



VETERAN TALON

University of Southern Indiana |
Veteran Military & Family Resource Center

Student Veteran Association Hosts Big Events for the Community

The USI Student Veteran Association is always looking for ways to bring the veteran campus community together.

This semester, the SVA will launch new programs and events aimed at building a team of student veterans who will make a positive impact on our campus for not only themselves and current student veterans, but for future veterans and dependents.

The first event was hosted on January 23rd. Our first "Wake-Up with the SVA - Military Appreciation Breakfast" brought students of different military backgrounds together to discuss important

topics and share basic comraderie.

"This is a way for the SVA to welcome our student veterans back to campus and to give them important information about upcoming events and SVA meetings" said Alfonso Aldana, President of the USI Student Veterans Association.

This event will quickly be followed by the annual "Hoops for Troops - Military Appreciation Basketball Game" on January 26th.

The Screaming Eagles will take on Drury University in the PAC Arena. The game times are 1:00 p.m. for the women

and 3:15 p.m. for the men. Veterans will receive up to five (5) tickets for the game, one concession voucher and one lapel pin.

The mobile Vet Center will also be on site to welcome veterans and their families.

Details for this event can be found on Page 2.

We need your support in order to keep this Association and activities going. Like the USO, this is supported by participation and all are encouraged to do so. Contact Alfonso Aldana at aaldana@eagles.usi.edu.

VETERAN HOLDS—Veteran holds are placed on the Monday following the 100% drop/add period and run until priority registration. They are reestablished after the PR period ends and will come off during finals.

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FREE BREAKFAST

WAKE UP WITH THE SVA

Start off your semester right with a breakfast selection sponsored by the
USI Student Veteran Association.

January 23, 2019 * 7 - 9 a.m. * UC 2207

Annual Hoops for Troops Basketball Game Set for January 26th

On January 26th our American Legion Post 324 and Student Veteran Association will offer **FREE** tickets to all veterans and military on our campus and in the community for the 7th annual "Hoops for Troops - Military Appreciation Basketball Game".

The Screaming Eagles will take on Drury University in the PAC Arena. The game times are 1:00 p.m. for the women and 3:15 p.m. for the men.

"This is something we look forward to doing every year. While we would like to see more of our community come out to support the teams, it's just a fun day to see everyone within the veteran community" said Joel Matherly, Assistant Director of the Veteran Military and Family Resource Center.

The event is open to veterans of all eras and includes up to five (5) tickets for all guests. Tickets can be picked up the day of the game at the veteran ticket window in the PAC.

"We hope that the veterans will come out so we can expand on what we can offer to our campus and community," said Matherly.

The mobile Vet Center will also be on site to welcome veterans and their families.

Both the SVA and American Legion Post 324 agree that this is a growing event that is well attended by all veterans.



★ ★ ★
YOU CAN'T MISS THIS!

HOOPS FOR TROOPS SCREAMING EAGLES VS. DRURY UNIVERSITY

Women's Game - 1 p.m.

Men's Game - 3:15 p.m.

JANUARY 26, 2019 | PAC ARENA

Free Tickets for Veterans and Guests*

*Proof of service required. Tickets are limited to five (5) per veteran and may be picked up the day of the game at the PAC Arena veteran ticket window. Brought to you by the American Legion Post 324 and the USI Student Veteran Association.

Free Classes on Mental Illness to Start in Evansville and Dubois and Surrounding Counties

NAMI's Family-to-Family classes educate participants about bipolar disorder, depression, schizophrenia, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), panic or anxiety disorder, borderline personality disorder (BPD), schizoaffective disorder, dual diagnosis and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD); what to do in a psychiatric emergency; empathy; communication, advocacy.

The classes are designed for persons who want to better understand and help a loved one who lives with mental illness. NAMI Evansville offers the classes as a community service in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Classes are offered at no cost to participants; however, reservations are necessary.

Classes will start March 4 for eleven (11) Monday evenings at Old North United Methodist Church on Stringtown Road on Evansville's north side. Classes are presented by trained family members. Participants gain information and skills. Classes start at 6:45 and end at 9:00 p.m.

