Veteran Student Support Services

Veteran Student Support Services, a unit within the Office of the Dean of Students, recognizes the remarkable contributions made by members of our armed services and the unique challenges associated with transitioning into a university setting. To support this transition, we are committed to providing veterans, active military personnel, and dependents with the services needed to make the most of their educational experience. It is highly recommended that you contact Veteran Student Support Services shortly after applying to the university.

We are located at:

300 Student Services Building, 610 E. John St.
Champaign, Illinois 61820
Phone: (217) 333-0050
http://veterans.illinois.edu/

Credit for Military Training

Per campus policy, most coursework posted on a military transcript is deemed non-transferrable for one or more of the following reasons:

Experiential-based credit: the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign does not accept any credit for experiential coursework or life experience posted on any transfer transcript. Students who feel that their knowledge base is very good in a particular subject area are encouraged to sign-up for a proficiency exam, usually offered during the beginning of each semester.

CLEP credit: Per campus policy, CLEP examination credit is not accepted for transfer since Fall 2003.

DANTES credit: Per campus policy, DANTES credit is not accepted.

Coursework listed on other military transcripts which list American Council on Education or ACE Military Guide Credit Recommendations are not acceptable for transfer, if designated as lower division. Upper division ACE recommendations may be granted transfer credit, if such coursework falls within the parameters for regular coursework. Upper division recommendations for credit are quite rare, though they do show-up from time to time.

Any coursework which is completed at a regionally-accredited, post-secondary institution and posted on a military transcript is only acceptable when a transcript from that institution is received. In other words, you will need to have transcripts from all institutions attended sent directly to the University of Illinois-UC. No Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) or military-oriented coursework which is career, technical or vocational in nature and not baccalaureate degree-oriented is acceptable for transfer.
Four (4) semester hours of lower division military science credit is granted for transfer admission, if a minimum of 6 months of continuous active duty was completed and an honorable discharge is listed on the DD-214 or similar document, if separation is not yet permanent. Only hours for transfer admission requirements are granted. In other words, no programmatic credit (i.e. general education, free elective hours or supporting coursework for a major, etc.) will be granted.

No physical education credit is granted for Basic or Advanced Training. No credit is granted for ROTC physical fitness training completed on this campus.

Up to nine (9) semester hours of upper division Military/Naval Science credit may be granted by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which include any upper division (junior/senior level) ROTC coursework and/or the two Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Classes. *This credit can be used to satisfy free elective hours.* The other colleges on this campus may have other restrictions concerning the use of such coursework to satisfy degree requirements as free elective hours. Based on this, students should contact their respective colleges and inquire about acceptance of the aforementioned coursework.

The College of Engineering will grant up to four (4) semester hours of PHYS 1 (100 level Physics elective credit, which satisfies free elective hours) for completion of the U.S. Navy’s Nuclear Propulsion School. This must be posted on a Navy transcript. Presently, the College of Engineering is the only college to grant this credit.

**Veterans Education Benefits & Financial Aid**

Federal, state, and institutional student financial aid programs are available to cover your cost of attendance. Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the first step in determining your eligibility for most financial aid programs. [http://www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

For all student financial aid questions, contact:

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Office of Student Financial Aid  
620 E. John Street, MC-303  
Champaign, IL 61820  
**Phone:** 217-333-0100  
**Fax:** 217-265-5516  
**E-mail:** finaid@illinois.edu  
**Federal School Code:** 001775

The Veterans Certifying Official is Ellen Frost

Financial Aid information for Veterans: [http://www.osfa.illinois.edu/aid/veterans/index.html](http://www.osfa.illinois.edu/aid/veterans/index.html)
Montgomery GI Bill Programs & Rates

Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill (Active Duty) - Educational assistance is available to individuals who have an honorable discharge and meet additional eligibility criteria as determined by the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA). This program provides up to 36 months of educational benefits. Generally, benefit entitlement ends 10 years following the release from active duty.

Effective October 1, 2010, the basic monthly rates for institutional training (for those completing an enlistment of three years or more) are as follows:
- Full time $1,426.00
- ¾ time $1,069.50
- ½ time $ 713.00
- ¼ time or less $ 356.50*

* Tuition and fees only - payment cannot exceed this amount.

Chapter 1606 Educational Assistance (Selected Reserve Program) - Educational assistance is available to individuals who are members of the Selected Reserve, which includes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. This educational assistance is also available to members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard. Reservists may be entitled to receive up to 36 months of educational benefits. Generally, benefit entitlement ends 14 years from the date of eligibility for the program.

