



**Tusculum**  
**Student Veterans'**  
**Information and**  
**Resource Guide**

(2017)

**(Students)**

# Veterans Crisis Line

## 1-800-273-8255 (Press 1)

### Tusculum's Veteran Services Office

On April 1, 2017, Tusculum established a Veteran Services Office to ensure all student veterans receive the support they need and deserve as they pursue their educational goals. This office is based on a grant from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission as part of Governor Haslam's Drive to 55 initiative.

The Veteran Services Office will be the student veteran's focal point for veteran-related issues, regardless of whether the student is attending in Greeneville, Morristown, or Knoxville or whether they are traditional, GPS, or online. The core goals of this office are to reach potential student veterans, assist enrolling students with campus resources, retaining student veterans by ensuring campus programs include, or are developed, to address the awareness and needs of today's student veteran, and ensuring reengagement programs support post-graduation employment opportunities.

Responsibilities include:

- Community outreach
- Develop partnerships with local military units and veteran organizations
- Assist with campus resources
- Veteran-specific campus programs and initiatives
- Advising and guiding a Tusculum student veterans organization
- Mentoring
- Veteran recognition and awareness

The success of this office is heavily dependent on the active involvement of student veterans, staff, and faculty. Any student veteran needing assistance or would like to give feedback or suggestions on veteran needs, should contact the Veteran Service Office. Faculty and staff are also encouraged to contact the Veteran Services Office

with any questions or suggestions on ways to improve our student veterans' college experience.

### **Point of Contact**

Dale Laney  
Director of Veteran Services  
Office: (423) 636-7371 (Campus Ext. 5371)  
Cell: (423) 972-3003  
Tusculum Veteran Services  
P.O. Box 5076  
Greeneville, TN 37743

## **Education Benefits and Scholarships**

The Veterans Administration (VA) has several education programs for veterans, family members, and surviving family members. These include the Post 9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty, Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve, Dependents' Educational Assistance, the Fry Scholarship, and Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E). These programs can be complex, so anyone needing **general** information on these programs should contact the Veteran Services Office at (423) 636-7371 or campus ext 5371. Anyone needing **specific** guidance or information on their application for or approved GI Bill should be directed to Dale Laney at [veteransdirector@tusculum.edu](mailto:veteransdirector@tusculum.edu).

Whether or not VA education benefits are being used, scholarship and grant opportunities are available. If you are receiving VA education benefits you can receive scholarships **if the scholarship is for other than tuition and textbook purposes**. For student veterans not using VA education benefits, you may apply for any and all that you are eligible for. Several scholarships available to students can be found at <http://www3.tusculum.edu/giving/scholarships-endowments/>. Many organizations also provide scholarships to both veterans and family members of veterans. It would be impossible to list every source but a starting place is with the national veteran

organizations in this pamphlet. Tusculum also provides a full-tuition USS Greeneville Scholarship for veterans or family members who are/were assigned to the USS Greeneville during their military service.

## **Veterans Employment**

### ***Pre-Graduation Employment***

Due to the large veteran population in the GPS program, most student veterans have employment while they are pursuing their degree. However, some may be looking for part-time or full-time employment while attending school. Each person's experience and qualifications are different so it would be difficult to list all the various employment resources. In addition to the sources which follow, you may want to consider a work study through the Veterans Administration. Although the pay is only at the higher of state or federal minimum wage, it does allow for work schedule flexibility and may get your foot in the door if you want to look at the VA as a permanent place of employment post-graduation. For more information (and application) on the VA Work Study Program, visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/workstudy.asp>.

### ***Post-Graduation Employment***

Post-graduation employment actually starts well before you get your diploma. Networking, preparing your resume, communication skills, interviewing skills, etc. are all areas you need to work on before you hit the ground for employment after graduation. The Career Services Office (423) 636-7447 is a must-stop as they can provide you with resources to improve skills that may land you that new career. It is never too early to start honing these skills.

As your graduation date gets closer, you want to start getting your resume prepared, polished, and out there. Do not wait until you graduate to start! As a veteran, you may have veteran preferences for jobs (especially federal jobs) and your preference may increase if you have a service-connected disability rating from the VA. The federal government is a great source of job openings for veterans because of their hiring preferences for veterans. Most federal jobs are posted on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) and advertises jobs both in the United States as well as overseas. The internet is filled with job search sites and this resource book will point you to other sources as well...use them all.

