

WILLIAM
PATERSON
UNIVERSITY

Will. Power.



Office of Veteran
and Military Affairs

Office of Veteran and Military Affairs

Our Greatest Strength Is Helping You Find Yours

If you have the will to succeed, William Paterson University will give you the power to achieve greatness. With an entire campus dedicated to your success, our mission is to help you discover your unique strengths and educate you on how to use them to make an impact on the world.



Got Your Six, Declaration of Support

In recognition of the service of current and former members of the United States Armed Forces, William Paterson University, in conjunction with Got Your 6, Student Veterans of America, Operation College Promise, and the Pat Tillman Foundation, has pledged to continuously strive to implement and enhance resources, programs, and policies to support our student veteran population.

Who We Are

Through the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs—with its dedicated space within the heart of the campus in the University Commons—you gain access to a support network that includes veterans, active duty service members, reservists, guards, dependents, and supporters from throughout the University and community. Many of the employees of the office are veterans or currently serving in the military and can provide guidance in the areas of veteran education benefits, community outreach programs, and university extracurricular events.



Iraqi/ Afghanistan - Tuition Waiver Program

Students in good academic standing, who served overseas in Iraq or Afghanistan (Global Terrorism) are entitled to a tuition-only waiver while attending courses, full or part time. After exhaustion of their GI Bill or if not covered 100 percent, students can be eligible for the tuition waiver program. This information should be on the student's DD-214. The waiver is applied after submitting a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and all federal and state grants, if any, are deducted from the tuition. PLEASE NOTE: Students who are receiving Chapter 33 benefits are not entitled to the Iraqi/Afghanistan waiver.



Resources and Services for Veteran and Military Students

The following are some of the services that the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs offers to assist veteran and military students at William Paterson University:

- Veteran lounge: a place to connect with other veteran students, located in Speert Hall 118
- A one-stop admissions process that includes private campus tours led by veterans, admissions guidance, GI Bill counseling, and Veterans Online Application (www.ebenefits.va.gov) set up
- A dedicated computer lab
- Veteran lending library that features academic textbooks
- Peer to peer mentoring (vet to vet academic tutoring)
- Military leave policy assistance
- Liaison to vocational rehabilitation
- Referrals in a variety of areas including counseling, on-campus and off-campus housing, and career and academic advisement
- VA benefit advocates who can help you with applying for and maintaining benefits
- A variety of events and activities throughout the year, including an exclusive veteran student orientation, Veteran Remembrance Day Ceremony, and Veterans Club

William Paterson University is home to a chapter of Omega Delta Sigma, a national hybrid veterans fraternity for United States military and veterans, both men and women.



The Student Veteran Organization

brings together veterans and all members of the Armed Forces to honor, recognize, and support those who have served our nation. The members work towards creating a network of individuals who will assist students in the transition from the military to a collegiate environment. The organization also works with the University's student population to help provide monetary funds for injured veterans and soldiers' families who are in need.

Important Information for Veteran and Military Students

As a veteran or military student at William Paterson University, it is important to understand your ongoing responsibilities based on your individual entitlement under GI Bill, vocational, and tuition assistance programs. William Paterson University, the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs closely monitor each student's enrollment status and academic progress. A student's entitlement is based upon the number of credit hours for which she or he is enrolled in a matriculated program. It is required that all students utilizing military education benefits follow the guidelines listed within the William Paterson University student handbook.



Enrollment Steps for Veteran and Military Students

Step 1

Apply for Admission to the University

- Submit a completed online application by visiting: wpunj.edu/applynow
- Your application fee will be waived
- **Freshman Requirements**
 - Final high school transcript and SAT/ACT scores
 - If you've graduated from high school 2 or more years prior to applying;
 - SAT/ACT scores are not required
 - Write a short personal statement
 - Resume
- **Transfer Requirements**
 - Official transcript(s) from all colleges attended
 - Request your official Joint Services Transcript (JST)
 - Your high school transcript (if fewer than 12 college-level credits completed) and SAT/ACT

Step 2

To apply for your Veterans Administration (VA) benefits, contact the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs at William Paterson University.

Once you have been accepted:

- If claiming education benefits for the first time, complete Form 22-1990 gibill.va.gov
- If education benefits have previously been used, complete Form 22-1995 gibill.va.gov
- Bring a copy of the Certification of Eligibility Letter of Statement and your DD-214 to the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs for processing.
- Complete an Enrollment Certification Form (forms are located in the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs).

Step 3

Apply for Financial Aid

You may still be eligible for other federal and state funds while receiving your veteran's education benefits. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

(William Paterson University school code is 002625.)

Transcripts for Service Members and Veterans

The Joint Services Transcript (JST) provides official documentation of military education, training, and occupation experiences of service members and veterans. The JST is a

uniform transcript for all branches, except the Air Force, which has its own system under the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF). For more information and to request your JST, visit: jst.doded.mil



Contact:

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"The office helps me because I can talk to people who have similar life experiences as me. If I ever have a problem, I know a group of people who get me." —Yousaf Chaudhary '19



"With the VA work-study program, I found a productive means of filling time between my classes, both financially and academically. I've also been able to utilize the office's in-house lending library to borrow most of my core curriculum books!" —Patrick Batallones '18



**"I knew that I had been welcomed into a community that not only cared about my unique needs as a veteran, but also my academic progression and post-military life."
—Rebekah Battersby '17**



The office helps with the transition from military back to civilian life. Leaving a brotherhood is never easy and for most of us we never leave that mentality. Coming home and having a place that brings back that feeling is extremely comforting. —Stephen Harris '19



William Paterson University

At William Paterson University, you will find a supportive and challenging environment that encourages you to push yourself, gain confidence, and come away with the knowledge that remarkable things are within your reach.

The University serves more than 10,000 students through five colleges: College of the Arts and Communication, Cotsakos College of Business, College of Education, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and College of Science and Health. Our wide range of undergraduate and graduate academic programs create opportunities that help you succeed in our classrooms, laboratories, studios, and throughout our approximately 370-acre wooded campus.

Founded in 1855 and accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the University is located in suburban Wayne, New Jersey, just 20 miles from New York City, adjacent to 1,200 acres of wetlands and woodlands, and only three miles from the Great Falls in Paterson.

At William Paterson, you'll study in small classes taught by professors who are active in their fields. You will also enjoy individualized attention from faculty mentors who are committed to helping you develop your strengths, and uncover new ones.

Financial aid is available to qualified students.

For more information, visit wpunj.edu or call the Office of Admissions at 973.720.2125.

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