

ISSUE 20 - AUGUST, 2012

*"SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE"*

## 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 assist our students in any way.

### Location and Hours

Johnson Center, room 245

Mon-Fri 9-5

### Contact

703.993.1316 or [military@gmu.edu](mailto:military@gmu.edu)

Visit us on the web!

[www.military.gmu.edu](http://www.military.gmu.edu)



## What's Happening Now

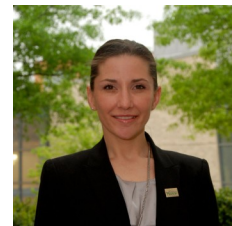
### BAH Increase - Up to \$225 per month! - Post 9/11 GI Bill

As of August 1, 2012, BAH for Post 9/11 GI Bill recipients has increased to from \$1,881 per month to \$2,106 per month. This is the maximum amount receivable and may not be paid to each student. The Dept. of Veteran Affairs pro-rates BAH three ways: eligibility for benefits (100%, 90%, 80%, etc.), rate of pursuit (number of credits taken during the semester), and number of days classes are in session for the month. In order to receive the full amount of \$2,106 a student must be 100% eligible for benefits, be a full-time student, and classes must be in session for the full month. Pro-rated amounts may be paid if any of those three criteria are not met.

Students using benefits for the first time this fall will receive four days of BAH for the month of August (27th-30th) because the VA does not pay BAH for the 31st of the month. Full payments will be made for the months of September (paid on Oct. 1), October (paid on Nov. 1), and November (paid on Dec. 1). December will be paid as a partial month on Jan. 1.

The current BAH rate (\$2,106) will be effective through July of next year, at which point the rate will change to the E-5 w/dependents rate for the DC area set at the start of next year. If you have questions about what rate you'd receive based on eligibility, rate of pursuit, or partial months, please call 703.993.2428 or email [military@gmu.edu](mailto:military@gmu.edu).

### MEET THE STAFF



Jennifer Connors - Director



Aaron Emery - Office Manager and Transition Coordinator



Katie Fox - Transition Assistant



**Battle Buddies Program**  
[click here for details](#)

## Veteran Internships

### Aurora Foundation

Internships open to student veterans using the GI Bill. Must have relevant coursework and at least a 2.0 GPA. Paid internships are available with the following companies:

Ritz Carlton (Tyson's Corner), CACI (Fairfax), Spectrum (Newport News)

Send resume, transcripts, DD214, and two letters of recommendation to Ellen Hembree at

[Internships@Aurora4Vets.org](mailto:Internships@Aurora4Vets.org)

### Start-Up Non-Profit (Alexandria)

Seeking unpaid intern (will provide excellent referrals and letters of testimony) to manage content for newly launched websites and conduct research on military statistics, downsizing, employment and skills.

Send resume to Mary Lopez at

[Mary.Lopez.LopezSchell@gmail.com](mailto:Mary.Lopez.LopezSchell@gmail.com)

## Opportunities

### New State of Virginia Veteran ID Card - Available Now!

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) have joined as partners to offer a veterans ID card. Veterans frequently ask us for an identification card that shows their status as a veteran of the U.S. military. While retired military and veterans with a disability rating from the VA are issued ID cards, these men and women comprise just a fraction of the state's veterans population. The remaining veterans have no way to show veteran status other than by their DD214. The DD214 is the official discharge document and not something most veterans carry with them.

You must have a valid Virginia driver's license or identification card. You will also need a copy of your DD-214 indicating any discharge status other than dishonorable. There is a \$10 one-time cost for the card. Virginia Veterans ID cards never expire. You will receive your new Virginia Veterans ID card in the mail within a week. Additional information is available at the DVS and DMV websites.

### The Mission Continues Internship

The Mission Continues is the only national non-profit challenging **veterans to serve and lead in communities across America**. The Mission Continues' goal is to award hundreds of Fellowships to post-9/11 veterans and student veterans in 2012. Fellowships are **26 weeks** in length and require 520 hours of service during which the Fellow serves at a non-profit organization in their community. Fellows work on issues ranging from education to the environment and from disaster preparedness to homelessness. Each fellowship is unique. Fellows are encouraged to choose a fellowship location based on their personal passions. If you would like more information about this fellowship, visit The Mission Continues website at: [www.missioncontinues.org](http://www.missioncontinues.org).

## Career Services

\*\*\*Workshops on August 28\*\*\*

### Get the Scoop on Career Services: Ice Cream Social

SUB I, Room 3400 12pm - 3pm

### How to Choose a Major Workshop

SUB I, Room 3400 1230pm - 130pm

### Behavioral Interviewing Workshop

SUB I, Room 3400 130pm - 230pm

### LinkedIn: Find Your Secret Network Workshop

SUB I, Room 3400 3pm - 4pm

### Federal Govt. Job and Internship Search Workshop

SUB I, Room 3400 4pm - 5pm

### Veteran Career Counselor

We now have a veteran / service member liaison in the Career Services Office. Laura Winkler has recently taken the position and can assist in career searching and resume advice for veterans and service members. Contact Laura at [lwinkler@gmu.edu](mailto:lwinkler@gmu.edu).