### ***Skills Through Volunteering and Involvement***

Some employers receive hundreds of resumes for one job opening. They must then find the one that sticks out. Involvement in organizations and volunteering are excellent ways to put you above the rest. It shows motivation, leadership, a desire to help your community and involvement that employers like to see. You also pick up life skills like communication and teamwork. It is tough to find the time to volunteer and be involved while in college but some of your peers are doing it; don't let them be the one future employers select for your dream job. There are always opportunities to get involved around campus and the community and you don't have to overload yourself; just be there when you have the time.

## On-Line Resources

**GI Bill Comparison Tool** (Useful to determine which VA education program is right for them). <https://www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>

**GI Bill Online Application** (Apply for an education program)  
<http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

**EBenefits** (Great source to check status or track VA benefits)  
<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>

**MyHealthVet** (For those enrolled in the VA healthcare system). Allows them to check appointments, lab results, order prescriptions, and more)  
<https://www.myhealth.va.gov/>

The below resources are an excellent starting place for those looking to increase their job search skills or looking for employment. Tusculum Career Services also has assistance and resources to help in preparing you for employment as well as local job opportunities.

**The National Resource Directory** (Covers a wide range of topics of interest to veterans, including job search) <https://nrd.gov>

**CareerOneStop** <https://careeronestop.org/ResourceFor/Veteran/veteran.aspx>

**Transition Assistance Online** (Job search skills and opportunities)  
<http://www.taonline.com>

**MyNextMove** <https://www.mynextmove.org/vets/>

**Vets** (Great source for building your resume, military skills translator, interest profiler, etc.) [www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov)

**Federal Employment** (Lists federal employment opportunities where veterans have hiring preference) [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)

## Campus Resources

**Green Zone Program.** Tusculum started a Green Zone Program April 2017 to ensure staff and faculty were properly trained on student veteran issues and needs. Volunteers from the staff and faculty receive training on various issues ranging from potential difficulty in transitioning to civilian life to posttraumatic stress. These volunteers are identified by a Green Zone display on their office doors (see below). If any student feels like they are overwhelmed, stressed, or just need some help locating campus, local, state, or federal resources, they should look for this display. Students can also contact the Veteran Services Office at (423) 636-7371.



**Academic Advising** (423) 636-7300 ext. 5379). Individual advising  
**Career Services** (423) 636-7447. Employment assistance, resume writing, workshops, etc.

**Learning Support** (423) 636-7300 ext. 5379. Assistance with time management, problem solving, coordination of tutoring services and more.

**ARCHES** (865) 693-1177 ext. 5006. Helping first-generation, low-income, or disabled adults'

retention, participation, and overall success.

**Disability Accommodations** (423) 636-7300, ext. 5154. Assists veterans address any disability accommodation needs.

**Student Organizations** (<http://web.tusculum.edu/life/organizations/>). A great way for students to get involved. A Student Veterans Organization is in the process of being established—more info coming.

**Tutoring** (<http://web.tusculum.edu/tutoring/>). For students seeking help in some classes.

## Local Resources

### VA Healthcare

Mountain Home VA Medical Center (Johnson City) (423)926-1171/(877)573-3529

<i>Mental Health Clinic</i>	(423)926-1171, extension 7248 or 2961
VA Medical Clinic, Knoxville	(865)545-4592
VA Medical Clinic, Morristown	(423)586-9100
VA Medical Clinic, Rogersville	(423)235-1471
VA Medical Clinic, Sevierville	(865)286-6950
Johnson City Vet Center	(423)928-8387/(877)927-8387
Knoxville Vet Center	(865)633-0000/(877)927-8387

## **State of Tennessee Veteran Benefits Resources**

### **County and State Offices**

Tennessee has Veteran Service Officers located at state and county offices. They provide veteran assistance on VA and state benefits. Although they primarily work with veterans in the area of disability claims, they are a good resource for other benefits such as State Veteran Homes and State Veteran Cemeteries. If you are looking for a county not listed below, a simple internet search of “(county, state) Veteran Service Office” will point you to them.

