Happy holidays, Sun Devils!

I have to admit, this is hands down my favorite time of the year. We just rounded out Salute to Service 2023, where we honored veterans and their families across the ASU community. I was overjoyed to see so many posts about all of you doing amazing things in the world. And just when you think it can't get any better, right around the corner is the Veterans Honor Stole Ceremony on Dec. 9!

Congratulations to all of our student veterans and military-connected learners on their upcoming graduation; we applaud all of your hard work and the sacrifices you’ve made over the past few years. You earned this, so go out and celebrate! For those of you not quite at the finish line, I know finals can be tough, so keep thatrose in the books and thoughts on your grades. You got this, I know you do. I look forward to hearing of your successes and can’t wait to start next semester at your side.

A final note: I know that the holiday season, filled with all of its tinsel and presents, can also be a time of sadness and loneliness. I know we can get into a space of isolation and push our loved ones away. It might be because we feel guilty because our buddies are gone and not able to celebrate, or some of you might be like me and have some not-so-fond memories of spending the holiday season in Iraq or Afghanistan. Whatever it is and whatever it looks like for you, I want to personally tell you that you are not alone. If you need us, we are here. If these are tough times for you, don’t hesitate to reach out to our team and we can be here for you to lean on.

Onward to Victory,

Shawn Banzhaf
Executive Director
Pat Tillman Veterans Center

Updates and information from the veterans center

PTVC Veterans Honor Stole Ceremony
Each semester, the Pat Tillman Veterans Center kicks off graduation week at ASU with our very own special convocation for student veterans that we call the Veterans Honor Stole Ceremony. Our fall 2023 ceremony will be held at Desert Financial Arena on ASU’s Tempe campus on Dec. 9 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The deadline to register for ceremonies has passed for graduating Sun Devils, but you can still apply to graduate — a necessary step to receive your certificate — through My ASU. For everyone who RSVP’d, we’re thrilled to welcome our community to celebrate reaching their goals in higher education together with friends and family. (And if you weren’t able to register or time, we’ll also be accepting walk-ins for the ceremony to make sure no one gets left behind.)

For more information, and a list of FAQs including step-by-step instructions, please visit our website. Congratulations Sun Devils, and we’ll see you on Dec. 9!

Vets4Tech: Stipends for interning student veterans
The Pat Tillman Veterans Center has been awarded a grant to provide stipends for 15 student veterans interning next summer at any U.S. Department of Defense installations, Department of Energy National Science Laboratories or federal facilities. To qualify, students must be currently enrolled as an undergraduate and have an upcoming STEM-related internship.

The stipend award is for $3,000! If interested, check out this flyer, read through this helpful additional information or simply apply.

Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society scholarship program
The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society is offering scholarships for military-connected Sun Devils ranging from $5,000 to $7,500. The application deadline is Feb. 15, 2024, so
please don’t miss this incredible opportunity!

Applicants must be permanent Arizona residents, an honorably discharged veteran, active duty, or National Guard or Reserve unit member, and must be attending an institution of higher learning within the state of Arizona eligible to receive GI Bill® funds, to include trade schools and other associate degree programs.

Additional requirements, general information and the scholarship application form can be found at the AVHOFS website.

Veterans Upward Bound is helping our community start college strong
TRIO Veterans Upward Bound program at ASU is a free educational program assisting Maricopa and northern Pinal County veterans who are either low-income, first-generation or both. Veterans interested in improving academic skills and transitioning to higher education need simply apply. Accepted veterans will receive instruction and support: academic tutoring, assistance with financial aid and scholarship applications, and referrals to Veterans Administration information as needed.

Meet a panel of veterans who work for Battle Tested Security, hear their stories and learn about what great opportunities and benefits are available!

Veterans — there are no monetary expenses for those who qualify into the VUB program. It is free!

We thank you for your service to our country and invite you to stop by our campus offices at your earliest convenience. For additional VUB information, visit eoss.asu.edu/trio/veterans-upward-bound.