Call Diane at 812-423-4333 or email namievanville@gmail.com. For Dubois and surrounding counties call Ann at 812-634-9843 or email namiduboiscounty@gmail.com

USI Hosts STAR Behavioral Health Seminars II and III

USI CAMPUS - The University of Southern Indiana's Veteran Military & Resource Center with coordination with Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center (SWI-AHEC) and the Military Family Resource Institute (MFRI) will host all three phases of the STAR Behavioral Health Seminars.

Star Behavioral Health Providers (SBHP), which began in Indiana, is a resource for veterans, service members and their families to locate behavioral health professionals with specialized training in understanding and treating military service members and their families. Those listed in this registry have completed a series of trainings that are intended to make them better able to understand, assess and counsel members of the military.

PHASE II

Will be held in Room 1027 of the Health Professions building on January 29-30, 2019.

Tier Two training teaches behavioral health providers information about challenges and difficulties clients may present with that are often associated with military service. Tier Two is a two-day classroom training. As a reminder, to attend Tier Two training, you have to have completed Tier One training.

PHASE III

Will be held in Carter Hall, A-C in the

University Center, West on March 6-7, 2019.

Tier Three offers behavioral health professionals specific clinical skills that focus on evidence-based treatment to address some of the behavioral health issues facing service members. One training option is Prolonged Exposure (PE) Therapy for PTSD and another option is Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT). Additional options listed will also be available at different times. Tier Three trainings are two day classroom trainings. To attend Tier Three trainings, you must be accepted into the registry and have completed Tier One and Tier Two. You may, however, register for the training before being accepted into the registry in order to reserve your spot. If you choose this option, you must complete your application and be accepted into the registry when you are notified by the SBHP administrator. If this is not completed, you will not be able to attend the training and your registration will be canceled.

To register for any tier, visit <https://starproviders.org/providers/states/indiana/application-page-id-7>.

For more information, contact:
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Military Family Research Institute
Purdue University
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VETERAN HOLDS—Veteran holds are placed on the Monday following the 100% drop/add period and run until priority registration. They are reestablished after the PR period ends and will come off during finals.

PRIORITY REGISTRATION—If you are currently using VA Benefits (GI Bill), you qualify for priority registration regardless your academic alignment (Freshman—Senior). Plan your next semester before this date and schedule an appointment with your advisor.

VA CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT FORM DUE EACH SEMESTER you plan to use benefits. Find this form at <http://www.usi.edu/reg/ssl/vaformlogin.asp>. Complete yours as soon as you register for classes.

VFW 1114 Dining Room Open to Public—Friday, Saturday, Sunday Brunch
Breakfast \$6.00 1st/3rd Saturday
Prime Rib 1st/3rd Saturday
Buffet Friday Night \$9.95

File Your DD214 for FREE:
Vanderburgh County Chief Deputy Recorder at 1 NW Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Rm 231
Evansville IN 47708
812.435.5215



2019 Brings Major Changes to State and Federal Veterans' Benefits

Military.com | By Jim Absher

It's a new year, and with a new year come new laws and regulations. Let's take a look at which ones will affect veterans and military members across the nation, both at the federal level and state-specific.

New State Veteran Benefits in 2019

Illinois

Veterans and active-duty military members who are believed to have physical or mental health problems may now be considered "high risk" if they go missing. This makes it easier for law enforcement to locate missing veterans and expedites the missing person report.

Health-care facilities must provide a free copy of a homeless veteran's medical records when requested by the veteran or an authorized agent for the purpose of supporting a claim for disability benefits.

Indiana

National Guard members from Indiana or an adjoining state who attend an Indiana public university are entitled to a tuition refund or credit and guaranteed re-enrollment if they are called to active duty during an academic term.

Sailors from any state who serve on the new USS Indiana submarine for at least 180 days are entitled to pay in-state tuition at Indiana's public universities if they enroll within one year of receiving an honorable discharge.

Disabled military veterans who do not desire to have a disabled veteran license plate but would like to use disability parking can obtain a placard to hang from their rearview mirror.

Federal Veteran Benefit Changes for 2019

GI Bill

A provision of the Forever GI Bill that provides more benefits for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) Programs will become effective Aug. 1, 2019.

The VA will provide up to nine additional months of Post-9/11 GI Bill coverage to certain eligible individuals who are enrolled in a STEM program and use up all their GI Bill benefits.

This applies only to veterans who already have completed at least 60 semester or 90 quarter hours and are in a STEM program that requires more than the standard 128 semester or 192



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quarter hours for a degree.

