So many of our fallen service members are buried in Normandy, France, and I have always been curious as to why. This summer, I decided to follow my passion to finally visit Normandy. And on Saturday, August 5, 2017 I had the opportunity to go on an all-day D-Day tour, which began at the La Cambe, German Cemetery, then continued onto Sainte-Mère-Église and the Airborne Museum. The church above is called Sainte-Meré-Église, and the blue stained glass window below the village chapel depicts the landing of the paratroopers who played such a vital role in WWII.

Over seven decades ago men and women from across the globe put on the uniform of this country for our freedom. And since the dawn of WWII in 1944, the GI Bill was created to support veterans. This trip to Normandy reminded me how much the GI Bill has evolved since its creation, and just how much our University system has to offer. I urge you to follow your professional and academic interests, and to utilize CUNY’s focused support and developed services that help ensure post-graduation career success for our fellow veterans.
Veterans in Normandy

In the early morning of 6 June 1944, D Day began on the shores of Normandy with the largest seaborne mission to date. Over 150,000 men as well as mixed units of the U.S. 82nd Airborne and U.S. 101st Airborne Divisions occupied the town Sainte-Mère-Église, giving it the claim to be one of the first towns liberated in the invasion.

During my visit I found out more ably how women contributed to the war efforts. My French guide told me of the 6888th Central Postal Battalion was made up of 855 enlisted African American women. There are only four women buried there and three of four are from the 6888 Battalion.

Graduate School 101 Information Session:

Join this information session to get an insider’s perspective from a graduate admissions professional on the different degree options, the graduate admission and application process, as well as what to expect in the graduate programs.

Date:    September 6, 2017          Time:    6:00 PM — 7:15 PM
College:  The University          Address:  217 East 42nd St. Manhattan, NY 10017
Phone:   646-664-3550            Admission: Free
The President signed into law the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act also known as the “Forever GI Bill,” which will bring significant changes to Veterans education benefits. The law is named after the American Legion national commander who wrote the original GI Bill language in 1944, and will allow more Veterans to use the GI Bill and more time to use it. Some of the changes will go into effect immediately, and some are written to go into effect shortly after.

Some new provisions that go into effect immediately include:

- The 15-year time limitation for using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits is eliminated for Veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013, and qualifying dependents (Fry children who became eligible on or after January 1, 2013 and all Fry spouses).
- Reservists who had eligibility under the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) and lost it due to the program sunset provision will have that service credited toward the Post-9/11 GI Bill program.
- Certain work-study is permanently authorized; previously it had to be re-approved by Congress every few years.
- The VetSuccess on Campus program will be available to students across the country. VA will help Veterans to more clearly identify schools that offer them priority enrollment.

To read more about this miraculous feat, please visit the VA.Gov site and click on Education and Training.

Ricardo Garcia, United States Army
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

I am Ricardo Garcia and I served 23 years in the US Army. I received my Bachelor of Arts from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in Fall 2016; majoring in Political Science with a minor in History. My decision to study at CUNY was a direct result of my transition experience from US Army and Army National Guard deployments to civilian life. After the 9/11 World Trade Center Attacks I was called for numerous military and state side deployments. Upon completing my last military operation, I decided that I wanted to refocus my energy on my education. After touring the John Jay campus I learned there was a large population of student veterans taking classes. Because of this I was motivated to socially and academically entrench myself in the John Jay College community. John Jay offered a welcoming environment for service members, veterans and their families. Their unwavering support for all students solidified my decision to attend John Jay.

Upon enrolling I learned so much from the wonderful faculty, staff and administrators at the college. Equally amazing was the commitment and support that John Jay students had for one another. Throughout my years at the college I made great connections and received assistance in resolving any, and, every issue, whether it was academic or personal. To me this serves as a testament to the fortitude of the people who worked and attended the institution. The ability to obtain a phenomenal education and secure my academic advancement was just the icing on the cake. From college President, Mr. Jeremy Travis, to the custodial staff each and every one of these individuals contributed somehow directly towards my education in and outside of the classroom.