Effective October 1, 2010, the basic monthly rates for institutional training are as follows:
- Full time $337.00
- ¾ time $252.00
- ½ time $167.00
- Less than ½ time $ 84.25*

* Tuition and fees only - payment cannot exceed this amount.

Chapter 1607 Reserve Educational Assistance (REAP) - Educational assistance is available to individuals who are members of the Reserve components called or ordered to active duty in response to a war or national emergency (contingency operation) as declared by the President or Congress. The Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security will determine who is eligible for this program.

The basic monthly rate varies depending on the length of the training time and the type of training. Effective October 1, 2010, the basic monthly rates for institutional training are as follows:

Training Time 90-364 Days 1 Year + 2 Years +
- Full time $570.40 $855.60 $1140.80
- ¾ time $427.80 $641.70 $ 855.60
- ½ time $285.20 $427.80 $ 570.40
- ¼ time $142.60* $213.90* $ 285.20*

* Tuition and fees only - payment cannot exceed this amount.

Chapter 33 Post-9/11 GI Bill - Financial support is available 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. Individuals who may qualify for more than one education program may or may not want to enroll in the Chapter 33 program until exhausting other program benefits. Prior to applying for education benefits, each potential applicant is encouraged to complete a thorough benefit comparison of eligibility through each program because the decision to apply for the Post-9/11 GI Bill is irrevocable. To obtain additional information, visit www.va.gov. Department of Veterans Affairs representatives may be consulted to discuss benefit eligibility by telephoning (888) GI-BILL-1 or (888) 442-4551.

Chapter 35 Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance (DEA) – Educational assistance is available to eligible dependents of certain veterans. This program provides up to 45 months of educational benefits. Eligible dependents must complete the online application for Dependents’ Educational Assistance, VA Form 22-5490. The basic monthly rate varies on the types of training.
Effective October 01, 2010, the basic monthly rates for institutional training are as follows:

- Full-time $936.00
- ¾ time $702.00
- ½ time $466.00
- ¼ time $234.00

**Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation** - Veterans with a service connected disability may be eligible for vocational rehabilitation services by the DVA. Complete VA Form 28-1900. These individuals must contact their Veterans Benefits Administration’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Counselor, who will notify the Billings and Receivables Office of each veteran’s eligibility.

Additional information concerning GI Bill rates, forms, and policies can be found at:


**State Education Benefits for Military Personnel and Dependents**

**Illinois Veterans Grant (IVG)** - Veterans who have served at least one year of federal active duty service in the Armed Forces of the United States; or served on federal active duty service in a foreign country during a time of hostilities in that country and were honorably discharged after each period of federal active duty service; and/or are honorably serving may be eligible for the Illinois Veterans Grant (IVG) Program. Any member of the Illinois National Guard or a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States who meets the eligibility requirements is considered a qualified applicant for the IVG Program. Qualified applicants are encouraged to submit an IVG program application if they anticipate attending college at any point in the future. While program eligibility can be confirmed for qualified applicants at any time, funds will be disbursed only for terms in which eligible participants are enrolled at an Illinois public college or community college. Applicants are responsible for meeting all deadlines as specified by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

For additional eligibility criteria, or to apply for the Illinois Veteran Grant, a printed application may be obtained at the Office of Student Financial Aid, or visit the College Zone website at www.collegezone.com/media/F103_E_IVG.pdf.

**Illinois National Guard Grant (ING)** - Members of the Illinois National Guard may be eligible to receive the Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant. This grant may pay for eligible tuition costs and certain fees for undergraduate or graduate study. The ING grant can be used for a maximum of the equivalent of four academic years of full-time enrollment. Illinois National Guard Members may complete an online application at https://inginteractiveapp.isac.org/. Applicants are responsible for meeting all deadlines as specified by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. This program is coordinated by the Office of Student Financial Aid.

**MIA/POW Scholarship** - The dependent of a person who was an Illinois resident at the time he/she entered active duty and has been declared to be a prisoner of war, missing in action, dead as a result of a service-connected disability, or disabled with a 100 percent disability as the result of a service-connected cause as recognized by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the U.S. Department of Defense, the dependent may be eligible to receive the MIA/POW Scholarship. This scholarship may be used at public colleges in Illinois, and is administered by the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs. This program is coordinated by the Office of Student Financial Aid.

