

# Oregon **TECH**

## Veteran Student Guide



Created by Veteran Students for Veteran Students

### Where are we located?



The SVC lounge is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the College Union Building, in the same hallway as KTEC and the Edge,

College Union 111C

Open from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Monday - Friday

### Contact Us

Phone: (541)851-5768

Email: [Veterans@oit.edu](mailto:Veterans@oit.edu)



# Student Veteran Center Services

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### Snacks, Drinks, and a Place to Study/Relax



Come hang out with other Veterans, get a snack, watch Netflix, or play Xbox. We also have a large 10- foot white board and multiple white board desks for classmates to study together.

### Computers and Free printing



Our Veteran center currently provides six computers and any computer programs you need for your course. We also provide free printing.

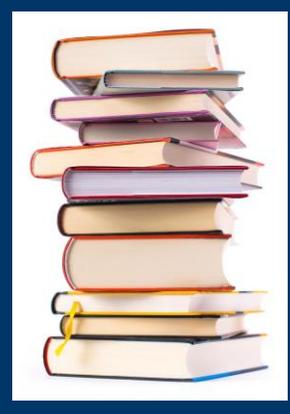
### General advice



As fellow veteran students, we know some of the difficulties experienced when transitioning from the military. We understand you may have questions about the GI Bill®, disability claims, transfer credit, jobs, or housing. While we are not subject matter experts, we can direct you to experts at Oregon Tech and in the Klamath Basin.

# Student Veteran Program

## Textbook Rentals



The student Veteran Center Provides a library of textbooks available to rent. We are always taking suggestions for new textbooks. This helps ensure our library has the most up-to-date textbooks for our veteran students.

## DAV Representative Assistance



Our local Disabled American Veterans representative is available on campus every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month to assist with veteran disability claims and questions.

DAV representatives are available on campus from Oct - June, 12:30-3:30 pm.

## What is the SVP?

The Student Veteran Program is a student lead program that is dedicated to assisting Klamath Falls veterans with academic, financial, and social support during their time as a student, staff, or faculty member.

With the direction of the program advisor and Veteran Action Committee, the SVP shall reach out to the greater Oregon Tech and Klamath Community to seeking methods on improving friendships and relationships.



## Student Veteran Program Events

Each term the Student Veteran Program hosts different events that are open to all students and community members. Some past events included; Park BBQ, Hiking at Crater Lake, Taco Tuesday, and many others. **WE WANT YOUR INPUT ON WHAT TO DO NEXT!!!** Contact us at [veterans@oit.edu](mailto:veterans@oit.edu)

# *Introduction to the GI Bill®*

One of the most well-regarded benefits that service members earn during their time in the military is the educational components of the GI Bill®. It is one of the most common ways veterans pay for college; yet only 51 percent of all eligible veterans will use this entitlement. If you have served for at least three years (on active duty), and were honorably discharged, you're eligible for 100% of the benefits. Even if you don't fit within the three-year stipulation, you may still be eligible for a significant benefit, especially if you have been deployed. To determine your exact eligibility and which chapter of the GI Bill® is best for you, see the GI Bill® comparison tool for some guidance:

- <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool/>

## **Applying for the GI Bill®**

Once you have determined which chapter of the GI Bill® will work best for you, your next step is to apply for the benefit. You can do this by visiting:

- <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/apply.asp>

After you've enrolled, the VA will send you a Certificate of Eligibility within 30 business days. You'll need to give this to your school's VA Certifying Official. Included in this booklet is a brief overview of the two most used chapters of the GI Bill®.

## **Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill® For Active Duty (MGIB-AD)**

This benefit is available to both former and current active duty service members who elected to receive educational benefits and paid the \$100 per month fee during their first year of service. Eligible veterans can receive up to 36 months of benefits, plus the potential to utilize an additional 12 months of another educational benefit. As of 2018, the Montgomery GI Bill® will pay out \$1,994.00 (at 100 percent and full-time status) per month while you are enrolled in classes. We suggest you use the GI-bill-comparison-tool in the link below, to learn what bill works best for your education path:

- <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>

## **Chapter 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill®**

The Post 9/11 GI Bill® offers more comprehensive benefits, plus the ability to transfer those benefits to a spouse or dependent if the proper requirements are met. With Chapter 33, your tuition is paid at the full rate directly to your college of choice; the benefits paid to private schools are capped at a national rate. This benefit also pays a monthly housing allowance based off the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rate of an E-5 with dependents. This is calculated by the zip code and area of the school and classes you are attending. Lastly, the benefit will also pay a yearly book stipend up to the amount of \$1000 to the veteran.

