VetSuccess on Campus

VA Partnership

• Mike Carrell
The VetSuccess on Campus program is a collaborative effort between the Host University and the VA to provide on campus support for student Veterans.
• To ease the transition of Servicemembers to Veteran-student status by providing coordinated delivery of benefits and services
  – Maximize retention and graduation rates for Post 9/11 GI Bill participants
  – Pilot began in June 2009 at University of South Florida
  – Initiative expanded to 7 additional sites:
    • Cleveland State University
    • Rhode Island College
    • Community College Rhode Island
    • Texas A&M Central Texas
    • Arizona State University
    • Salt Lake Community College
    • San Diego State University

*VA
- **FY 2012**: VSOC expanded to a total of **24 additional campuses** for a total of 32 campuses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eastern Michigan University (Michigan)</th>
<th>Kellogg Community College (Michigan)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Michigan University (Michigan)</td>
<td>Washtenaw Community College (Michigan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (Michigan)</td>
<td>Kalamazoo Valley Community College (Michigan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norfolk State University (Virginia)</td>
<td>Sam Houston State University (Texas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Texas-San Antonio College (Texas)</td>
<td>University Of Maryland University College (Maryland)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tarrant County College District, South (Texas)</td>
<td>Tarrant County College District, NE (Texas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Kentucky State University (Kentucky)</td>
<td>University of Utah (Utah)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central New Mexico Community College (New Mexico)</td>
<td>University of New Mexico (New Mexico)</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Alaska-Anchoragae (Alaska)</td>
<td>Boise State University (Idaho)</td>
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<td>Middle Tennessee State University (Tennessee)</td>
<td>Portland State University (Washington)</td>
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<td>Tidewater Community College at 4 campuses: Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Virginia Beach (Virginia)</td>
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</tbody>
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*VA
• FY 13 Additions
  – Added 62 Sites -- now 94 Total (79 FTE)
  – CIC Schools Added:
    • Illinois
    • Ohio State
    • Nebraska
    • Rutgers
    • ** Wisconsin – Milwaukee

• No Additions for FY 14

*VA
STAFFING:

- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (assigned by the nearest Regional Office)
  - Provides adjustment counseling, vocational assessment and counseling, comprehensive benefits assistance, and referral services.

- Veterans Health Administration provides either:
  - VetSuccess Outreach Coordinator, or
  - Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) Counselor
    - Provides peer-to-peer counseling and referral services, including mental health treatment through VHA Medical Centers, Community Based Outpatient Clinics, & Vet Centers

- VetSuccess VA Work-study Veteran
  - Performs administrative tasks and assists the VetSuccess Counselor in office management activities

*VA
• VSOC Selection Criteria

  – Focus on colleges or universities with a Veteran-student enrollment between 800-1200

  – School is located within 25 miles of a VA Regional Office, out-based office, and/or VA Medical Center

  – Willingness and ability to provide space and furniture to accommodate a full-time VRC and Vet Center Outreach Coordinator

  – Veteran interest and other Veteran support services on campus

  – Collaboration with VHA’s Vet Centers and Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) program is also a factor in determining expansion locations.
**Who Can Receive Services?** All Veteran students, Active Duty, and Dependents attending Ohio State University can access the Department of Veterans Affairs through a full time VetSuccess On Campus Counselor.

**What types of services are available?**

- Guidance and support with your education benefits.
- Career exploration and assistance with selecting a suitable career/major.
- Electing your healthcare benefits with Veterans Health Administration (VHA).
- Assistance in understanding readjustment difficulties and how they affect school.
- Coordinating with school faculty/staff to provide Veteran specific services (i.e. Certifying School Official, Career Center, Student Disabilities Services, and Academic Advising).
- Accessing, understanding, and applying for other VA benefits (i.e. Disability Compensation, Life Insurance, Education, Home Loan Guaranty, Vocational Rehabilitation).
- Referral for readjustment counseling services for eligible Veterans and their families.
- Job placement assistance and coordination with Local Veterans’ Employment Representatives (LVER) and Disabled Veterans’ Outreach Program (DVOP).

*VA
• University Experience

  – Application / Selection

  – MOU

  – Advantages
    • Wealth of Information
    • Access to VA
    • Trust with Students
      – Builds University Credibility
      – Access to Non-University Employee
    • Fresh ideas and Student Focus

  – Challenges
    • University Bureaucracy for on-boarding
    • Media
    • Model??