**Children of Veterans Tuition Waiver (COV)** - The Children of Veterans Tuition Waiver is a four-year (consecutive) tuition waiver at the University of Illinois. If you are awarded the waiver, it will cover your in-state tuition (for undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies) at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, Health Sciences Center, or Springfield Campus). This program is coordinated by the Office of Student Financial Aid.
It is important to emphasize that rates and policies change. In order to determine eligibility and to access the most accurate and current information, all students should contact the Office of Student Financial Aid.

Missing Class due to Military Drill

For members of the National Guard and Reserves, there may be times when you miss class due to a weekday drill or similar military training. If orders are not issued, the student must contact the Office of the Dean of Students and bring a signed letter (usually from the unit CO) that specifically outlines the date(s) in which the student was in a military status. The Office of the Dean of Students, upon verifying the letter, will complete an "Absence Letter Request" and email it directly to the student. The student will then need to submit the letter to the professor, either in person or through email. It cannot be emphasized enough that students are responsible to keep their professor(s) informed of all military absences.

Withdrawing from the University: Activation / Deployment

If you withdraw from the University after completing the seventh week and before completing the twelfth week of the semester due to being ordered to active duty, you may be entitled to receive credit for one-half of each course in which you have attained a standing of C- or better at the time of withdrawal. Full credit is given if the withdrawal occurs after completing the twelfth week of the semester. For more information please refer to the Campus Code of Policies and Regulations: http://admin.illinois.edu/policy/code/article3_part3_3-314.html

Students who wish to withdraw from the University must follow established withdrawal procedures by officially withdrawing from the University. Students must complete a Withdrawal from the University form which should be obtained from the Dean’s Office in your College or Graduate Department. The form requires the student to obtain signatures from several campus offices and then submit a copy of the form to OSFA along with a completed VA Form 21-4138 (Statement of Support of Claim) indicating the reason for the withdrawal.

If you were recalled and have already departed campus after completing the withdrawal process, you should e-mail the following information to us at OSFAVeterans@illinois.edu. We will acknowledge your e-mail and forward the withdrawal to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) for processing.

- Your full name and social security number
- The date of withdrawal listed on your withdrawal form
- Your military unit designation
- A brief statement indicating the reason for the withdrawal

If you have direct loans that are in an in-school status, an in-school deferment status, or in a grace period status, you should call the Direct Loan Service Center at 800-848-0979, and request a "Military Grace Program" deferment. This option can extend the grace status of the loan up to three years and is only available to students withdrawing as a result of being recalled or deployed.
Campus Resources

Career Center
715 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL, 61820
Hours: 8:30-5:00 M-F
Phone: (217) 333-0820
www.careercenter.uiuc.edu

The Career Center assists with job search strategies, career & major exploration, experiential education, health careers advising, and graduate school information. They offer several workshops and guidance for resume & cover letter writing, job search strategies, interviewing tips, and preparing for a job fair.

Counseling Center
110 Turner Student Services Bldg.
610 E. John St., Champaign, IL, 61820
Hours: 8:00-5:00 M-F
Phone: (217) 333-3704
www.counselingcenter.illinois.edu

Counseling Center services are designed to help students address many of the academic, relational, and emotional concerns they face. A variety of group and individual therapy services are available, as well as referral services and self-help brochures. Counseling Center services are confidential and available Monday – Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Initial appointments are made on a same-day basis by calling the Counseling Center (333-3704) any time after 7:50 am. Emergency services outside of general working hours are provided by Champaign County Mental Health Center (359-4141).

Disability Resources & Educational Services (DRES)
1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, IL 61820
Hours: 8:30-5:00 M-F
Phone: (217) 333-1970 (V/TTY)
Fax: (217) 333-0248
www.disability.uiuc.edu/

Disability Resources and Educational Services takes a hands-on approach to serving the needs of University of Illinois students with disabilities. Students can request assistance with everything from planning a sensible course schedule to ensuring that they have appropriate testing accommodations. Academic services include: ADHD, Acquired Brain Injury, Autism / Asperger’s, Psychological Disability Services, Learning Disabilities Services, Mobility and Systemic Disability Services, Assistive Communication and Information Technology, Vision and Hearing Disability Services, Interpreting Services, Testing Accommodations, and Document Conversion. Non-academic services include: Transportation and Accessibility, Physical Therapy and Functional Training, Campus Life, and the Beckwith Residence Life.

