THE VET GAZETTE

Message from the Veterans Affairs Coordinator at Clayton State University

Office of Financial Aid

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Summer 2017, Issue 1

MESSAGE FROM THE VETERANS AFFAIRS COORDINATOR

Recipients of Chapter 31: Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Benefits, this issue of the Vet Gazette is specifically for you. INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE VET GAZETTE

Book Money

Payment Inquiries

Major Changes

• Additional Information

Greetings Veterans,

For those that are returning for Summer 2017 classes, I hope that you are taking the time to enjoy your small break so that you will be rejuvenated. As a Chapter 31 recipient, your processes may be a little different than the other benefit types. I am sending this issue of the Vet Gazette specifically for you to ensure that you are aware of the information included in this Issue. I hope that you find the information helpful.

Have a Great Summer!

Tiffany Young, Veterans Affairs Coordinator Office of Financial Aid at Clayton State University

BOOK MONEY

Please try to get your supplies up to \$40 and required books from the LochShop during the Bookstore Bucks available dates: **May 17-30, 2017** for the Summer 2017 semester.

When you get to the counter, inform them that you are a Chapter 31 VA recipient and show them your Laker ID card. Your name has been added to the list; therefore, if you have any issues please ask for Brad (in the LochShop) and he will be able to assist you.

Please be mindful that VA covers your required books for the required courses that you are registered during the Summer 2017 semester.

If you are seeking additional supplies (including electronic supplies, ink cartridges, and such like), please be sure to contact your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to send me additional approval for

those items. Without an approval from your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, I cannot authorize the LochShop to allow you to get the additional supplies under your VA Benefits.

PAYMENT INQURIES

The Monthly Housing Allowances are typically made by the first of each month, based on the previous month's enrollment. It is my understanding that the first payment of the semester, for Chapter 31 recipients may be delayed due to the additional steps that the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor has to take. If you have any questions regarding your payment, please contact your VA Vocational Rehabilitation

Counselor. Unfortunately, without access to view payment information, I cannot assist with inquiries regarding payments. The number to Atlanta Regional Vocational Rehabilitation is 404-929-3152. The receptionist can transfer you to your counselor.

MAJOR CHANGES

Changes in your major can affect your approval for Chapter 31 benefits. Prior to changing your major, please get permission from your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. After approved, please have your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor submit an updated VA Form 28-1905 with the approved major. Minors must also be approved by the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- If you receive notification that your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor has changed, please forward the information to me. Unfortunately, VA does not contact the school when this occurs.
- Chapter 31 benefits do not include non-required courses, unless special permission is given by your Voc Rehab Counselor. Non-required courses can be courses that are not listed as part of your program requirement and/or requirements that are already successfully satisfied, according to the program standards. Please be sure to review the Student Handbook and/or Curriculum Worksheet. If a course is approved by the Department as a substitution for a required course, please submit an approved course substitution form to me for adjustments in enrollment.
- Changes to your enrollment, charges, majors/minors, and such like can affect Chapter 31 Benefits.
- Monthly Housing Allowances are not applicable between semesters. Benefits for the courses only applies when classes are in session. Please be mindful of this when taking short session courses, eCore courses, or any other courses with different beginning and ending dates.
- As it relates to VA Educational Benefits Full time: 12 credits or more for students seeking undergraduate degrees; 9 credits or more for students seeking graduate degrees (Summer Varies. For Summer 2017 Full Semester courses, 6 credits is full time) **Please be mindful that according to university and financial aid enrollment status, full time requirements is not different in the summer
- If you are planning to withdraw from course(s) due to mitigating circumstances, please be sure to notify me and your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor prior to withdrawing.