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The Topper (October 2010)

Veterans Upward Bound Program, Western Kentucky University

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WHAT IS VETERANS UPWARD BOUND?

Veterans Upward Bound is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of postsecondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll and complete postsecondary education programs.

All Veterans Upward Bound projects must provide instruction in mathematics through pre-calculus, laboratory science, foreign language, composition and literature. Projects may also provide short-term remedial or re-fresher courses for veterans who have high school dropouts but have delayed pursuing postsecondary education. Projects are also expected to assist veterans in securing support services from other locally available resources such as Veterans Administration, state veterans agencies, veteran associations, and other state and local agencies that serve veterans.

Education or counseling services designed to improve the financial and academic literacy of participants

Invention in reading, writing, study skills, and other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school

Academic, financial, or personal counseling

Tutorial services

Mentoring programs

Information on postsecondary education opportunities

Assistance in completing college entrance and financial aid applications

Assistance in preparing for college entrance exams

Information on the full range of Federal Student financial aid programs and benefits

Other services include:

• Guidance and assistance in alternative education programs for secondary school dropouts that lead to receipt of a regular secondary school diploma, entry into general education development programs (GED) programs or postsecondary education.

Participants must meet military service requirements stipulated in the authorizing statute and be low-income, prospective first-generation college students who are preparing to enter a postsecondary institution. The remaining participants must be either low-income or first generation military veterans who served in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for more than 180 days and received either a honorable discharge or an other than a dishonorable discharge because of a service connected disability; was a member of a reserve component called to active duty for a period of more than 30 days; or was a member of a reserve component who served on active duty in support of a contingency operation on or after September 11, 2001; and have a high risk for academic failure.

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The origins of Veterans Day go back to the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919, officially ending World War I. However, combat had ceased seven months earlier when an armistice between the Allied nations and Germany had went into effect on the 11th hour of November 11, 1918. For that reason, that date is regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

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Armistice Day was the progenitor of Veterans Day.
American people were numerous and due to the historic and patriotic significance, they began observing the holiday on their original date not only preserves the original date but also celebrates the historical significance of the date, but focuses attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day. A celebration to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

Career Transitions is a program that gives scholarships to anyone who has been laid off from work and attends a college in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. The scholarship pays half of a student’s tuition for up to six credit hours (generally two classes) each semester.

To receive the scholarship, students must live in Kentucky and file for unemployment benefits since October 2008. The program is offered at 16 KCTCS campuses across the state, including Bowling Green Technical College.

The program also gives students help filling out federal financial aid forms, extra advising and training, and additional help with the admissions process.

For Bowling Green Technical College, contact Debbie Smith (270) 534-3479

Veterans Upward Bound now has a Facebook page. For those not familiar with Facebook, it is a free social networking website that is operated and privately owned by Facebook, Inc. Users can join networks organized by city, workplace, school, and region to connect and interact with other people. People can also add friends and send them messages, and update their personal profiles to notify friends about themselves.

The website’s name refers to the paper facebooks depicting members of a campus community that some US colleges and preparatory schools give to incoming students, faculty, and staff as a way to get to know other people on campus. The website currently has more than 200 million active users worldwide. To access Facebook, go to www.facebook.com and become a member and a VUB friend.

Please refer vets to us if you think they are interested in preparing for school, whether it be a college or tech/trade school. If you can take brochures to places you frequent, it would help us to have them displayed. We can provide brochures if you contact us.

We are the only VUB program in the state of Kentucky and we don’t want to see the vital services we offer veterans no longer be available.

Remember that financial aid monies are limited, so it’s important to file early to ensure that you are considered for all possible aid. According to the FAFSA website, the priority deadline for filing in Kentucky is March 15. While that doesn’t mean that you absolutely can’t get any money if you file after that deadline, it does mean that your chances will be less if you file late. So file early to get all the money you need for school.

Financial Aid

Notes and News

Winter is just around the corner and we want to remind all our students about our policy regarding bad weather. VUB follows WKU’s lead in whether we are open or closed for classes. WKU announces on all local radio stations and WBKO. The best source would be WKU-FM. Weather closures are also posted on WKU’s homepage or students can call 270-936-0000 for a recorded message. Still, we urge all our students to use their best judgment when ascertaining weather conditions and deciding if it is safe to venture out.

All veterans needing transportation to the VA Campus in Nashville, TN can catch a ride by contacting the local American Legion Post. Call (270) 781-4046, leave your name and spell it out, and the leave the last 4 of your Social Security number. Don’t forget to provide the date you need the ride. The van leaves from American Legion Post at 208 Dishman Lane at 7:30 sharp, so don’t be late!