As a result of the support I received from the faculty, the students, and the staff at John Jay I decided to continue on pursuing my academic goals after completing my Bachelors. The support and confidence that they gave inspired me to pursue my Jurist Doctorate. Furthermore, because CUNY was so good to me I am making every conscious effort to attend the CUNY School of Law in 2018. Currently I have been practicing for the LSAT Exam and I have sought professors at the college to assist me in ascertaining law school admissions. My final goal is to make my way into politics so that I may represent the amazing citizens of the great New York City/State. My career goal is a direct result of the rigorous yet fulfilling education offered at John Jay as well as the guidance and push towards excellence that I received from my professors. I would not be where I am today if it were not for the CUNY and John Jay veterans community and I am extremely grateful and humbled. My advice for future veterans is,

“Drive on Soldier until the mission is accomplished! Get Moving!”
CUNY Central Office of Veteran Affairs (COVA)

#VETERANSOFCUNY

COVA would like to invite you to participate in the new #veteransofCUNY initiative which aims to highlight the amazing veterans across the university, both professional and student.

Please see reverse side for details.
veterans who wish to be featured should submit the following info to: veterans@cuny.edu

Branch of Service

CUNY Campus & Graduation Date

Degrees/Certificates Already Earned

What influenced your decision to come to CUNY?

Employment/Educational Goals

Challenges faced during transition from Service Member to Scholar

Advice for Future Veterans

Personal Photo (Uniform or on Campus Location)
JOBS FOR VETERANS!

NEW YORK HILTON MIDTOWN

Thursday, September 14, 2017
11:00 am – 3:00 pm
1335 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10019

A FREE HIRING EVENT
FOR VETERANS, TRANSITIONING MILITARY PERSONNEL,
NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS, RESERVE MEMBERS AND SPOUSES

COMPANIES ARE HIRING!

Job Opportunities • Continuing Education Opportunities • Business Ownership Opportunities

REGISTER NOW!
• Follow us on @RecruitMilitary / Facebook

For more details, visit RecruitMilitary.com/NewYork

FALL 2017. COVA Newsletter
5th Annual Veterans’ Academic Awards Breakfast

Honor and Service

Monday November 6, 2017

CUNY Graduate Center

9:30 - 11:00 A.M

Minimum requirements: 3.5 GPA
40 credits for Community College Veterans and 90 credit from Senior College Veterans

2017 Veteran Professional Networking/Resource Fair will follow immediately after which will be open to all CUNY veterans, reservists, active duty, or spouse.

365 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10016

SUMMER 2017, COVA Newsletter
Central Office of Veteran Affairs

VETERAN

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING & RESOURCE FAIR

Monday, November 6, 2017
12 PM-3 PM
CUNY Graduate Center
365 5th Avenue New York, NY 10016

Open to all CUNY student veterans!
Refreshments will be served

FALL 2017. COVA Newsletter
American Corporate Partners (ACP) offers student veterans the opportunity to be mentored by successful professionals from Fortune 500 Companies, such as Bloomberg, Deloitte, The Home Depot, Intel, Raytheon, UPS and many others - at their own pace and at no financial cost.

Experienced business leaders can offer targeted guidance for veterans looking to get their foot in the door in the business world. For example, Mentors can help a student veteran with any of the following:

- Clarifying career goals and creating a tailored action plan
- Developing professional communication skills for more effective networking and social media presence
- Improving résumé and interview skills
- Gaining industry insight and perspectives on advancement

Visit www.acp-usa.org/mentoring to request a Mentor in your career field. Please note that you were referred by City University of New York on your application. If you have questions, please email Joshuah Chrisman at jchrisman@acp-usa.org or give us a call at (212) 752-0700.
Meet the CUNY Welcome Center’s (CWC) Veterans’ Admissions Team

Welcome from Admissions!

