



MISSION:

The mission Polk State's Office of Veterans Services is to provide veteran students with the resources and support needed to understand and utilize the education benefits offered through the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Polk State's Office of Veterans Services works with veterans to help them achieve their academic and professional goals.

ORIENTATION:

The Office of Veterans Services provides an orientation that is designed to help veterans make a smooth transition to college life. Orientation offers information on financial aid, educational benefits, academic advising, special accommodations, and other services that are of interest to veterans.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Polk State College offers scholarships for veterans who may need further assistance with educational expenses. The Office of Veterans Services or Financial Aid Office can provide additional information on these resources.

EXPERIENTIAL CREDIT:

Polk State offers credit for basic training and military experience using the American Council on Education's Credit-Granting Guidelines. More information about experiential credit can be obtained at www.acenet.edu and www.jst.doded.mil/offical.html.

PRIORITY REGISTRATION:

Veterans who declare their military service when applying to Polk State College are given access to priority registration. This provides for early course enrollment, allowing individuals to build schedules that meet their needs.

More information about financial aid at Polk State can be obtained at: veterans@polk.edu.



PROGRAMS AND BENEFITS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The GI Bill® has helped millions of veterans pay for college and training programs. Under this bill, qualifying veterans and their family members can access funding to cover all or part of the costs for school or training. A general description of each of the VA education benefits programs is below.

- The Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) – An education benefit for those who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. The Post 9/11 GI Bill pays all tuition and fees for in-state students at public schools and offers allowances for housing, books, supplies, and relocation from rural areas. Additionally, the Post 9/11 GI Bill may also be used for apprenticeships, on-the-job training, and non-college degree programs.
- The Montgomery GI Bill (Chapter 30) – Active Duty Program provides qualified veterans with up to 36 months of education benefits. It may be used for college, technical, or vocational courses; correspondence courses; apprenticeships or on-the-job training; flight or ship training; and certain entrance examinations. In most cases benefits are payable for 10 years following the release from active duty.
- The Montgomery GI Bill (Chapter 1606) – Selected Reserve Program provides up to 36 months of education benefits to reserve members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, as well as the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. Eligible reservists may get education benefits while enrolled in programs approved by US Department of Veterans Affairs. Information is available via the Veterans WEAMS Institution Search Tool, which allows individuals to search for approved education and job-training programs.
- Survivors' & Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) is an education benefit for eligible spouses and children of certain veterans. Eligible persons can receive up to 45 months of full-time (or the equivalent) benefits for college, business, technical, or vocational courses; high school diploma or GED courses; independent study or distance learning courses; correspondence courses (for spouses only); apprenticeships and on-the-job training; national exams (e.g., SAT, LSAT, GRE, GMAT); and remedial, deficiency, and refresher classes. Additionally, the program may cover the cost of licensure tests or certifications that are needed to obtain or maintain a job, or advance within one's career.
- The Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Program is authorized by Congress under Title 38, United States Code, Chapter 31, and is sometimes referred to as the Chapter 31 Program. The VR&E Program assists veterans with service-connected disabilities and employment handicaps, as well as service members who are in the process of transitioning from military to civilian employment. The program helps individuals to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs. For those with service-connected disabilities so severe that they cannot immediately consider work, the VR&E Program offers services to improve the ability to live as independently as possible.

For more information on the many services available to veterans, individuals can call the US Department of Veterans Affairs at 888.442.4551, or contact Polk State College via veterans@polk.edu.

*GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>.

Polk State College is committed to equal access/equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment. For additional information, visit polk.edu/equity.