

Office of Military Services

The mission of the Office of Military Services at Mason is to assist veterans, active duty service members, guardsmen and reservists, and dependents in making a successful transition into the Mason community. Our goal is to help these students in a number of capacities including counseling and advising on benefits, academic and admissions advising, and career transition. Few schools have a dedicated staff to help transition from a military environment to college life and we are proud to be able to assist our students in any way.

Location and Hours

Johnson Center, 213

Mon-Fri 830-5 / Tues 830-6

Contact

703.993.2428 or military@gmu.edu

Visit us on the web!

www.military.gmu.edu

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What's Happening Now

Hat Trick! Mason Named 2012 Military Friendly School

GI Jobs Magazine has named Mason one of the most military friendly schools in the country for the third year in a row. Last year Mason was one of ten public schools in Virginia named to this prestigious list putting us in the top 85% percent of schools nationwide. We pride ourselves on being the most military friendly school in the state and will continue to provide and offer programs and services to our student population as well as leading the way on military and veterans initiatives in school.

Yellow Ribbon Program to Cover More Students at Mason

Effective fall semester 2011, Mason will cover an additional 25 students, 50 in total (to include undergraduates but excluding law students), under the Yellow Ribbon Program. Post 9/11 GI Bill recipients who are 100% eligible for benefits will be covered (excluding law students) on a first come, first served basis. If covered, Mason will contribute \$1,000 per year and the VA will match for a total of \$2,000 per year. To apply select "Ch. 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill Yellow Ribbon (YR Applicants Only)" when submitting your VRRF. For more info click [here](#).

Virginia—Becoming the Most Veteran-Friendly State

Governor McDonnell recently signed legislation that will waive the 1 year residency requirement to qualify for in-state tuition for veterans. Veterans must still meet qualifying factors to receive in-state tuition, only the 12 month waiting period is waived. In total, 25 bills were passed aiming to assist active duty service members, veterans, and their families. To see the full press release click [here](#). For more information about how this may affect you contact us at 703.993.2428 or military@gmu.edu.

All Hands

Message

Mason has changed the way it bills the VA for tuition and fees under the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Mason will certify your benefits to the VA after you've submitted your VRRF but will not bill the VA until after the add/drop period has ended. This will allow BAH and the book stipend to be paid on time if you are eligible. For the summer term, Mason won't bill the VA for tuition until August. As long as you've submitted your VRRF to Mason your tuition will be placed on hold until the VA pays (for the portion they will pay, if not fully covered you'll still owe your portion up front). If you have questions please call us at 703.993.2428 or email military@gmu.edu.

Veteran Internships

The Aurora Foundation provides select internships for student veterans at businesses around the DC area. These internships are very high quality and can lead to greater opportunities for motivated self-starters.

Banking Intern at John Marshall Bank

Intern will work on short, mid, and long-term projects for the bank. Internship will allow the student to explore many career areas in the bank and give them time in regional offices in order to understand the customer service aspect. Lasts 6-8 weeks, 30 hours/wk. \$10-11/hr.

*Open to student veterans using the GI Bill. Must have relevant coursework (banking, finance, accounting) and at least a 2.0 gpa.

Send resume, transcripts, DD214, and two letters of recommendation from non-family members to:

Ms. Ellen Baumgardner

Internship Coordinator

12150 Monument Drive, Suite 510

Fairfax, VA 22033

On Campus

Student Clubs run by Vets on the Rise

If you're looking to join a student club at Mason consider joining the Men's Rugby Club, the Mason Cycling Club, and the Mason Sailing Club. All three are run by veterans at Mason and have expressed interest in recruiting veterans to their activities. Visit their facebook pages to stay current and for more information contact:

Men's Rugby: Jason White - jwhite12@gmu.edu

Cycling: Kyle Bondo - kbondo@gmu.edu

Sailing: John Long - jlong11@masonlive.gmu.edu

Battle Buddies Program

The Office of Military Services is looking for current students interested in being a student veteran mentor for their specific degree/certificate program. We're trying to gather as many from all areas as possible and keep a running list so new students with questions or looking for advice have a point of contact. You do not need to be an expert on your program, just be familiar with it and the requirements; admission info will be handled by our office, we're just asking you to be a guide. If you'd like to be a battle buddy, please email aemery4@gmu.edu. Thanks for your interest!

Beyond GI Joe: The Contemporary College Student Veteran

From June 20-23 Mason offered a 4 day, 40 hour class for Mason staff and students in the Higher Education Program. The goal of the course was to educate school administrators on all aspects of military service and life. The course was a huge success and all who attended were extremely impressed and enthusiastic with the training received. We're proud that the Office of Military Services was able to attend and help train Mason staff in order to bring the non-military academic community and student veterans closer together. Kudos to Lauren Runco and Professor Toby Jenkins for putting this course together!

