

Welcome Aboard—Jennifer Connors

The Office of Military Services welcomes Jennifer Connors as the new Director of Military Services. Jennifer enjoyed a 14 year active duty career as a SMSgt in The United States Air Force. She continues to serve as a traditional reservist and is the First Sergeant for Security Forces assigned to the 459th Air Refueling Wing at Andrews AFB. Jennifer brings a passionate voice and sincere understanding for veterans, service members and their families. Her many roles include military spouse, veteran, traditional reservist and Mom, giving her a unique perspective. She resides in Fairfax Station with Her husband, Col (Ret) JC Connors and her four children, West (16), Tate (13) and twins, Kaylee and Maddy (6). In her spare time, Jennifer is an age group triathlete and has competed in sprint, Olympic, half IM and Full IM distances. We are very excited to have Jennifer aboard and look forward to expanding our services with her.



Jennifer Connors



- New Director for OMS
- Post 9/11 GI Bill 2.0
- eBenefits
- Extending your Benefits
- UNIV 300
- Military History

All Hands Message

eBenefits is now available online and allows service members and veterans to view military records as well as past and pending payments. Create your basic account at www.ebenefits.va.gov now!

[https://
www.ebenefits.va.gov/
ebenefits-portal/](https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/)



Post 9/11 GI Bill 2.0 Changes

The President recently signed legislation that will overhaul the current Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. Most of the changes don't take effect until at least Aug. 1, 2011. Some of the changes include:

BAH Adjustment: As of Aug. 1, full time students (100% eligible) will receive \$1,881/mo., a reduction of \$60/mo.

Pro-rated BAH: students must still be a greater-than-half-time-student. If the student is less than full-time, however, BAH will be pro-rated based on their time status.

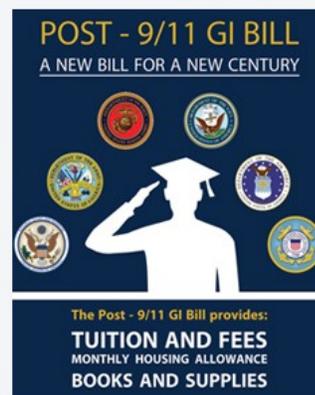
Graduate Tuition Rates: As of Aug. 1, the VA will cover graduate students at the in-state rate.

Break Pay: The VA will stop paying break pay (between semesters) on Aug. 1 unless and Executive Order of the President extends them.

BAH for Online Students: Effective Oct. 1, students enrolled exclusively in online courses may receive BAH at the half the national average (\$673.50).

Active Duty Book Stipend: Allows active duty members to receive a book and supplies stipend.

Covers More Service Members: Covers more National Guard members called to active service under title 32 U.S.C.



To see all upcoming changes visit the VA's site at:

http://www.gibill.va.gov/post-911/post-911-gi-bill-summary/Post911_changes.html



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- GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

<http://military.gmu.edu/>



Extending your GI Bill Benefits

Ch. 30 Montgomery GI Bill

- Students using Ch. 30 benefits are eligible to receive the stipend at their current rate for the remainder of a semester as long as one day of benefits remains at the start of that semester.

i.e. If you have 5 days of benefits remaining when the semester starts and you are a full-time student you can continue to receive the stipend for the rest of the semester.

Ch. 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill

- Students using Ch. 33 benefits are eligible to receive the full tuition payment for a semester as long as one day of benefits remains at the start of that semester. Students will receive the pro-rated housing amount relative to the number of days of benefits remaining.

i.e. If you have 5 days of benefits remaining when the semester starts and you are a full-time student you can receive the full amount of tuition payment for the semester but are not eligible to receive BAH beyond 5 days.

This Month in Military History

March 20, 1922

America's First Aircraft Carrier

The 11,500-ton Langley was commissioned into the U.S. Navy as America's first aircraft carrier. Langley was not regarded as a beautiful ship. Her flight deck was 533 feet long and 64 feet wide with an open-sided hanger deck, inspiring the nickname "the Old Covered Wagon." Under the leadership of Commander Kenneth Whiting, Langley served as a base for reconnaissance aircraft and a laboratory to develop new procedures for launching and recovering planes, such as the use of cross-deck arresting wires to brake incoming aircraft.

March, 1945

Battle at Iwo Jima

In March of 1945, The U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima destroyed the last enemy resistance and occupied the island. This bloody, month long campaign cost the United States more than 20,000 casualties, and almost the entire Japanese garrison of 23,000 was annihilated. Admiral Nimitz said, " Among the Americans who served on Iwo Island, uncommon valor was a common virtue." More Marines received the Medal of Honor for their bravery on Iwo, than any other campaign or battle in history.

Veterans Society

The Veterans Society serves as a social and professional student-lead organization. Together, we can help each other transition into university life and have a professional network post graduation! We are here to be a bigger voice about veterans related topics. All branch of services, family and friends are welcome!

What to expect:

Veteran related news

Job Postings

Community involvement and support

Monthly general body meeting

Social Events

Contact: studentvets@gmail.com

Web: vetsoc.org