

## STATISTICS ABOUT VETERANS IN SCHOOL

**1.1 million** veterans enrolled in college, as of the 2001-2002 school year\*

**25%** of veterans 25 years and over with at least a bachelor's degree in 2005\*

**\$25,076** Annual difference in income between a high school diploma and a bachelor's degree in 2005†

**\$36,638** Annual difference in income between a high school diploma and a graduate degree in 2005‡

**58.8%** of veterans complete some degree or training beyond a high school diploma ‡

### Why not more? Why not you?



**Take Charge of Your Future!**

Visit [www.veteransociety.org](http://www.veteransociety.org)

\* U.S. Census Bureau, *2005 American Community Survey*

† U.S. Census Bureau, *Income and educational achievement 2005*

‡ V.A. Administration, *National Survey of Veterans: 2001*

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE OFFER

The Veterans Society of William and Mary is a group of veterans from all branches of the armed services who would like to see more veterans attending college and going on to make a difference in the world.

Have you been out of school for years?

Were your high school grades low?

Have you never taken the SAT?

Are you worried that you can't make it in an academic environment because you have been out of school for years and think that your basic math, English, and other skills are not good enough?

## WE HAVE BEEN IN YOUR SHOES AND CAN HELP

- Your success at a university is not determined by your high school performance, age, how long you have been out of school, or even whether you have taken an SAT.
- We offer a support and information network designed by veterans for veterans.
- We will guide you through the steps required to plan and organize your successful college education and prepare you for a great future.
- We also provide support for veterans in college with career advice, networking, and for those who chose to transfer to another college.

**The Veterans Society of  
The College of William and Mary  
CSU 6021  
PO Box 8793  
Williamsburg, VA 23186-6021**

[www.veteransociety.org](http://www.veteransociety.org)

## Transitioning from the Military to the College Campus



**A guide for Soldiers, Sailors,  
Airmen and Marines**

**by Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and  
Marines**



**As in combat, experience matters**

[www.veteransociety.org](http://www.veteransociety.org)

## WHY GO TO SCHOOL?

### THE BENEFITS OF EDUCATION

- There is nothing wrong with blue-collar work. There are many jobs available without a degree, but not many careers outside of the military.
- College is the ticket to a rewarding career and a secure future.
- You will make connections for future career opportunities.
- You will have the opportunity to live and study around the world, meet new people, experience college life, and discover global career opportunities.

### YOU HAVE A UNIQUE ADVANTAGE

- Discipline, work ethic, and time management skills are the keys to success in any college; not high school grades!
- You have professional work experience that gives you an advantage over other students.
- Your real world experience gives you a unique perspective.
- Many veterans outperform their classmates.



"I came from a working-class family and never expected to go to college. I coasted through high school and joined the military to see what it had to offer. After I completed my tour I wasn't sure if I could make it in college. I found that the time I spent in the military put me at an advantage. I was more disciplined and focused than the students fresh out of high school. Now I'm about to graduate from one of the best schools in the country."

- David Esteves, Veterans Society Member

## HOW YOU'LL GET IN

### CHOOSING A SCHOOL

- Make sure the school has federal accreditation.
- Visit the websites of schools that you're interested in and search the internet to see what others have to say about them.

### CONSIDER A COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- It may be best to start at a community college and then transfer to the university of your choice.
- Community colleges are designed for older adults and those looking to transfer to a four-year college.
- Community colleges are great because they introduce veterans to an academic environment and give them an opportunity to brush up on basic skills.

### ADMISSION

- The admission process varies from school to school. You will need transcripts from other educational institutions such as high school and from any on or off base educational programs.
- Attend refresher courses in English, writing, and math offered on base or at a community college. You can even order study guides.
- Ask for letters of recommendation from people familiar with your work habits. This includes teachers, commanding officers, or work supervisors.

Go to [www.veteransociety.org](http://www.veteransociety.org) for more info. We will help you through the entire process

### BEWARE OF

- Schools that offer a bachelor's degree in two years, credit based on "experience," correspondence courses, and certain online universities. Many universities won't accept their credit.
- If it seems too good to be true then it probably is. Research any school before enrolling.

"Over the years I have been privileged to teach many veterans and always enjoyed having them in class. They have all been excellent students – focused, determined, and wiser to the ways of the world."

- Jim Griffin, Professor Emeritus,  
The College of William and Mary

## HOW YOU'LL STAY IN

### PAYING FOR COLLEGE

- **GI BILL** With the kicker, up to \$44,000.
- **GRANTS** Money provided by state and private institutions.
- **SCHOLARSHIPS** Money provided by private groups.
- **STUDENT LOANS** Subsidized loans are interest free and no payments are due until after you graduate.



### FROM GARRISON TO CAMPUS

- You belong in college because of your experience.
- The discipline and work ethic you possess are the keys to academic success.
- Students with a year or more of real world experience after high school often perform better in college.
- Many organizations within and outside the government are eager to employ experienced veterans. At this time, there aren't enough veterans with the required educational background to fill the need.

[www.veteransociety.org](http://www.veteransociety.org)

"The Admission Committee looks for students who contribute in meaningful ways to classroom discussions and to campus life. Students with military backgrounds bring a unique perspective to William and Mary and are viewed positively in our admission process."

- Henry Broaddus, Dean of Admission,  
The College of William and Mary