

VETERAN AFFAIRS

Did you know that a student who receives VA (Veteran Affairs) educational assistance (Chapter 30, 35, 1606, and 1607) must follow both VA regulations AND the academic policy of ECU? This tidbit of knowledge can make a big difference when advising a VA student. While it is ultimately the students' responsibility to comply with VA regulations and academic policy, in order to maximize his or her benefit, the following items will assist you in helping this group of students.

Myth: It's okay for VA students to take whatever classes his or her advisor recommends because VA will pay for it since *it was recommended*.

Fact: VA will only pay for the minimum requirements needed for a student to complete his or her degree requirements. This means that if a student has met his or her free elective(s) requirement, he or she **MUST** take major area classes in order to meet VA requirements. In addition, if the student wants to pursue a minor VA will not pay for an elective minor - only a required minor. The following is a list of other "non-payables" for VA.

- Auditing a course
- Course(s) not required for degree
- Raise or replace a course in which a grade of "D" or better was earned, unless degree requirements specify that a "C" or better must be earned. VA will pay for a student to raise or replace a course in which a grade of 'F' was earned.
- Raise a grade point average
- Undergraduate admission as a non-degree student.
- Graduate admission as a non-degree student.
- Co-operative education (VA will pay for REQUIRED internships)

Myth: Students who served in the Marines only receive two hours of exercise; students who served in the Army receive one hour of health and two hours of exercise, etc.

Fact: Students who have not previously received military placement credit for health and exercise may submit a copy of form DD214 to the Veteran Affairs Office in the Office of the Registrar for one elective hour of exercise and Hlth 1000. Students will receive the same health and exercise credit regardless of branch or time served.

If you ever have a question about advising a VA student please contact the **VA Coordinator in the Office of the Registrar at 252-328-1731 or vaoffice@ecu.edu.**