The CUNY Welcome Center's Veterans Admissions Team is dedicated to assisting service members and their families with CUNY's Undergraduate Application. Services include:

- **Inquiries & Guidance** – The team responds to veteran inquiries by phone, email, or in-person consultations, and provides information about CUNY's resources, programs, and application process.

- **Veterans Application Fee Waivers** - Fee waivers can be issued by the team to veterans who submitted a Freshman and Transfer Undergraduate application. To request a waiver, veterans should email proof of military service to vetwaiver@cuny.edu. Fee waivers can only be issued for those who have served and are non-transferrable.

- **Application Assistance** - Veterans can submit their application documents directly to members of the team to foster a smooth application process. The team also expedites the processing of veteran applications whenever possible.

- **Letters of Eligibility** - These letters are issued to active duty service members to help initiate their separation/preparation process (they are issued on a case by case basis).

- **Assisting Campuses** - We work with CUNY's Campus Veterans Coordinators to provide them with additional information about their veteran population.

- **ROTC** - E-permits for ROTC courses are processed through the assistance of the Veterans Admissions Team.

Pictured (left to right): Veterans Admissions Team, including Geily Quinones, Peter Engel, Kevin Hill, and Tina Zucchetto.
### Quick reference guide on how veterans apply to CUNY

**STEP 1:** Apply Online – Prospective students should submit a freshman or transfer application online at [www.cuny.edu/apply](http://www.cuny.edu/apply). On the application fee page, veterans should select the “Pay Later” option.

**STEP 2:** Obtain Fee Waiver – Veterans can email vetwaiver@cuny.edu to request an application fee waiver. They should at least provide name, application control number, and date of birth. Proof of military service must be attached to the email and can include copies of one of the following items:
- DD214 (Certificate of Release of Discharge from Active Duty)
- Pre-separation orders
- Other military-issued paperwork

**STEP 3:** Send Supporting Documents – Official transcripts and other supporting documents should be sent directly to the University Application Processing Center (UAPC).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Mail</th>
<th>General Freshman Admission</th>
<th>General Transfer Admission</th>
<th>Macaulay Honors College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CUNY/UAPC</td>
<td>CUNY/UAPC</td>
<td>CUNY/UAPC</td>
<td>CUNY/UAPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 350-136</td>
<td>P.O. Box 359023</td>
<td>P.O. Box 359021</td>
<td>Brooklyn, NY 11235-0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn, NY 11235-0001</td>
<td>Brooklyn, NY 11235-9023</td>
<td>Brooklyn, NY 11235-0001</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Overnight/Express Shipping (DHL, Fedex, etc.)**

CUNY/UAPC

2001 Oriental Blvd., Building T-1, Room 122

Brooklyn, NY 11235

**STEP 4:** Request the JST – Veterans should also send their Joint Services Transcript (JST), which is the transcript of their military courses, to UAPC using the following websites:

- **Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard:** [https://jst.doded.mil/official.html](https://jst.doded.mil/official.html)
  1. Create an account and sign-in.
  2. Click “Transcript,” then “Official Transcript Request.”
  3. Choose to submit the JST to City University of New York (Processing Center) and to any individual CUNY college(s) of your choice.


*Note: This transcript will not affect the admissions decision. The amount of military credits that can transfer to CUNY varies by college. After the veteran is accepted to a college, the campus’ Admissions Office will determine the number of transfer credits each student can receive, including credits for military courses.*
Dear Veteran,

CUNY has approved the review of military credentials to award transfer credit for military service. If you would like your military experience to be evaluated for academic credit and/or to illustrate your work experience on your resume, follow the steps listed below.

**Step 1:** Create an account for your military transcript via the following websites:
- Army, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard: [https://jst.doded.mil/official.html](https://jst.doded.mil/official.html)

**Step 2:** Submit your transcript to CUNY UAPC (University Application Processing Center) and/or your current CUNY College.

