Benefit

Dependent of Active Duty in Virginia

Fill out the Military Spouse or Dependent of Active Duty/Veteran Tuition Benefit Form and email it to instate@odu.edu.

- Dependent Tuition Benefit

Financial Aid

Fill out your FAFSA Form- <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

When you receive your grants from Financial Aid, **DO NOT** accept the Common Wealth grant or Virginia Guaranteed Assistance VGAP as it will be taken out of your GI Bill benefits.



FROM MILITARY TO MONARCH

Military Affiliated Services to ease transition to Old Dominion University



GI Bill

VA Services provides specialized customer service to members of all branches of military service, veterans, and their eligible dependents. The VA Certifying Official for Old Dominion University acts as liaison between the University and the regional VA offices to provide information on university procedures and to resolve problems regarding eligibility and payment of VA benefits.

To contact a VA certifying official, email vaservices@odu.edu.

Apply for Benefits - <https://www.odu.edu/admission/military-admission/educational-aid>



Financial Aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a form that can be prepared annually by current and prospective college students (undergraduate and graduate) in the United States to determine their eligibility for student financial aid.

Visit the FAFSA website <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>



Scholarships

Whether you are a member of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, or Navy, there are a number of college scholarships and grants available for service members, veterans and their families. Check out the links below for scholarships offered throughout the year.

- **Student Veterans of America**- <http://studentveterans.org/programs/scholarships>
- **Linkvet Support**- https://linkvet.org/app/answers/detail/a_id/1257/~scholarships-for-veterans,-service-members,-spouses-and-dependents
- **Chesapeake Veterans Scholarship**-<http://tinyurl.com/ChesapeakeVetsScholarship>



Tuition Assistance

As an eligible member of the U.S. Armed Forces, you are able to take advantage of a program which allows you to have the military pay for you to further your civilian education.

Contact -Katie Loomis for any TA related questions at tuition@odu.edu

Vet Success on Campus

The Vets Success on Campus Program is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Old Dominion University to assist military-connected students in making a smooth transition to college life and successfully completing their educational programs.

Contact April Miller at April.C.Miller@va.gov





Office of Educational Accessibility (OEA)

The Office of Educational Accessibility and Old Dominion University advocate for all students with disabilities in the pursuit of their educational objectives. Academic accommodations can include extended testing time, quiet testing facilities, taking a test at the time that best suits you medically, and many other options based on your individual needs.

Please contact the OEA for more info at 757-683-4655 or visit the website <https://www.odu.edu/educationalaccessibility>



The Office of Counseling Services (OCS)

OCS supports the academic mission of the university by providing comprehensive mental health services to enrolled students as well as academic coaching, career assessment, crisis intervention, consultation and a variety of workshops. The OCS staff adheres to the highest standards of ethics and confidentiality.

Please contact the OCS for more information at 757-683-4401 or visit the website <https://www.odu.edu/counselingservices>



Career Development Services (CDS)

Career Development Services (CDS) is here to help you with on-campus or off-campus employment opportunities. They have student veterans employment consultants that can help with resume review, job/career search, guidance on applying for federal jobs, VA Work Study program, and student veterans' employer/job networking events.

Contact Vetsemploy@odu.edu or visit the website <https://www.odu.edu/cds>



Student Veterans Association (SVA)

The Student Veterans Association is a student organization dedicated to serving the needs of all military affiliated students at ODU. The SVA's goal is to provide military veterans with the resources, support, and advocacy needed to succeed in higher education and after graduation. They also serve as the bridge between military connected students and the greater ODU community.

Email odustudentveteran@gmail.com for more information.



ODUOnline-Military

Programs are available to active duty servicemembers at home or deployed abroad, veterans, military dependents. ODUOnline has specific programs designed to award significant academic credit for military training and experience.

Explore military affiliated programs <https://online.odu.edu/military-veterans>

Military Connection Center



GET INVOLVED!

Looking for ways to learn about your new environment? Miss being part of a team?

Join and volunteer with the many organizations available on and off campus!

****Click on the names of the organizations to learn more!**

On Campus

- Student Veterans Association
- Womens Center-M-Power Peer Education
- Student Government Association
- PAVE-Peer Advisors for Veteran Education
- Sororities + Fraternities
- VA workstudy- Vetsemploy@odu.edu (**Earn while you learn**)
- ODU GivePulse-Volunteer at ODU and in your community

Join [Monarch Link](#) and find your group now!

In the Community

- The Mission Continues-Hampton Roads Platoon
- Team Red White and Blue
- Virginia Veterans and Family Support-AmeriCorps
- Armed Services Arts Partnership
- USO Pathfinder
- Veterans of Foreign Wars-Fellowship
- Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Below are community organizations that advocate, engage and assist veterans, active duty military and affiliated families. They provide resources and services

****Click on the names of the organizations to learn more!**

- Fleet and Family Support Services
- CCAMPIS-Childcare at ODU
- Disabled American Veterans
- Vetshouse, Inc
- Department of Veterans Services
- VA Vet Center-Counseling
- Financial Coaching-Armed Forces Services Corporation
- Veterans Business Outreach Center
- Veteran of Foreign Wars
- VA Hampton Medical Center
- American Legion
- Navy Marine Corps Relief Society
- Operation Homefront
- Bluestar Families
- USO of Hampton Roads
- Veterans Homefront-Ending Homelessness

Important Websites

Apply for benefits

- Vets.gov
- E-benefits.va.gov

VA Medical Records

- Myhealth.va.gov

Military Transcripts

- jst.doded.mil

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click on any event with ******* to learn more



Aug 3-**SVA-Coast Guard Birthday**, 1230p, Virginia Rice Rm, Webb

Aug 27-Sept 02- **Week of Welcome (WOW) *****

Aug 23- **Presidents State of the University Address*****

Sept 7-**SVA first meeting of the Semester*****

Sept 14- **MCC Welcome Back Social**

Oct 17-**ODU Fall Career Fair *****

Oct 18-**Military Friendly Job Fair- VA Beach *****

Nov 9-**Veterans Day Observance*****

Military Connection Center

1000 Student Success Center, Norfolk, VA 23529

T: (757) 683 - 7153 (office)

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W: <http://www.odu.edu/military/students/connection>



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