The VA can pay up to nine additional months of GI Bill benefits or \$30,000, whichever is less. Those using the Yellow Ribbon program and dependents using transferred benefits are not eligible.

Space-A Travel

Disabled veterans with a 100-percent disability rating are now eligible for Space-A travel.

New UCMJ Article

Article 128b will be added to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, addressing domestic violence. It includes assault, intimidation, violation of a protective order, and damaging property or injuring animals in a domestic-assault situation.

High-Deployment Allowance for Reservists

A new law adds reservists mobilized under Section 1104(b) to those eligible for the high-deployment allowance of up to \$1,000 per month.



New Tricare Retiree Dental Program

The big news in Tricare coverage is the replacement of the Tricare Retiree Dental Plan (TRDP) with the FEDVIP program. Also, family members of active-duty personnel are now eligible for vision insurance through FEDVIP.

Stay on Top of Your Benefits

Military benefits are always changing. Keep up with everything from pay to health care by signing up for a free Military.com membership, which will send all the latest benefits straight to your inbox.



THE ROA
STARS
FOUNDATION
STANDING TOGETHER FOR
AMERICA'S RESERVISTS

You can now access the updated STARS website. The website is easy to navigate and provides an explanation of the purpose for ROA's Stand Together for America's Reservist. It also includes a link to STARS in School program. Finally, it includes information on the Pershing Society purpose and donation levels.

Understanding the Military Experience:

PROVIDING CARE TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Service members and their families have made sacrifices for all of us. You can return the favor by helping them.

STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

is a training program that will help you better understand and serve veterans, service members and their families as clients. You can also join an online registry of providers that will help them find you!

**STAR BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH PROVIDERS**
Civilian Professionals. Military Sensitivity.

Trainings & CEUs are FREE.
Space is limited—register today!

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS
University of Southern
Indiana

Tier One - December 5, 2018
Carter Hall A-C

Tier Two - January 29-30, 2019
UC 226-227

Tier Three - March 6-7, 2019
Carter Hall A-C



For more information or to register, visit www.starproviders.org



United Way
of St. Joseph County

University of Southern Indiana Veteran Talon

Volume 5, Issue 6

Your Benefits Now - Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) - Chapter 1606

Questions and Answers from the VA

If you're a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard Reserve, Army National Guard, or Air National Guard, you may be able to get up to 36 months of education and training benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) program. Find out if you qualify.

Can I get education benefits under this program?

You can get education benefits if you meet the requirements listed below.

One of these must be true:

- ☐ You have a 6-year service obligation (you agreed to serve 6 years) in the Selected Reserve, or
- ☐ You're an officer in the Selected Reserve and you agreed to serve 6 years in addition to your initial service obligation

And all of these must also be true. You:

- ☐ Finish your initial active duty for training (IADT), and
- ☐ Get a high school diploma or something of equal value, like a High School Equivalency Diploma or GED, before finishing IADT, and
- ☐ Stay in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit.

What benefits can I get?

You may get up to \$368 per month

in compensation (payments).

How do I get these benefits?

<https://www.va.gov/education/apply-for-education-benefits/application/1990/introduction>

How can I use my MGIB-SR education benefits?

You can use your benefits in many ways to advance your education and training.

☐ Correspondence courses

☐ Entrepreneurship training

We may also:

☐ Help with the cost of books, tuition, and housing if you're in a co-op training program

☐ Pay you back for the cost of test fees

In some cases, we may help you pay for:

- ☐ Remedial courses (classes some students must take to build up their basic skills in math, reading, or English before they can take regular college courses),
- ☐ Deficiency courses (classes some student must take in order to be admitted to a certain college)
- ☐ Refresher courses (brief courses that help people review and improve their knowledge in a certain subject



We may help you pay for:

- ☐ Undergraduate and graduate degree programs
- ☐ Vocational/technical training and non-college degree programs
- ☐ Flight training
- ☐ On-the-job training and apprenticeships
- ☐ High-tech training if you're a Reservist in a non-degree educational program that lasts two years or less

area)

Get more information

Ask questions on the GI Bill customer service page. You can also search frequently asked questions.

Call 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551), Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (ET) or TDD/TTY 1-800-877-8339.