8 KEYS TO SUCCESS

The U.S. Departments of Education and Veterans Affairs developed the 8 Keys to Success in 2013 to encourage veteran students on campus and improve employment outcomes.

1. Create a culture of trust and connectedness across the campus community to promote well-being and success for veterans.
2. Ensure consistent and sustained support from campus leadership.
3. Implement an early alert system to ensure all veterans receive academic, career, and financial advice before challenges become overwhelming.
4. Coordinate and centralize campus efforts for all veterans, together with the creation of a designated space (even if limited in size).
5. Collaborate with local communities and organizations, including government agencies, to align and coordinate various services for veterans.
6. Utilize a uniform set of data tools to collect and track information on veterans, including demographics, retention and degree completion.
7. Provide comprehensive professional development for faculty and staff on issues and challenges unique to veterans.
8. Develop systems that ensure sustainability of effective practices for veterans.
MILITARY-FRIENDLY VCCS INSTITUTIONS

GI Jobs’ Military-Friendly School List
• Blue Ridge Community College
• Central Virginia Community College
• Dabney S Lancaster Community College
• J Sargeant Reynolds Community College
• John Tyler Community College
• Lord Fairfax Community College
• New River Community College
• Northern Virginia Community College
• Patrick Henry Community College
• Paul D Camp Community College
• Piedmont Virginia Community College
• Southwest Virginia Community College
• Thomas Nelson Community College
• Tidewater Community College
• Virginia Highlands Community College
• Virginia Western Community College
• Wytheville Community College

Military Advanced Education (MAE) Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities
• Blue Ridge Community College
• Eastern Shore Community College
• Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale
• Tidewater Community College, Norfolk
VIRGINIA EDUCATION WIZARD
VETERAN CAREER FINDER

- Allows veteran users to browse civilian occupations based upon their prior military service
## VCCS Students with Military Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Active</strong></td>
<td>2,703</td>
<td>4,733</td>
<td>4,298</td>
<td>4,794</td>
<td>5,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dependent</strong></td>
<td>5,981</td>
<td>10,169</td>
<td>12,932</td>
<td>14,589</td>
<td>15,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reserve</strong></td>
<td>1,551</td>
<td>3,113</td>
<td>3,591</td>
<td>3,420</td>
<td>3,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Retired</strong></td>
<td>887</td>
<td>1,874</td>
<td>2,236</td>
<td>2,420</td>
<td>2,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spouse</strong></td>
<td>2,067</td>
<td>4,272</td>
<td>5,308</td>
<td>5,720</td>
<td>5,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veteran</strong></td>
<td>5,703</td>
<td>8,546</td>
<td>9,563</td>
<td>9,582</td>
<td>9,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Military Status</strong></td>
<td>18,892</td>
<td>32,707</td>
<td>37,928</td>
<td>40,525</td>
<td>40,827</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SNAPSHOT POPULATION

• Veterans who attended the VCCS between 2008 and 2013.
  – Military status is self-reported on the admissions application; only students who identified themselves as veterans at time of admission included in analysis
VETERANS ATTENDING VCCS INSTITUTIONS

• In 2008-09, 5,703 veteran students attended VCCS colleges; by 2012-13, this number had increased 65% to 9,404.

• In total, 24,132 unduplicated veteran students attended VCCS institutions from 2008-09 to 2012-13.
VETERAN STUDENTS BY GENDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3,926</td>
<td>5,985</td>
<td>6,620</td>
<td>6,657</td>
<td>6,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>1,777</td>
<td>2,561</td>
<td>2,943</td>
<td>2,925</td>
<td>2,827</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Male | Female
FIRST-GENERATION STATUS OF VETERAN STUDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First-Generation</th>
<th>Non-First-Generation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VETERANS’ PRIOR DEGREE ATTAINMENT

- None: 83%
- Associate: 5%
- Bachelor's: 8%
- Master's or Higher: 4%
VETERANS’ OUTCOMES IN THE VCCS

In 2008-09, 498 veterans enrolled in the VCCS as first-time-in-college students. By 2012-13:

– 18% of these students were VCCS graduates
– 29% had transferred to a 4-year institution
– 8% had graduated from a 4-year institution
HOW THE VCCS CAN CONTINUE HELPING VETERANS TO SUCCEED

• Student support services specific to veterans’ needs
  – Guidance on how to obtain educational assistance benefits
  – Advising on the Department of Veteran’s Affairs requirements, including requirements for maintaining satisfactory course pursuit
  – Educational counseling and support
  – Obtaining work study opportunities
QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?