#### Welcome U.S. Veterans, Service Members, Spouses, and Dependents!

We are so grateful for your service and are honored to serve those who have served. The Alabama Community College System is constantly looking for ways to assist veterans in their transition to great civilian careers. From helping to translate military jobs to their civilian counterpart in resumes to providing expedited training to get veterans to work fast. Recently, the Alabama Community College System has partnered with MSSC to provide CPT and CLT training for the residents of Alabama. For veterans who have viable experience we are using an accelerated online version of the CPT and CLT Training, or for Verteran specific contacts for each college are provided below.

Jefferson State Community College is committed to providing veterans with a successful educational experience. We are so grateful for your service and are honored to serve those who have served. Veterans, national guard/reservists, and dependents/survivors are eligible for VA education benefits. Please review the links on this page for information on the certification process to receive your VA benefits while attending Jefferson State Community College.

If you have any questions about applying for VA education benefits, please contact the Jefferson State VA Coordinator at (205) 856-7951 or va@jeffersonstate.edu.

Students should contact the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to determine what benefits they may be eligible to receive. You can determine the status of your award or inquire about problems receiving your benefits by contacting the DVA at 1-888-442-4551 or at <u>www.gibill.va.gov</u>.

## **Certification Process**

# All students who receive VA Educational Benefits must do the following in order to have their enrollment certification submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs:

- 1. The student must have a complete Admissions file. Transfer students prior credit must be evaluated before enrollment certification can be submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 2. Tuition must be paid at the time of registration. All students must submit a copy of the Request for Certification of Educational Benefits form and pay for all classes registered to have their enrollment certification submitted to the Department of Veteran

Affairs. \*Chapter 33 students must submit the Request for Certification of Educational Benefits form in order to have their payments applied. If a CH 33 student registers for courses and fails to submit the required form each semester after registering, their schedule will be dropped.

- Students must complete the <u>Request for Certification of Educational Benefits</u> form, the <u>85/15 Confirmation of Compliance</u> form (if applicable) and the <u>Statement of</u> <u>Understanding</u> form to submit to the Jefferson State VA representative for certification approval. These documents require a student's signature.
- 4. Students are required to speak with an academic advisor to ensure the courses the student is registered for are required for the major on file in Admissions and are included in the current degree plan. \*The VA will not cover courses that are not required for the student's major.
- 5. If a student plans to withdraw from a course, the student must notify the JSCC VA representative of the change in their status. Failure to notify our office could result in an overpayment.
- 6. Once all required documents have been submitted to the Jefferson State VA office, verified and payment has been received (if applicable), the student's enrollment certification will be submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

College and Military Transcripts

College and Military transcripts from all previously attended colleges, universities and trade schools/certificate programs **MUST** be submitted by all students utilizing VA benefits as part of your enrollment and acceptance process at Jefferson State.

The Department of Veteran Affairs requires that **soldiers and veterans** obtain transcripts of their military training and experience to submit for evaluation and the possible awarding of college credits.

## To obtain your Military transcripts please review the following:

Members of the Army, Marines, Navy and Coast Guard should obtain their transcripts through Joint Services Transcript which tracks your military credits. Click this link <u>https://jst.doded.mil/</u> to obtain your transcripts. NOTE : The JST website must be accessed through Internet Explorer. Please choose the option to proceed to the site if you receive a security alert.

Members of the Air Force – <u>Click here</u> to obtain your Military Transcripts.

All college and military transcripts should be submitted to the Jefferson State Community College Records Department. To determine if your transcripts have been received, you may email <u>records@jeffersonstate.edu</u> or <u>va@jeffersonstate.edu</u>.

Federal Education Benefit Programs

Jefferson State Community College offers the following Federal Veterans Educational Assistance Programs:

## Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)

For individuals who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Post – 9/11 GI Bill benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009.

#### Montgomery G.I. Bill/Active (Chapter 30)

Certain veterans with an honorable discharge and servicepersons may qualify for the Montgomery GI Bill. The Veteran must have served on active duty and meet additional conditions as determined by the VA.

## Montgomery G.I. Bill/Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606)

Members of the Selected Reserve who enlist, re-enlist, or extend an enlistment in Selected Reserve so that the reservist has an obligation to serve for a period of not less than six years following the date of such action may qualify for Chapter 1606

#### Montgomery G.I. Bill/Reserve (Chapter 1607 - REAP)

REAP is a new educational program that provides up to 36 months of educational benefits to members of the Selected Reserves. Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), and National Guard, who are called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency, as declared by the President or Congress. Eligibility will be determined by the Department of Defense (DOD) or Department of Homeland Security (DHS), as appropriate. Generally, a Member of the Ready Reserve and was called orordered to active duty for at least 90 days on or after 9/11/2001

#### Post-Vietnam Veterans' (Chapter 32- VEAP)

Veterans under this program (service beginning on or after January 1, 1977, through June 30, 1985) or Active duty and a participant in the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans VEAP program on or before 1996

## Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35)

Spouse or child of a deceased or totally and permanently disabled veteran

### Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation (Chapter 31)

This program was created to assist service-disabled veterans of 20% or greater. Eligibility is determined on a case by case basis. Students must contact their local Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation office to determine your eligibility for this program.

