VETERAN AND MILITARY STUDENT SERVICES

Dixie State University (DSU) offers Veteran and military students and their family members assistance in using their Veteran Administration (VA) or military educational benefits. Our staff is honored to help students through the process of admissions, eligibility application, registration and maximizing their benefits to pursue educational, professional or vocational objectives. DSU is member of the Servicemembers Opportunity College (SOC) Consortium and have additional resources at our Veteran Success Center available to help students succeed. Veterans and uniformed service members should contact the Director of Veterans and Military Services for the following:

- To obtain a fee waivers code when applying for the first time at Dixie State University (evidence of Honorable, General under Honorable circumstances or current service will be required)
- Information on priority registration (veterans and uniformed service members are authorized priority registration)
- Information regarding military, veterans and family member residency exemption
- Assistance in applying to the VA for education benefits
- In-processing procedures to use your VA, Department of Defense (DoD) or State of Utah education benefits

Certifying students who are eligible for veteran’s educational benefits involves DSU, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the Department of Defense tuition assistance programs, and the veteran. The approval and funding process may take as long as 4-6 weeks; therefore, we encourage you to complete all the applications to the VA, DoD or State as soon as possible. Please visit the Veteran Success Center for in-processing and become fully admitted to DSU as soon as possible.

To receive VA education benefits, applicants must apply online (https://www.va.gov). Contact the Director of Veteran and Military Services (https://veterans.dixie.edu) if you need assistance.

In order to receive Veterans or Military Educational Benefits, you will need to provide the DSU Veterans and Military Services office with the most recent Member 4 Copy of your DD-214, or a Leave & Earnings Statement (LES) if you are still on active duty. You will also need to complete the DSU Veteran Statement of Understanding and Procedure Form and order official military transcripts if applicable.

The VA administers several educational programs along with DoD Federal Tuition Assistance and State of Utah programs that DSU accepts upon admittance. For a detailed description of each VA program, please visit the VA website (http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill).

Veterans Administration programs include:

- Chapter 30: Montgomery GI Bill® (MGI-B-AD)
- Chapter 31: VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment
- Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill®
- Chapter 35: Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance (DEA) and the Fry Scholarship (https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/factsheets/fry_scholarship.pdf)
- Chapter 1606: Montgomery GI Bill® - Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)
- Chapter 1607: Reserve Educational Assistance program (REAP) This program has been discontinued and is only available to students who were utilizing this benefit in the previous semester.

Students must be matriculated (enrolled in a degree or a certificate program) to qualify for VA Educational benefits unless they are pending admission, in which case they can be certified for two semesters only. Students receiving veteran’s educational benefits under Chapter 30, Chapter 1606, and Chapter 1607 are required to verify enrollment each month through WAVE (https://www.gibill.va.gov/wave)(Web Automated Verification of Enrollment) or by phone 1-877-823-2378.

Students receiving veteran’s educational benefits must meet specific requirements to become and remain eligible. Consult with the Director of Veteran and Military Services for more information.
Department of Defense programs include:

- Air Force Tuition Assistance (https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school/air-force-tuition-assistance.html)
- Army Tuition Assistance (https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school/army-tuition-assistance.html)
- Navy Tuition Assistance (https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school/navy-tuition-assistance.html)
- Marines Tuition Assistance (https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school/marines-tuition-assistance.html)
- Coast Guard Tuition Assistance (https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school/coast-guard-tuition-assistance.html)
- National Guard Tuition Assistance (https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school/national-guard-tuition-assistance.html)
- Reserve Tuition Assistance (https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school/reserve-tuition-assistance.html)

State of Utah programs include:

- In-State Tuition: If you are stationed in Utah on active duty military orders, or are a Utah resident stationed outside the state, you and your spouse/family members likely qualify for resident tuition rates. For veteran or military residency exemption or admissions fee waiver, contact the DSU Veteran and Military Service office.
- Purple Heart Tuition Waiver (https://veterans.dixie.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/58/2017/03/DSU-VSS-Form-4-1-Purple-Heart-Tuition-Waiver.pdf)
- Scott Lundell Military Survivors Tuition Waiver (catalog.dixie.edu/campusresources/veterans/%20https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title53B/Chapter8/53B-8-S107.html)
- Veterans Tuition Gap Program
- Utah National Guard State Tuition Waiver
- Utah National Guard State Tuition Assistance