Important! Make sure you use the GI Bill® comparison tool and speak with an Oregon Tech Certifying Official if you have any questions.

- <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>
- <https://www.oit.edu/college-costs/financial-aid/veterans>

## Grants

College can be expensive, and each of the GI Bill® chapters offer a way to alleviate the financial burden that surrounds college. However, college has expenses outside of these benefits that you may need help with. It's very important to apply for financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), as well as any scholarships, grants, or loans that you are eligible to receive. There are all types of scholarships available to students, however we strongly recommend looking into private scholarships geared toward veterans alone. There are many options for student financial aid, some of which you may need to write an essay, make sure to research scholarship requirements in advance.

## Scholarships

Scholarships provide students another opportunity for financial support. There are plenty of scholarships designed specifically for service members, veterans, even dependents. We highly encourage you to apply for as many scholarships as possible. Yes, for most scholarships you will be required to write an essay. But this is free money we are talking about. You won't have to pay it back - so just write the essay! Your school will also have targeted scholarships for different majors, as well as general scholarships. Seek advice on which scholarships may be best for you. Find Oregon Tech scholarships here ->

[www.oit.edu/scholarships](http://www.oit.edu/scholarships)

## FAFSA

The FAFSA offers undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to determine eligibility for federal, state, and some institutional financial aid. The process uses tax information from the prior-prior year (ex. 2020 FAFSA aid based on 2018 taxes) and expected family contribution to determine your eligibility. FAFSA opens on October 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

➤ <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>

When applying for financial aid, it is best to file as soon as possible to ensure financial aid is applied to your current academic term. Veteran students can have the application fee waived with the code "vet" when going through the process.

\*\*Note: If you have separated from the military between March 30<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, and are no longer making the amount from your reported tax documents, you can visit your financial aid office to apply for a "Professional Judgement". Also note that this does not guarantee more money.



# *Veteran Services in Klamath Falls*

*In addition to providing veterans with services on campus, there are many other resources around the Klamath Basin. These resources offer multiple services including health, dental, and other benefits.*

## *Klamath Falls CBOC*

*Address: 2225 North El Dorado Blvd, Klamath Falls, OR 97601*

*Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

*Phone: (541) 273-6206*

*Website:*

*<https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/facility.asp?ID=5127>*

## *Klamath County VSO*

*Address: 3328 Vandenberg Road, Klamath Falls, OR 97603*

*Hours: Monday – Thursday, 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.*

*Phone: (541) 883-4274*

*Website: <https://www.klamathcounty.org/239/Veterans-Service-Office>*

## *Veterans Enrichment Center (VEC)*

*Address: 1431 Avalon St, Klamath Falls, OR 97603*

*Phone: (541) 331-9979*

*Website: <https://www.veteransenrichmentcenter.org/>*

## *Disabled Veterans of America (DAV)*

*Address: 2809 Avalon St, Klamath Falls, OR 97603*

*Phone: (541) 884-9125*

*Website: <https://www.davkf12.org/>*

## *KHA's Veterans Housing Program*

*Address: 1445 Avalon St. Klamath Falls, OR 97603*

*Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

*Phone: (541) 884-0649*

*Website: <https://www.klamathhousing.org/index.php>*

## *Klamath Community College (KCC)*

*Address: Founders Hall, Room 9130, KCC, Klamath Falls, OR 97603*

*Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

*Phone: (541) 880-2214*

*Website: <https://www.klamathcc.edu/Admissions/Military-Services/Veterans-Services>*

## *Jackson County Veteran's Services*

*Address: 140 S Holly St, Medford, OR 97501*

*Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

*Phone: (541) 774-8214*

*Website: [jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/Veterans-Services/Resources](http://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/Veterans-Services/Resources)*

## *White City VA Rehabilitation Center & Clinics / US Veterans Affairs Department*

*Address: 8495 Crater Lake Hwy*

*Phone: (541) 826-2111*

*Website: <https://www.southernoregon.va.gov/>*

# Campus Map