Greene County Veteran Service Officer - (423) 798-1707  
 101 Longview Drive  
 Greeneville, TN 37745

Hamblen County Veteran Service Officer - (423) 586-6830  
 Hamblen County Courthouse  
 511 West Second North Street  
 Courthouse (Historic Building) 1st floor  
 Morristown, TN 37814

Jefferson County Veterans Service Officer - (865) 397-7824  
 931 Industrial Park Road, Suite 102  
 Dandridge, TN 37725

Knox County Veteran Service Officer - (865) 215-5645  
 Knox Central Building (Sears Building)  
 1000 North Central Street, Box 6  
 Knoxville, TN 37917

State of Tennessee Department of Veteran Services Field Office, Johnson City

(423) 979-2905  
VA Medical Center  
69 Dogwood Drive  
Johnson City, TN 37684

State of Tennessee Department of Veteran Services Field Office, Knoxville  
(865) 594-6158  
601 So. Concord St., Suite 108  
Knoxville, TN

### **Veterans Employment**

Your first stop for job search is the Tusculum Career Services office. They have a tremendous amount of information on job assessments, interviewing and resume writing, and job opportunities. The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development also has Tennessee American Job Centers throughout the state. Part of their function is working with veterans on employment opportunities. Below are the offices located near our campuses; more offices/information can be obtained at <https://www.tn.gov/workforce/topic/find-local-help>

Greeneville Office  
(423) 798-7971  
215 N. College Street  
Greeneville, TN 37745

Morristown Office  
(423) 317-1060  
215 South Liberty Hill Road  
Morristown, TN 37813

Knoxville Office  
(865) 594-5500  
2700 Middlebrook Pike, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Knoxville, TN 37921



## State Veterans Benefits

**State Veteran Cemeteries.** *Free interment* if eligibility requirements are met (small fees for spouses and eligible dependents or interment in a cremation columbarium). You can preregister on-line for a plot. The State Veterans Cemetery for this region is located at 2200 E. Gov. John Sevier Hwy 168, Knoxville, TN 37920 and can be reached at (865) 577-3228. <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/article/state-veterans-cemeteries>

**State Veterans Home.** TN has several State Veterans Homes for those requiring assisted living/nursing-home-type care. Spouses may also be eligible. The State Veterans Home for east Tennessee is located at One Veterans Way, Knoxville, TN 37931 and can be reached at (865) 862-8152. <http://tsvh.org/Knoxville/index.html>

**Recreational Discounts.** TN offers passes and reduced rates at public parks, campgrounds, and golf courses. For more information, visit <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/topic/Recreational-Discounts>

**Property Tax Relief.** Assistance for severely and permanently disabled veterans (and some widows/widowers) with property tax relief. Contact your local tax appraiser's office for required documentation <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/article/property-tax-relief-for-disabled-veterans>

**Specialty License Plates.** Tennessee has several specialty license plates available to veterans (cost may apply). To view the available plates and for more information, go to <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/article/veteran-specialty-plates4>

**Veteran Designation on Driver License or Photo ID.** Tennessee allows a veteran designation entered on your driver license or on a state-issued Photo ID (if you do not have a driver license). This could satisfy proof of veteran status for various programs and discounts. Contact your local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) with the original or certified copy of your DD Form 214. Recommend taking a copy as well for the DMV's files.

**Discounts.** Many local and national businesses offer discounts for goods and services. Always ask about a military discount. If you do not have a military or retired military ID card, most businesses will request to see your DD Form 214 and photo ID. Always carry **a copy** of your DD Form 214!

## Federal Resources

**Requesting a Copy of Your DD Form 214.** Upon separation/retirement from the military, a copy of your DD Form 214 is maintained at the National Archives in St. Louis. To request a certified copy, you can either do it online through eVetRecs or by Standard Form 180 (SF 180). Instructions for both (and access) can be found at <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

**Requesting Replacement Medals.** The military services will issue a one-time replacement of medals to military veterans (next-of-kin may also be eligible to request medals of a deceased veteran). These requests can be in writing or online. To learn more and request medals, visit <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/replace-medals.html>

**Requesting Military Records.** Veterans may request a copy of all of their military records that are archived in St. Louis upon discharge from the military. Requests can, in some cases, take weeks to process but can be requested by visiting <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

**Correction of Military Records.** In some cases there is a need to correct something in a veterans records. This can range from a typo on the DD Form 214 to a request to change the character of discharge. It is the military service that you served in's responsibility to review and approve/deny requests (the National Archives is only a storage/maintenance function). There are two forms that are used to request a change to military records. DD Form 293, *Application for the Review of Discharge or Dismissal from the Armed Forces of the United States*. This form is used if you have been discharged for less than 15 years and want a review to change the type of discharge (i.e., from Under Other Than Honorable to Honorable. All other requests would be submitted on DD Form 149, *Application for Correction of Military Records*.

If you need to request a correction, it is recommended that you fully justify your request as, in almost all cases, you only get one shot at this. You should visit the below websites for guidance prior to requesting the change and, once completed, send the requests with any and all supporting evidence to the military service you were discharged from (addresses below).