University Career Services, SUB I, Room 3400  
Career Counseling & Advising Appointments: 703.993.2370  
Our Website and Spring 2012 Workshop and Event Calendar:  
<http://careers.gmu.edu/>

## Veteran Organizations

### Veterans Society

[Vetsoc.org](http://Vetsoc.org)

[vetsoc.gmu@gmail.com](mailto:vetsoc.gmu@gmail.com)

### Semper Fi Society

[Semper Fi Society at Mason \(facebook\)](#)

### GMU Vets For Hire

[GMU College Veterans for Hire \(facebook\)](#)

[GMUVetsForHire@gmail.com](mailto:GMUVetsForHire@gmail.com)

### Schedule of Events

TBD

Look for further events to include skeet shooting, kayaking, and mountain biking with REI. More to follow.

\*For further details, please contact the Veterans Society at [vetsoc.gmu@gmail.com](mailto:vetsoc.gmu@gmail.com).

## 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. ROTC functions are largely cadet controlled from planning to execution and instructors provide input.

703.993.2706  
goldbar@gmu.edu  
[arotc.gmu.edu](http://arotc.gmu.edu)

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

CPT Mariah Doolittle: [mdoolitt@gmu.edu](mailto:mdoolitt@gmu.edu)  
MAJ Paul Kremer: [pkremer@gmu.edu](mailto:pkremer@gmu.edu)

## Maximizing Your GI Bill Benefits

### Reimbursement for National Tests

Students using the GI Bill may be eligible for reimbursement for national tests. The VA will reimburse for the following fees:

- Registration fees
- Fees for specialized tests
- Administrative fees

Fees the VA will not reimburse:

- Fees to take pre-tests (such as Kaplan tests)
- Fees to receive scores quickly
- Other costs or fees for optional items

Currently, the following tests are approved for reimbursement:

- SAT, LSAT, GRE, GMAT, AP, CLEP, ACT, DAT, MAT, MCAT, OAT, PCAT, TOEFL, DSST, ECE

To apply for reimbursement submit a VA Form 22-0810 to the Buffalo Regional Office or through the "Submit a Question" feature on the VA's website.

\*If you are using the Post 9/11 GI Bill you will be charged one month of benefits for each test taken or for every \$1,460 reimbursed, whichever is less. Any other GI Bill is charged proportionate to the cost of the test compared to the full-time monthly payment.

## This Month in Military History

### August 4, 1914

#### **A Declaration of War**

Great Britain declares war on Germany after they invade Belgium, whose neutrality had been guaranteed in the Treaty of London of 1839. Great Britain, France, Russia, and Serbia are now at war with Germany and Austria-Hungary.

### August 23, 1939

#### **'Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact'**

Germany and the Soviet Union sign a non-aggression treaty, the "Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact". The treaty ensures Soviet acquiescence to Germany's planned invasion of Poland. With this last hurdle out of the way, Nazi Germany prepares to fire the opening guns of World War II.

### August 25, 1944

#### **Liberation of Paris**

After a vicious two-day popular uprising sparked by the approach of Allied forces, Paris is finally liberated from four years of German occupation when the French 2nd Armored Division enters the city. Most Allied units in pursuit of the retreating Germans go around the city to avoid thoroughfares jammed with jubilant Parisians.



Germany and Russia Sign Pact



D-Day Invasion

# RESOURCES

## Off Campus

**GI Bill:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 800.827.1000

**VONAPP (Veterans Online Applications):** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 888.442.4551

**VA Application for Health Benefits:** Web: [Site](#)

**eBenefits:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 800.983.0937

**Virginia Dept. of Veterans Affairs:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 804.786.0286

**Virginia Wounded Warrior Program:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 877.285.1299

**Wounded Warrior Project:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 877.832.6997

**Veterans Crisis Line: 800.273.8255 (press 1):** Web: [Site](#) Confidential Live Chat: [click here](#)

**DAV (Disabled American Veterans):** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 877.426.2838

**American Women Veterans:** Web: [Site](#) Email: [info@americanwomenveterans.org](mailto:info@americanwomenveterans.org)

**Veterans Job Bank:** Web: [Site](#)

## On Campus

**Office of Military Services:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.1316 Email: [military@gmu.edu](mailto:military@gmu.edu)

**Clinic for Legal Assistance to Service Members:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.8214 Email: [clasv@mail.gmu.edu](mailto:clasv@mail.gmu.edu)

**Disability Services:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2474 TTY: 703.993.2476 Email: [ods@gmu.edu](mailto:ods@gmu.edu)

**Counseling and Psychological Services:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2380 Email: [mvaneppe@gmu.edu](mailto:mvaneppe@gmu.edu)  
Contact: Morgan Cutlip

**Certifying GI Bill Benefits:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2428 Email: [military@gmu.edu](mailto:military@gmu.edu)

**Battle Buddies Program:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2428 Email: [aemery4@gmu.edu](mailto:aemery4@gmu.edu) Contact: Aaron Emery

**Admissions:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: Email: [military@gmu.edu](mailto:military@gmu.edu) Contact: Office of Military Services

**Veterans Career Counselor:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.4024 Email: [lwinkler@gmu.edu](mailto:lwinkler@gmu.edu) Contact: Laura Winkler

**ROTC:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2706 Email: [goldbar@gmu.edu](mailto:goldbar@gmu.edu)

**Tutoring:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2999

**Student Accounts:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2484 Email: [student\\_accounts@gmu.edu](mailto:student_accounts@gmu.edu)

**Third Party Billing:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2484 Email: [student\\_accounts@gmu.edu](mailto:student_accounts@gmu.edu)

**Financial Aid:** Web: [Site](#) Phone: 703.993.2353