**Step 3:** Print and save a copy of your military transcript to a USB or secure cloud.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Using JST credits for college</th>
<th>Using JST credits for employment can:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective credit</td>
<td>Showcase military occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major or Minor electives</td>
<td>Illustrate responsibilities/duties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education elective</td>
<td>Illustrate leadership and training</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you like to have a career that relates to your military occupational specialty (MOS)?

Learn what certifications and degrees match your area of expertise by using the COOL sites...

- Army: [https://www.cool.army.mil/](https://www.cool.army.mil/)
- Navy: [https://www.cool.navy.mil/uscn/](https://www.cool.navy.mil/uscn/)
Join VA Work-Study

CUNY Central Office Of Veteran Affairs

VA Work Study Program

Positions Available in the following areas:

- Veteran Mentor
- Graphic Design
- Administrative Program Assistant
- Outreach
- Research & Statistics
- Admissions Counseling

The CUNY Central Office of Veterans’ Affairs has expanded its involvement in the VA work-study program. The program allows student veterans and dependents who are receiving education benefits from the Department of Veteran Affairs to work in a veteran related office at CUNY. Participation in the VA Work-Study program provides veterans with valuable civilian work experience and additional funding for their tuition.

For more information please email veterans@cuny.edu

FALL 2017 . COVA Newsletter
How do I know if I am eligible for VA work-study program?

CUNY’s student veterans and dependents are eligible if they are CURRENTLY registered to take classes in a college degree program, a vocational program or a professional/graduate program AND receiving education benefits under one of the following chapters:

- Chapter 30: The Montgomery GI Bill
- Chapter 31: Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation Program
- Chapter 32: Veterans Educational Assistance Program
- Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill or Transfer of Entitlement
- Chapter 35: Survivors and Dependence Educational Assistance Program
- Chapter 1606: The Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve
- Chapter 1607: Reserve Educational Assistance Program

What type of work will I perform?

VA Work-Study students who are participating in the program at an Educational Institution will perform such duties as preparing and processing paperwork that would include filling out the VA Form 22-1999, Enrollment Certification and VA Form 22-1999b, Notice of Change in Student Status forms and answering veterans inquiries. The student can assist with doing monthly check-in procedures to verify the course load on veterans.

Work responsibilities will vary according to work location. Under the VA work study program student veterans have worked as peer mentors and assisted in areas related to veterans' admissions, communications/outreach, administration, social media/graphic design, research/statistics, budget/finance, and human resources amongst several others. The work you actually do will depend on your interests and the type of work available.

How much will I make?

Your hourly pay rate will be the greater of (1) the federal minimum wage OR (2) the minimum wage for the state/city in which you are working. Please visit https://www.labor.ny.gov/home/ to confirm the minimum wage for your area.

How many hours can I work?

Weekly work schedules are determined by the student and work-study supervisor. The total hours a student can work in one semester is given by the Buffalo VA Regional Office: Work-Study Department. The hours are based on 25 hours per weeks of enrollment.

Where do I sign up?

Contact the veteran coordinator on your campus for more information or send an email to veterans@cuny.edu
The CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs is dedicated to fostering a sense of community and to developing a channel of communication among veteran and reservist students, and with faculty, staff and administration. Below is a complete list of campus veteran representatives.