### Army

[www.aschq.army.mil/supportingdocs/Applicants%20Guide%20to%20the%20ABCMR.pdf](http://www.aschq.army.mil/supportingdocs/Applicants%20Guide%20to%20the%20ABCMR.pdf)) Mail to: Army Review Boards Agency; 251 18th Street South, Suite 385; Arlington, VA 22202-3531

Air Force (<http://www.afpc.af.mil/Board-for-Correction-of-Military-Records/>) Mail to: Board for Correction of Air Force Records; SAF/MRBR; 550-C Street West, Suite 40; Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4742

Navy and USMC (<http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/career/recordsmanagement/Pages/BCNR.aspx>). Mail to: Board for Correction of Naval Records; 701 S. Courthouse Road, Suite 1001; Arlington, VA 22204-2490

Coast Guard (<http://www.uscg.mil/legal/bcmr.asp>). Mail to: DHS Office of the General Counsel; Board for Correction of Military Records; Mailstop # 485; 245 Murray Lane; Washington, DC 20528

**VA Home Loans.** The VA has a home loan that veterans may be eligible for. This program can help veterans get a home loan with little or nothing down and lower interest rates. The VA does not provide the mortgage but guarantees a large portion of it. Most home lenders are aware of the VA Home Loan program and can help you with the application process. For more information, visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/index.asp>

**Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors.** This pamphlet provides general information on a lot of the programs the VA offers. To view a current copy of this pamphlet, visit [https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits\\_book.asp](https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp)

## **National Veterans Organizations**

*This list is provided for information purposes only and does not imply endorsement of any organization, its views, products, or memberships*

African American Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Association ([www.aaptsdassn.org](http://www.aaptsdassn.org))  
African American War Veterans of the U.S.A. ([www2.uniteus.com](http://www2.uniteus.com))  
Air Force Association ([www.afa.org](http://www.afa.org))  
Air Force Sergeants Association ([www.hqafsa.org](http://www.hqafsa.org))  
All Faith Consortium ([www.all-faith.org](http://www.all-faith.org))  
American Coalition for Filipino Veterans ([www.usfilvets.tripod.com](http://www.usfilvets.tripod.com))  
American Ex-Prisoners of War ([www.axpow.org](http://www.axpow.org))  
American G.I. Forum of the United States ([www.aqif-nvop.org](http://www.aqif-nvop.org))

American Gold Star Mothers. ([www.goldstarmoms.com](http://www.goldstarmoms.com))  
The American Legion ([www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org))  
American Military Retirees Association ([www.amra1973.org](http://www.amra1973.org))  
American Red Cross ([www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org))  
American Retirees Association ([www.americanretirees.org](http://www.americanretirees.org))  
American Veterans (AMVETS) ([www.amvets.org](http://www.amvets.org))  
American Veterans Alliance ([www.wesupportvets.org](http://www.wesupportvets.org))  
American Veterans for Equal Rights ([www.aver.us](http://www.aver.us))  
American War Mothers ([www.americanwarmoms.org](http://www.americanwarmoms.org))  
Army Aviation Association of America ([www.quad-a.org](http://www.quad-a.org))  
Association of the U.S. Army ([www.ausa.org](http://www.ausa.org))  
Association of the United States Navy ([www.ausn.org](http://www.ausn.org))  
Association of the Vietnam Veterans of America ([www.avva.org](http://www.avva.org))  
Blinded Veterans Association ([www.bva.org](http://www.bva.org))  
Blinded American Veterans Foundation ([www.bavf.org](http://www.bavf.org))  
Blue Star Mothers of America ([www.bluestarmothers.org](http://www.bluestarmothers.org))  
Catholic War Veterans, USA, Inc. ([www.cwv.org](http://www.cwv.org))  
Cold War Veterans Association ([www.coldwarveterans.com](http://www.coldwarveterans.com))  
Commissioned Officers Association of the US Health Service ([www.coausphs.org](http://www.coausphs.org))  
Destroyer-Escort Sailors Association ([www.desausa.org](http://www.desausa.org))  
Disabled American Veterans ([www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org))  
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the US ([www.eangus.org](http://www.eangus.org))  
Fleet Reserve Association ([www.fra.org](http://www.fra.org))  
Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. ([www.goldstarwives.org](http://www.goldstarwives.org))  
Home to Heroes ([www.hometoheroes.com](http://www.hometoheroes.com))  
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of the United States ([www.iava.org](http://www.iava.org))  
Italian American War Veterans of the United States ([www.itamvets.org](http://www.itamvets.org))  
Japanese American Veterans Association ([www.wildapricot.org](http://www.wildapricot.org))  
Jewish War Veterans of the USA ([www.jwv.org](http://www.jwv.org))  
Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. ([www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org))  
Legion of Valor of the USA, Inc. ([www.legionofvalor.com](http://www.legionofvalor.com))  
Marine Corps League ([www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org))  
Marine Corps Reserve Association ([www.usmcra.org](http://www.usmcra.org))  
Military Chaplains Association of the USA of America ([www.mca-usa.org](http://www.mca-usa.org))  
Military Officers Association of America ([www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org))  
Military Order of the Purple Heart of the U.S.A. ([www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org))  
Military Order of the World Wars ([www.moww.org](http://www.moww.org))  
National Association for Black Veterans ([www.nabvets.org](http://www.nabvets.org))  
National Association of American Veterans ([www.naavets.org](http://www.naavets.org))  
National Association of Black Military Women (NABMW) ([www.nabmw.com](http://www.nabmw.com))  
National Association of Fleet Tug Sailors ([www.nafts.com](http://www.nafts.com))  
National Coalition for Homeless Veterans ([www.nchv.org](http://www.nchv.org))  
National Guard Association of the United States ([www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org))  
National Gulf War Resource Center ([www.ngwrc.org](http://www.ngwrc.org))  
National Military Family Association ([www.militaryfamily.org](http://www.militaryfamily.org))  
National Veterans Foundation ([www.nvf.org](http://www.nvf.org))  
National Veterans Legal Services Program ([www.nvlsp.org](http://www.nvlsp.org))  
National Women Veterans of America ([www.wvnational.org](http://www.wvnational.org))  
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association ([www.nera.org](http://www.nera.org))