Office of the Dean of Students (ODOS)
300 Student Services Bldg.
610 E. John St., Champaign, IL 61820
Hours: 8:30-5:00 M-F
Emergency Dean offers 24-hour-a-day services
Phone: (217) 333-0055
www.odos.illinois.edu

The Office of the Dean of Students provides student-centered programs and services designed to address students’ needs and to remove barriers to their academic success and personal development. Within the ODOS are the following units: Emergency Dean / Student Assistance Center, Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, New Student Programs, Off-Campus and Community Living Resource Center, Student Legal Services, Tenant Union, Testing Center, and Veteran Student Support Services.
Emergency Dean / Student Assistance Center
Phone: (217) 333-0050

The Student Assistance Center offers counseling, referrals, advocacy, absence verification letters, and serves as an intake resource for various concerns. The Emergency Dean offers 24-hour-a-day services to students and families experiencing any sort of an emergency. Issues of campus safety, reporting acts of intolerance, and complaints of discrimination or harassment can also be reported via the helpdean@illinois.edu or the stophate@illinois.edu email addresses.

New Student Programs
Phone: (217) 333-4057
www.odos.illinois.edu/newstudent

New Student Programs collaboratively develops and coordinates on-going orientation experiences for new undergraduate students. Programs and services are student-centered and designed to transition new students to life at Illinois.

Student Legal Services
Phone: (217) 333-9053
www.odos.uiuc.edu/sls

All students enrolled in at least 6 semester hours or 1.5 graduate units and who have paid and not refunded the Student Organization Refund Fee (SORF) are eligible to use Student Legal Services. The purpose of the program is to inform students of practical aspects of the law as applied to their individual problems. Additionally, in-court representation is available in many cases. Advice, counseling and representation may be available for a wide variety of issues, including victims’ rights, search and seizure laws, personal injury, damage deposits, consumer rights, city and civil offenses, and many other legal issues.

Child Care

Child Development Laboratory
1105 W. Nevada St.
Phone: (217) 244-8622
www.cdl.uiuc.edu

The Child Development Laboratory (CDL) is a university-based preschool and child care program sponsored by the Department of Human and Community Development on the University of Illinois campus. The CDL offers a half-day preschool for 2 – 4 year-old children and full-day child care for children ages 6 weeks to 4 years-old.

CCAMPIS: Child Care Access Means Parents in School
Phone: (217) 333-3252
www.cdl.uiuc.edu/ccampis

Offers child care referrals, information on evaluating quality child care, resources on various parenting issues and assistance in paying for childcare services. This program is part of CDL.

Orchard Downs Pre-School
510 W. George Huff Drive
Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: (217) 333-3497
www.go.illinois.edu/ODPS

Orchard Downs Pre-School is part of University Housing and follows the University calendar. ODPS offers activities to enhance the social, emotional, physical and mental development of pre-school children. ODPS offers half-day and full-day preschool for children ages 3 – 5.
Parenting 24/7
www.parenting247.org

Parenting 24/7 is a "one-stop" source of news, information, and advice on parenting and family life from University of Illinois Extension. Designed for parents and grandparents of children from birth through the teens, it provides feature articles with research-based information, video clips of parents and experts, breaking news and commentary, newsletters, and recommendations to the best parenting resources on the web.

Housing

Off-Campus and Community Living Resource Center
www.odos.uiuc.edu/housingoptions

The Off-Campus and Community Living Resource Center helps students by providing resources about living in the greater Urbana-Champaign area. The Center assists students with navigating life off-campus safely and engaging with the many opportunities available to individuals living in Champaign County.

University Housing
100 Clark Hall
1203 S. 4th St., Champaign, IL 61820

Residence Halls
Phone: (217) 333-7111
www.housing.illinois.edu

Apartments
Phone: (217) 333-5656
www.go.illinois.edu/apartment_options

Whether you are a 1st year student, upperclassman, graduate student, or will be coming to campus with your family, University Housing has many options to choose from. In addition to undergraduate residence halls, upperclassmen can join upper-division living communities at Daniels and Sherman, or live at a University Apartment. All buildings are accessible by campus bus lines and there are seven dining halls conveniently located across campus (meal plans are optional if you live in graduate upper-division halls or apartments).

Private Certified Housing
100 Clark Hall
1203 S. 4th St., Champaign, IL 61820
Hours: 8:30-5:00 M-F
Phone: (217) 333-1420
certhsg@illinois.edu

Private Certified Housing (PCH) facilities are owned by local or national housing companies. They have completed a University of Illinois certification process. Freshmen are eligible to live in PCH housing. These facilities offer a range of living options, amenities and rates.