Career Services

The following workshops will be offered in July at the Fairfax campus:

- Mon. July 11: *Federal Govt. Job and Internship Workshop*
12:15—1:45pm SUB 1
- Tues. July 12: *Job Hunting Strategies Workshop*
12:15—1:45pm SUB 1
- Wed. July 13: *Behavioral Interviewing Workshop*
12:15—1:45pm SUB 1
- Thurs. July 14: *Resume and Cover Letter Writing Workshop*
12:15—1:45pm SUB 1
- Fri. July 15: *How to Network Workshop*
12:15—1:45pm SUB 1

For more information about these workshops, visit [here](#).

Mason Career Services is a program for students to provide career assessment, coaching, counseling, resources, and opportunities to advance the achievement of their career-related goals.

To see a listing of current job and internship announcements, visit <http://careers.gmu.edu/>. To contact Career Services call **703.993.2370** or email careerhp@gmu.edu.

Veterans Society

The Veterans Society serves as a social and professional student lead organization that advocates for and engages student veterans in networking and activities.

Upcoming Fall Events

*9/11 Patriot Day BBQ

*Harvest Festival / Oktoberfest

*Veterans Affairs Benefits Seminar and Fairfax Community Support

*Veterans Day Gala

Details will be made available in the coming months, in the mean time please consider volunteering as the events will be what WE make them. As always, family and fellow Patriots are welcome to join.

studentvets@gmail.com

vetsoc.org

ROTC

Mason Army ROTC is designed to prepare the next generation of officers. It is centered around the aspects of leadership, tactics, and policy. Labs and lectures designed to reinforce practical training meet once per week and physical training three times per week. What separates Mason ROTC from the rest is the level of cadet control. We feel the only real way to train a leader is to allow them to lead and provide guidance.

*Recently, MAJ Kremer was on "Washington Journal" on CSPAN. Watch his interview and Q&A session [here](#).

703.993.2706
goldbar@gmu.edu / arotc.gmu.edu

**If you'd like to volunteer your services contact:

CPT Mariah Doolittle: mdoolitt@gmu.edu
MAJ Paul Kremer: pkremer@gmu.edu

Maximizing your GI Bill Benefits

Distance Learning

As of Oct. 1, 2011, Post 9/11 GI Bill recipients will be able to receive BAH while attending classes exclusively online so long as the student meets VA requirements; a student attending full-time (only online) will receive up to half the national average in BAH (\$673.50 per month). Students who are proportionally eligible for benefits will receive a pro-rated amount of that. Students taking at least one course on campus are eligible for the full amount of BAH (\$1,881 per month) excluding qualifying factors.

Active Duty Book Stipend

As of Oct. 1, 2011, the books and supplies stipend is payable to service members on active duty. You may receive a maximum of \$1,000 per year (\$41.67 per credit) while attending classes. If you are proportionally eligible for benefits you will receive a pro-rated maximum amount.

On the Job Training

As of Oct. 1, 2011, the Post 9/11 GI Bill will pay a pro-rated amount for on-the-job training and apprenticeships.

*For more information about upcoming changes click [here](#).

This Month in Military History

July 3, 1775

Washington Commands American Army

After years of royal abuse and several British actions, to include The Sugar Act, Currency Act, Stamp Act, Quartering Act of 1765, The Declaratory Act, Boston Massacre, The Tea Act (Boston Tea Party), as well as all of the "Intolerable Acts" of 1774, General George Washington took command of the new American Army. He was tasked with establishing a chain of command and course of action for war, should there be one. Washington was chosen as Commander in Chief of the American Army because of his service with distinction in the French and Indian War and because he was a Virginian; politicians in the north realized that to defeat the British all regions of the country would need to fight, not just New England, and Washington could arouse the ire of southerners.

July 4-19, 1776

Declaration of Independence

Five days after Congress adopted The Declaration of Independence and one day after its first public reading in Philadelphia (July 8), General George Washington ordered that The Declaration of Independence be read before the American Army in New York (July 9), setting a precedent for future military engagement. Ten days after, Congress ordered The Declaration officially inscribed and signed by members.

July 4, 1826, 1831, 1836

Jefferson, Adams, Monroe die

50 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed, Presidents Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died. President James Monroe died five years later to the day in 1831. Purportedly, President James Madison, who preceded Monroe in the Presidency, was asked by his physician while on his deathbed if he would like to be kept alive until July 4 as his best friend, Thomas Jefferson had died on that day ten years earlier. All four men were Founding Fathers and three out of the four belonged to the "Virginia Dynasty"; a term denoting that four of the first five Presidents were Virginians.



Washington Takes Command



Signing of The Declaration