**Community Colleges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borough of Manhattan Community College</td>
<td>Wilfred Cotto, Veteran Services Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>199 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>212-220-5363; <a href="mailto:wcotto@bmcc.cuny.edu">wcotto@bmcc.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronx Community College</td>
<td>Betsy C. Montanez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coordinator of Veterans and Military Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2155 University Avenue, Loew Hall Room 114, Bronx, NY 10453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>718-289-5447; <a href="mailto:betsy.montanez@bcc.cuny.edu">betsy.montanez@bcc.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostos Community College</td>
<td>Charles Prince Uwa, Veterans Affairs Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>450 Grand Concourse, RM C-377 Bronx, NY 10451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>718-319-7955; <a href="mailto:cuwa@hostos.cuny.edu">cuwa@hostos.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsborough Community College</td>
<td>Tara Yarczower, Director/Certifying Official</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office of Military and Veteran Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2001 Oriental Blvd Brooklyn, NY 11235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>718-368-5978; <a href="mailto:tara.yarczower@kbcc.cuny.edu">tara.yarczower@kbcc.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaGuardia Community College</td>
<td>Stephen Clark, M.A., Veteran Services Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31-10 Thomson Avenueue Building C, RM 371-D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long Island City NY, 11101</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>718-730-7590; <a href="mailto:sclark@lagcc.cuny.edu">sclark@lagcc.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensborough Community College</td>
<td>Director of Military and Veterans Services/Certifying Official</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>222-05 56th Ave RM L421 Bayside, NY 11364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>718-281-5767; <a href="mailto:amcdonald@qc.cuny.edu">amcdonald@qc.cuny.edu</a></td>
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**Senior Colleges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baruch College</td>
<td>John Seto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterans Affairs Certifying Official</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>151 E 25th St RM 850 New York, NY 10010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>646-312-1264; <a href="mailto:john.seto@baruch.cuny.edu">john.seto@baruch.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn College</td>
<td>Claudette Guinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coordinator of Veterans Affairs/Certifying Official</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2900 Bedford Avenue James Hall 1407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brooklyn, NY 11210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>718-951-5105; <a href="mailto:cguinn@brooklyn.cuny.edu">cguinn@brooklyn.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City College</td>
<td>Christopher Gorman, Director of Veterans Affairs/Certifying Official</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>160 Convent Ave, Wingate Hall, RM 107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a complete list of CUNY honors and professional schools veteran representatives please visit cuny.edu/veterans
Veteran Resources

VA MEDICAL CENTERS

Bronx VA Medical Center
130 West Kingsbridge Road
Bronx, NY 10468;
(718) 584-9000

NY Div VA Medical Center
423 East 23rd St
New York, NY 10010;
(212) 686-7500

BK Poly Pl Campus
VA Medical Center
800 Poly Place
Brooklyn, NY 11209;
(718) 836-6600

St. Albans Extended Care Center
17901 Linden Blvd
Jamaica, NY 11434;
(718) 526-1000

VA Harlem Care Center
55 West 125th St.
New York, NY 10027
(646) 273-8125

Thomas P. Noonan Jr. Clinic
47-01 Queens Blvd
Sunnyside, NY 11104

Staten Island Health Care Center
21 Water Street
Staten Island, NY 10304
(718) 761-2973

White Plains VHA Clinic
23 South Broadway
White Plains, NY 10601
(914)-421-1951

Yonkers VHA Clinic
124 New Main St
Yonkers, NY 10701
(914) 375-8055x4400

VET CENTERS

Bronx Vet Center
2471 Morris Ave Suite 1A
Bronx, NY 10468
(718) 367-3500

Brooklyn Vet Center
25 Chapel Street Suite 604
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 624-2765

Harlem Vet Center
2279 3rd Ave 2nd FL
New York, NY 10035
(212) 426-2200

Manhattan Vet Center
32 Broadway 2nd FL, Suite 200
New York, NY 10004
(212) 742-9591

Queens Vet Center
75-10B 91 Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421
(718) 296-2871

Staten Island Vet Center
60 Bay Street
Staten Island, NY 10301
(718) 816-4499

White Plains Vet Center
300 Hamilton Ave Suite C
White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 682-6250

Websites

eBenefits........................................................................................................................................www.eBenefits.va.gov
Education Benefits ..........................................................................................................................www.benefits.va.gov/gibill
Health Care Eligibility .....................................................................................................................www.va.gov/healthbenefits
Homeless Veterans ..........................................................................................................................www.va.gov/homeless
Mental Health ....................................................................................................................................www.mentalhealth.va.gov
Records ........................................................................................................................................www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel
Women Veterans .............................................................................................................................www.va.gov/womenvet
VA Benefit Payment Rates ...........................................................................................................www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/rates
VA Forms ..........................................................................................................................................www.va.gov/vaforms