Academic Resources:

Tutoring is available at no cost to all DSU students in a variety of subjects including Mathematics and Science. The Academic Performance Center is located in the Holland Centennial Commons (fourth floor). Veteran students receiving VA education benefits, except for Chapter 1607 (REAP), can be reimbursed for up to $100 per month for tutoring services. Chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment recipients must coordinate tutoring services with their VA Counselor. Please meet with the director of veteran and military services for degree advising and possible tutoring/testing resources.

The University also offers a Writing Center (https://writingcenter.dixie.edu) (located on the fourth floor of the Holland Centennial Commons) that provides a variety of writing services, including face-to-face and online tutoring sessions.

Students may require the services of the Disability Resource Center (https://drcenter.dixie.edu) to evaluate disability documentation, determine eligibility, and implement reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities enrolled at the University.

Dixie State University and the Department of Veteran Affairs (George E. Whalen VA Medical Center) have collaborated to provide the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) program. The Veteran Success Center in the Browning Learning Resource Center room 116 provides transitional peer mentorship, access to TeleHealth mental health services and education for university staff/faculty about military culture under the guidance of the VITAL Program.

Military Credit

To determine if military credit may be awarded, veterans will need to provide the Member 4 copy of their DD 214 discharge papers to the Director of Veterans and Military Services. The student must request official military transcripts for Dixie State University. Use the following links to order official transcripts:

- Army, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard (https://jst.doded.mil)
- Air Force (https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/CCAF)

ACE recommendations from the Guide to the Evaluation of Education Experiences in the Armed Services and the review by the academic department determine the acceptance of military course credit. Credit acceptance is determined upon evaluation and correlation to existing degree plans. Upon request, students have the option to submit JST credit for general electives if the degree pathway calls for them. Scores for military credit are not included in any GPA calculation.

Veteran and Military Schedule Accommodations:

A student who is in “uniformed service” status may request a schedule accommodation for short-term required military activities (drill, training, State emergency call-up or military schooling) that must take place during the semester and are 14 calendar days or less in duration should follow the procedure below in order to receive accommodation. If the absence is more than 14 calendar days (deployment, activation for mobilization or extended training) in a full semester, they should consider doing a complete withdrawal from the semester. Upon activation for military service, students should contact the Director for Veterans and Military Services as soon as possible for assistance with issues concerning current classes,
registration status, and/or educational benefits. Students should follow the following procedures to receive a schedule accommodation (instructors have the right to not allow any accommodation—requirement must apply to all students):

- The student must provide instructors with a printed copy of their “orders” to request a military activity schedule accommodation.
- In the event written “orders” give a student less than seven (7) calendar days from notification to the onset of the absence, instructors are still encouraged to work with the student concerning the requested schedule accommodation.
- An instructor may determine that recurring, frequent or lengthy absences will interfere with a student’s ability to succeed in the course and recommend that the student seek an alternative.
- A student who requires an extension to the original period of absence must contact the Registrar’s office, which will require verification of the required extension and then notify instructors who may recommend that the student seek an alternative.
- Absences for required military activities do not always have advanced notice.
- A student with advance notice of a required military activity may be required to complete course work prior to the absence.
- If a student has less than seven (7) calendar days’ notice (as certified by the written “orders”), the instructor should utilize all resources to accommodate the shift in scheduling.
- Veterans requesting to schedule accommodation for VA Medical appointments shall follow the notification procedures outlined above and should use VA Email or a hard copy appointment notification in place of orders. Medical appointments are made by the VA and the student generally has no control of the appointment times or dates and when missed may take up to nine months to reschedule.

Veterans and Service Members attending DSU may request priority enrollment through the Veterans Success Center. Evidence of Honorable, General under Honorable Circumstances, or current service is required when requesting priority enrollment.