2024 Military and Veteran Resilience and Health Collaborative
Save the date! You’re invited to the College of Health Solutions Summit at ASU’s Downtown Phoenix campus on Jan. 19, 2024.

Join our partners at ASU’s College of Health Solutions for an inspiring event as they unveil the Military and Veteran Resilience and Health Collaborative. Discover how the College of Health Solutions is bridging the gap between research and practical solutions to address challenges and enhance the strengths of the military-connected and first-responder community.

Together, we will explore the college’s focus areas, ongoing initiative and upcoming programs, and learn how you can actively engage in future collaborations to magnify our collective impact. Participate in engaging Q&A sessions with devoted panelists, spotlighting local leaders and organizations offering vital programs and services for service members, veterans and their families.

Witness the launch of College of Health Solutions’ partnership with Homebase, marked by the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Warrior Health and Fitness Program. This groundbreaking initiative offers a 90-day program designed for veterans, service members and their significant others, promoting physical health and well-being through supervised exercise, nutrition, mind-body medicine, stress management and sleep.

Open to ASU students, faculty, staff and all community supporters! Don’t miss this opportunity to network with others who are dedicated to making positive change and working toward a healthier, more resilient community. Follow College of Health Solutions on Instagram for more updates.

Updates from the PTVC School Certifying Official team

Sync vs. hybrid
- Sync courses are considered distant or online courses.
- Hybrid courses are considered immersion or on-campus courses.

Adding or swapping classes? Don’t forget to submit a revised EAF. You can find the link to our EAF on our website under Benefit — Forms. veterans.asu.edu/forms.

Attention immersion nonresident students
We would like to make you aware that under Arizona statute, veterans and certain dependents of veterans or active-duty military members may qualify for resident tuition rates if they meet the veteran or military requirements. If you qualify, this can be a substantial savings on tuition costs.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill® at the 100% benefit level will only pay up to the in-state tuition rate. Nonresidents need to cover the difference between resident and nonresident tuition by other means unless they are part of the Yellow Ribbon program.

Please contact University Registrar Services to request residency reclassification for spring 2024.

VA Work-Study positions available at the Tempe, Polytechnic and Downtown Phoenix campuses
To qualify, you’ll need to be actively using VA education benefits at ASU with at least a three-fourths time rate of pursuit throughout the spring 2024 semester. If interested, please email your resume, cover letter and VA Form 22-8611 to ptvc@asu.edu.

These are part-time positions with a minimum expectation of working 15 hours per week; maximum is 25 hours per week. The pay will be $13.85 per hour (increasing to $14.35 per hour after 3 months and $14.85 per hour after 6 months).
PTVC offices will be closed:

Nominate someone for the Honor Roll
If you know someone who deserves recognition for their commitment to supporting the military-connected community here at ASU, submit an Honor Roll nomination. We encourage veteran, military and dependent students, as well as Pat Tillman Veterans Center employees, to nominate any ASU employee, student or community member whom they believe deserves special recognition. Nominees will be recognized during ASU’s Salute to Service.

Career and professional development opportunities
Now is the time to start planning for your future! Career Services is here to help with all of your upcoming career and education goals. We can help get your resume ready for graduate school or to have a job lined up after graduation, and even help with your job search strategy. Ace that interview by practicing through our platform Big Interview, or visit our resource page for more assistance with interview preparation. You can also get tailored coaching with a one-on-one appointment with a career advisor or scheduling an appointment on Handshake. Be on the lookout for more upcoming career fairs at the start of the spring semester. Happy holidays!

Dakota Webber
Assistant Director of Career Readiness
ASU Career Services
Dakota.Webber@asu.edu

Resources and support

Benefit questions
Troy Runde
VA Vet Success on Campus Counselor

Virtual office hours
Mondays and Tuesdays: 9–10 a.m. and 3–4 p.m.
Thursdays: 1–2 p.m. and 4–5 p.m.

#1 in the U.S. for innovation
ASU ahead of MIT and Stanford
U.S. News & World Report 2020

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