

FAQs for Military/Veteran Students

How do I begin to access my educational benefits?

The very first step is to reach out to your local Veteran Outreach Coordinator or Specialist. They will be able to help you determine the best benefits (chapter) for you. For East Hawaii, you will want to contact Maricar C. Souza at 808-969-3833 or maricar.souza@va.gov. For West Hawaii, you will contact Rick Ruchty at 808-329-0574 or Richard.Ruchty@va.gov. Once you have decided on what benefits/chapter that you are eligible for, you need to submit an application for educational benefits using the VON APP website. You can access this at <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>.

How do I begin classes at Hawaii Community College?

You will first need to apply to Hawaii Community College. You can apply at <http://www.hawaii.edu/admissions/>. Be sure to pick Hawaii Community College as the institution that you want to attend.

Once your application is processed, you will receive an e-mail from the Admissions Office. Additional requirements for full acceptance are documentation of your MMR vaccination records and a TB clearance. You also will need to attend a New Student Orientation Session.

Am I eligible to receive financial aid as a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

To be eligible for Federal Student Aid, students must:

Be an admitted student, enrolled in an eligible program of study for the purpose of obtaining a degree or certificate

Not be enrolled solely in remedial coursework

Not be currently enrolled in a secondary school

Have a high school diploma or the recognized equivalent (such as a GED)

Be sure to fill out the FAFSA at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.

Can I receive college credit for any of my Military training?

Any military training you received that may qualify for college credit is evaluated by the Hawaii Community College office of Admissions & Records. You will need to request your JST transcript at <https://jst.doded.mil/official.html>. You may have also taken courses through the Community College of the Air Force. If so, please request a transcript to be sent to Admissions and Records. You can request a transcript at <http://www.au.af.mil/au/barnes/ccaf/transcripts.asp>.

How do I know if any courses that I've taken at other institutions will transfer into Hawaii Community College?

The UH system has a transfer database that may answer some of those questions for you. If you do not see your institution or courses listed, your previous coursework may still transfer after your official transcript has been evaluated. Please visit our Transfer Database at <http://www.hawaii.edu/transferdatabase>

Is there any other documentation that I need to provide?

If you have been discharged from the Military, it would be helpful to have a copy of your DD-214. You can request this at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.

Will VA educational benefits cover the cost of remedial or developmental courses?

Most VA educational benefit programs/chapters cover the cost of remedial or developmental courses, but only if official placement results indicate that you need to take a remedial or developmental course, or if the course is required as a prerequisite for another course in your major.

I have disabilities and may need assistance. Can accommodations be provided to me?

In compliance with federal and state regulations, reasonable accommodations are provided to self identifying and qualified students with disabilities. For more information, please contact Hā'awi Kōkua Program for more details.

Mari Giel, M.A., MHRM
Coordinator/Counselor
Bldg. 388, Room 106
Phone: (808) 934-2725
E-mail: marigel@hawaii.edu

Palamanui Campus:
Office of Student Services
Cameron Hee
Phone: (808) 969-8823
E-mail: chee6@hawaii.edu

Does Hawaii Community College Participate in Yellow Ribbon?

Hawai'i Community College participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program. For more information call (808) 934-2710.

What do I need to do if I stop going to Hawaii CC and want to begin taking courses again?

We will need you to fill out a Request for Recertification form. You do not need to provide another COE.

For more information please call Admissions and Records at 808-934-2710 or e-mail your question to hawvet@hawaii.edu.