Tenant Union
Phone: (217) 333-0112
www.tenantunion.illinois.edu

The Tenant Union provides free housing-related services, including lease review, landlord complaint records, assistance in locating housing, and help with landlord problems. As with Student Legal Services, students who have paid and not refunded the SORF are eligible to use the Tenant Union.
The Women’s Resources Center provides supportive counseling, advocacy, crisis intervention, and information and referral services with a special focus on the needs of female students. Support groups are also available. For a description of their expansive services, refer to their webpage.

Community Veterans Resources

Department of Veterans Affairs – Illiana Health Care (Danville VA)
1900 E. Main Street
Danville, IL 61832
Phone: (217) 554-3000
Fax: (217) 554-4898
www.danville.va.gov/contact

Compensation & Pension (Danville VA)
Phone: (217) 554-5132

Social Work (Danville VA)
Phone: (217) 554-4506

Operation Iraqi Freedom / Operation Enduring Freedom (Danville)
Phone: (217) 554-5121

Women’s Health (Danville VA)
Phone: (217) 554-4286

Veterans Service Office (Champaign County)
State Regional Office Building
2125 South 1st Street
Champaign, IL 61820
Phone: (217) 278-3388 or 278-3392
  o Compensation benefits & Document Assistance
  o Disability Support
  o Employment Benefits

Illinois Department of Employment Security
Veterans Outreach Program / Illinois Skills Match
Unemployment support & employment search support
1307 N. Mattis Avenue, Champaign, IL 61820
POC: Stan White, (217) 278-5700 or Stanley.White@illinois.gov
Additional Veterans Resources

Veterans Benefits Information 1-800-827-1000 www.va.gov
Health Benefits Eligibility 1-877-222-8387 www.va.gov/healtheligibility
Education Benefits 1-888-GIBILL-1 www.gibill.va.gov
Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/index.htm
VA Readjustment Counseling Services www.va.gov/rcs
Online Benefits Application www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp
DOD Tricare 1-888-363-5433 www.tricare.osd.mil
DOD Deployment Information www.defenselink.mil
DOD Military Family Support www.nmfa.org
DOD Guard & Reserve Affairs www.defenselink.mil/ra

Illinois Warrior Assistance Program http://www.illinoiswarrior.com/
The Illinois Warrior Assistance Program provides free and confidential assistance for returning Illinois Veterans. Their goal is to help service members and their families deal with the emotional challenges they may be facing as they transition back to their daily lives. 24-Hour Confidential Support: 866-554-4927

Outward Bound http://www.outwardbound.org/index.cfm/do/cp.veterans
This is a tremendous opportunity for adventure and self-discovery to our veterans of combat operations in Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom) and Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom). Programs include numerous wilderness adventures exclusively for war veterans. Program goals include helping veterans build a supportive community with other war veterans; facilitating discussions on readjustment and transition challenges; and re-energizing and reinvigorating spirits with adventures and challenges in the beautiful outdoors. obsvets@outwardbound.org or call 866-669-2362 ext. 8387
Community Resources

The **Help Book Online** is a comprehensive directory of human and social services in Champaign County, Illinois.

http://helpbook.famservcc.org/

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**Crisis Nursery**

Crisis Nursery is the only emergency-based child care facility open 24 hours, 365 days a year for the entire community to access with no fees, income eligibility or waiting list. Besides safe shelter for children, ages birth through five, they also provide family support and parenting education.

**Crisis Line:** 217-337-2730

**CRISIS NURSERY**
1309 West Hill Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801
Administration: 217-337-2731
Fax: 217-337-2732

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**Free & Low-Cost Medical & Dental**

- **Hope Community Health Center**
  507 S. 2nd St., Champaign, IL
  Phone: 217-352-0600 for an appointment

- **Francis Nelson**
  819 Bloomington Road, Champaign, IL
  Phone: 217-356-1558

- **Parkland College Dental Hygiene Clinic**
  2400 W. Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL
  Phone: 217-351-2221

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**Substance Abuse & Mental Health**

- **Prairie Center**
  718 Killarney, Urbana, IL
  Phone: 217-328-4500

- **Men’s SAFE House**
  213 Central Ave., Urbana, IL
  Phone: 217-344-7233

- **Community Elements**
  202 W. Park St., Champaign, IL
  Phone: 217-373-2430

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**Shelters**

- **Center for Women in Transition**
  Phone: 217-352-7151

- **A Women’s Place**
  Phone: 217-384-4462 (office)
  217-384-4390 (24 hr. hotline)