Please contact the Department of Veteran Affairs office for specifics on your benefit eligibility at 1-888-442-4551.

Payment Information & WAVE

Benefits are paid on the following enrollment schedule:

Fall & Spring Semester Credit Hours

- Full benefits : 12 or more
- Three-fourths benefits: 9 to 11
- Half benefits : 6 to 8

Less than half time benefits: 5 or fewer (Reimbursement of tuition and fees only)

Summer Semester Credit Hours

 Please consult the JSCC VA representative for Summer credit hour information at (205) 856-7951 or <u>va@jeffersonstate.edu</u>.

The initial payment should arrive SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS after the first day of classes or later if the veteran should apply for certification after classes begin.

Information about qualifying pay rates and payment dates for Chapter 30, 33, 34, 35, 32 and 1606/1607 is available only through direct contact between the student and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Go to: <u>www.gibill.va.gov</u> or call 1-888-442-4551.

If you receive the Montgomery GI Bill Chapter 30 or Chapter 1606/1607, you must verify your attendance before payment is processed. You will not receive payment until VA receives your verification. You will have to verify your attendance on the last day of each month. You may do so via the automated telephone system at 1-877-823-2378 or via the <u>Web Automated</u> <u>Verification of Enrollment (WAVE)</u>

**Required Academic Progress** 

## Required Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress to Receive VA Educational Benefits

A VA hold is placed on all VA student accounts once the certification of their enrollment has been submitted each term. The hold is placed on the student's account to prevent any schedule changes without notifying the VA Certifying Official. Holds are removed the week before registration begins for the upcoming term.

It is the student's responsibility to notify the VA Certifying Official when any schedule adjustments are made. Failure to do so may result in an overpayment of educational benefits. If a veteran withdraws from a course that has been used in determining enrollment status, the VA may require repayment of all benefits received for that course.

Each student receiving VA educational benefits should be aware that it is the responsibility of the student to comply strictly with the policies and procedures which govern the receipt of these benefits. Any overpayment created through non-compliance with these policies is subject to repayment by the student.

#### Please be sure to review the Statement of Understanding for additional academic policies.

State of Alabama Veteran Programs

- Alabama GI Dependent Scholarship Program
- <u>Tuition Assistance Program (TA)</u>
- Alabama National Guard Educational Assistance Program (ANGEAP)

#### Veterans > State of Alabama Veteran Programs

- Alabama GI Dependent Scholarship Program
- Alabama National Guard Program (ANGEAP)
- Tuition Assistance Program (TA)

#### VA Forms

## Veterans, reservists, and/or dependents of Veterans must contact the JSCC Veterans Affairs Coordinator to establish VA Educational Benefits.

The following forms must be submitted for the certification process to begin. It is the educational benefit recipients' responsibility to submit all required documentation to the JSCC Veterans Affairs Office to complete the certification process.

- Statement of Understanding This form must be completed once each academic year.
- Request for Certification of Educational Benefits This form must be submitted once the student has registered EACH semester
- 85/15 Confirmation of Compliance form This form must be submitted by all new JSCC VA students.
- VA form 22-1990 This form is used for students applying for the following Federal Education Benefits; Chapter 33 (Post 9/11), Chapter 30, Chapter 32, Chapter 1606 & 1607
- VA form 22-1995 This form is used for students that wish to change their major or are transferring to Jefferson State under the following Chapters: 33 (Post 9/11), 30, 32, 1606 & 1607
- VA for 22-5490 This form is to be utilized for any Veteran dependents applying for benefits for the first time.
- VA form 22-5495 This form is used for any Veteran dependents' that wish to change their major or are transferring to Jefferson State from another educational institution.

Alabama National Guard Education Assistance Program (ANGEAP) – An award to be used for tuition and educational fees for Alabama National Guard members to attend a postsecondary educational institution in Alabama. The award is based on financial need. This award is for students who are active members in good standing with a federally-recognized unit of the Alabama National Guard. Participants also may receive federal veterans benefits, but must show a cost less aid amount of at least \$100. Forms must be signed by a representative of the Alabama Military Department and the financial aid officer at the college or university the student plans to attend. Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required.

VA documents can be submitted in the following ways:

- 1. Fax VA documents to (205) 856-8090
- 2. Email VA documents to va@jeffersonstate.edu.
- 3. Submit documents in person at any campus location.
- 4. Mail VA documents to: Office of Veterans Affairs, Jefferson State Community College, 2601 Carson Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35215

Attention: Be sure to put your "Student J Number" at the top of each page you are submitting.