Navy Club of the United States of America ([www.navyclubusa.org](http://www.navyclubusa.org))  
Navy League of the United States ([www.navyleague.org](http://www.navyleague.org))  
Navy Seabee Veterans of America ([www.nsva.org](http://www.nsva.org))  
Non Commissioned Officers Association ([www.ncoausa.org](http://www.ncoausa.org))  
Paralyzed Veterans of America ([www.pva.org](http://www.pva.org))  
Polish Legion of American Veterans, USA ([www.plav.org](http://www.plav.org))  
Pro Vet USA ([www.provets.org](http://www.provets.org))  
Reserve Officers Association of the United States ([www.roa.org](http://www.roa.org))  
Society of Hispanic Veterans ([www.hispanicveterans.org](http://www.hispanicveterans.org))  
Society of Military Widows ([militarywidows.org](http://militarywidows.org))  
Swords to Plowshares: Veterans Rights Organization ([www.stp-sf.org](http://www.stp-sf.org))  
The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) ([www.trea.org](http://www.trea.org))  
TLC Brotherhood Vets Thailand, Laos, Cambodia in Vietnam ([www.tlc-brotherhood.com](http://www.tlc-brotherhood.com))  
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors ([www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org))  
United Service Organization ([www.uso.org](http://www.uso.org))  
United States Army Warrant Officers Association ([www.usawoa.org](http://www.usawoa.org))  
United States Navy Cruiser Sailors Association ([www.navycruisers.org](http://www.navycruisers.org))  
United States Submarine Veterans Inc. ([www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org))  
USCG Chief Petty Officers Association ([www.uscgcpoa.org](http://www.uscgcpoa.org))  
Veterans First ([www.vetsfirst.org](http://www.vetsfirst.org))  
Veterans for Common Sense ([www.veteransforcommonsense.org](http://www.veteransforcommonsense.org))  
Veterans and Military Families for Progress ([www.vmfp.org](http://www.vmfp.org))  
Veterans Assistance Foundation ([www.vafvets.org](http://www.vafvets.org))  
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States ([www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org))  
Veterans of Modern Warfare ([www.vmwusa.org](http://www.vmwusa.org))  
Veterans Support Organization ([www.theveteranssupport.org](http://www.theveteranssupport.org))  
Veterans' Widows/ers International Network ([www.vetsurvivors.com](http://www.vetsurvivors.com))  
Vets2Farm ([www.vets2farm.org](http://www.vets2farm.org))  
Vietnam Veterans of America ([www.vva.org](http://www.vva.org))  
Women Marines Association ([www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org))  
Wounded Warrior Project ([www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org))

