

Veterans Affairs Newsletter

Norfolk State University ■ Office of Veterans Affairs ■ Norfolk, Virginia 23504

The Latest News from the VA

Veterans and veteran dependents who are eligible for benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Can obtain financial and support services from the campus Veterans Affairs Office (VAO). The VAO certifies and monitors attendance of students receiving educational benefits from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), notifying the VA of student enrollment.

Enrollment Changes: Students are responsible for ensuring the school is aware of their enrollment, and any subsequent changes in their schedule. The University's VA Certifying Official will report such change promptly and the student's benefits will be adjusted by the VA. It normally takes three to six weeks for any changes in course work, dependent status, or address change to be reflected in your benefits check.

Enrollment Verification: Students receiving the Mont-



NSU students review veterans educational benefit information in the Office of Veterans Affairs. Pictured (l to r) are: Dominique Fulgeon, sophomore Biology Pre-Med major; DeShaonia Collins, sophomore Social Work major; and Tara Askew, sophomore Sociology major.

gomery GI Bill Active Duty Selective Reserve-Chapter 30, National Guard/ Reserves-Chapter 1606, and New Reserve REAP-Chapter 1607 are required to verify monthly their enrollment to the VA. Instructions for Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (W.A.V.E.) can be obtained at the following Website www.gibill.va.gov. Students receiving the Post-9/11 GI Bill

are not required to call in monthly enrollment attendance. **Continued Eligibility:** Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress in accordance with NSU academic standards. The NSU VA Certifying Official is required to report unsatisfactory progress if your cumulative GPA falls below the required level.

VA EDUCATION BENEFITS INCREASE

Education rates for the Montgomery G.I. Bill increased on October 1, 2010. This annual rate increase is an automatic provision and occurs on the first of October each year, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the annual inflation rate. The new basic monthly rates for full-time students receiving the Montgomery G.I. Bill are listed in the table on page 2.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) began issuing housing allowance checks at the 2010 rate on

September 1st. All files were updated by the October housing payment. If you have not received the new housing allowance rate, contact the VA at 1-888-442-4551. Students who chose to contribute additional money to receive expanded GI Bill benefits can expect their increased monthly benefits to begin the semester after they have made full payment (continued on page 2, **Payment Rates**)

Need a Tutor?

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) may cover tutoring costs if the course that you need tutoring is necessary for the completion of your approved program. You must be enrolled at least half-time and be a recipient of Chapter 30, 33, 35, 1606, or 1607. The VA will pay up to \$100 per month for your tutorial assistance up to a maximum of \$1,200. If you would like to take advantage of this program, stop by the campus Veterans Affairs Office for more information.

Remember also that the University provides free tutorial services. Contact the ACCESS (Academy for Collegiate Excellence and Student Success) Program at 823-8507 or e-mail access@nsu.edu for more information.

Scholarship Opportunities

Veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and/or Iraqi Freedom have the opportunity to win \$2,500 scholarships. Click on the scholarship link at the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Website: <http://www.afcea.org>

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(continued from VA EDUCATION BENEFITS INCREASE, page 1)

Basic Monthly Rates for Montgomery GI Bill Educational Assistance Allowance Effective October 1, 2010

VA Program	Full-Time	Three-Quarter Time	Half-Time	< Half Time or One-Quarter Time
Veteran, Active Duty—Chapter 30 (3 or more years)	\$1,426.00	\$1,069.50	\$713.00	\$356.50
Reserve —REAP Chapter 1607 (consecutive service 2 + years)	\$1,140.80	\$855.60	\$570.40	\$285.20
Selected Reserve - Chapter 1606	\$337.00	\$252.00	\$167.00	\$84.25
Survivors and Dependents - Chapter 35	\$936.00	\$702.00	\$466.00	\$234.00
Vocational Rehabilitation & Education Subsidence Allowance—Chapter 31 (No dependents)	\$547.54	\$411.41	\$275.28	-

**NSU FALL CAREER FAIR: October 14, 2010
10:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m. New Student Center**

Five Steps a Veteran Should Consider When Attending a Job Fair

1. Pre-register if available/arrive 15 minutes early.
2. Bring Resume, DD-214, award letters and certificates/a form of identification and Social Security card.
3. Be neat in appearance, business attire/shoes clean and polished.
4. Bring a note pad and pen to take important information and tips.
5. Present yourself with confidence and assurance.

(Submitted by: Anthony Howard, NSU veteran student participant at the Homeland Security Job Fair held on September 25, 2010, Virginia Beach Convention Center)



NSU VETERANS CLUB UPDATE



Prior to the end of the 2010 spring semester, the NSU Veterans Club co-sponsored a cook-out for the VetsHouse residents. Vice-President Morian Shaw presented a donation of bus passes for the residents to Mr. Willard Smith, Executive Director of Vetshouse, Inc. The Veterans Club also presented donations of food items collected on campus during the spring food drive held for veterans.

The first Veterans Club meeting for the school year was held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010. The newly elected officers are listed below. The next meeting of the Veterans Club will be held on **Tuesday, October 12, 2010, at Room 301 Lyman Beecher Brooks Library**. All students are invited to join the Veterans Club. For more information contact **Warren White** at w.m.white@spartans.nsu.edu



Pictured above: #1—NSU Veterans Club members enjoying the cookout for the VetsHouse residents; Woodrow Tabb, Club Advisor; Willard Smith, VetsHouse executive director; and other Veteran Community supporters; #2—Vice-President Morian Shaw presents a donation of bus passes to Mr. Smith for use by the VetsHouse residents; #3—Courtney Brown, Veterans Club treasurer, delivers donations of food items collected for the VetsHouse residents.

**CONGRATULATIONS
2010-2011 VETERANS CLUB OFFICERS**

- President—**Warren White**
- Vice President—**Juanita Mallard**
- Secretary—**Steffanie Tanner**
- Treasurer—**Richard Manago**
- Event Coordinators—**Shantell Curtis, Chris Scott**
- Social/Welcoming Committee—**Yasmine Charles, Jahaida Villegas**
- Parliamentarian—**Chrishshun Boodie**