The Michigan State University (MSU) Student Veterans Information Portal (http://veterans.vps.msu.edu) serves as a virtual “one-stop” for veterans, service members, and their families to learn about resources and services that will support their success. In addition, MSU’s Veteran’s Resource Team, comprised of individuals from administrative offices who serve as the primary contact for student veteran’s resources and services, meets quarterly, or as needed, to discuss and explore opportunities for improved services. MSU has been named a Military Friendly Institution by GI Jobs Magazine and has been recognized as a top college in Michigan for Future Servicemembers within the College Database.

This document provides an overview of the resources and services available to student veterans at MSU. Many services are provided at the point-of-service (e.g. Office of the Registrar, Office of Financial Aid, Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, etc.).

Admissions
http://admissions.msu.edu

The veteran’s liaison in the Office of Admissions, Michael Kolar, Assistant Director, participates in orientation programs supported by various branches of the armed services and communicates regularly with veteran support services across campus in relation to processing veteran applications. The admissions process for veterans, which is the same for all students, is a holistic review. This process includes consideration of the applicant’s overall academic preparation, life experiences reflected in the individual’s personal statement, special talents and/or skills the applicant brings to the institution, and what MSU can provide the student in terms of opportunity.

Certification and Records
www.reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/VeteranInfo.asp

The Office of the Registrar provides the following services:

- Assists students with completing the paperwork required for GI Bill benefits.
- Certifies students’ enrollment in compliance with Veteran Affairs Regulations.
- Serves as MSU’s primary point of contact for veteran’s services.
- Coordinates payment arrangements for students with the Controller’s Office.
- Processes appeals for in-state tuition classification in accordance with University policy.
Consortium of Michigan Veteran Educators
http://global.cmich.edu/CMVE

Michigan State University is a member of the Consortium of Michigan Veteran Educators. The consortium is a state-wide network comprised of twenty-eight community colleges and the fifteen four-year public universities. Its mission is to improve the support and services available to student veterans and their family members, to increase the number of individuals who take advantage of their educational benefits, and to provide staff with professional development opportunities to better support student veterans.

Department of Defense (DoD) Memorandum of Understanding

MSU’s application for participation to the DoD Voluntary Education Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was approved September 9, 2014 and the agreement is effective for five (5) years. In accordance with the MOU, eligible servicemembers at MSU may receive funds from the DoD Tuition Assistance (TA) Program and servicemembers are afforded with certain educational protections. Additional information is available from the DoD MOU Summary Page.

Department of Defense Military Academic Advancement Program (MAAP)
http://www.hsidea.org/maap/

MSU is a member of the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GPIDEA). GPIDEA participates in the Military Academic Advancement Program (MAAP), a collaboration initiated with funding from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Defense. The MAAP is a post-secondary distance education collaboration offering inter-institutional degree programs in human sciences.

The MAAP provides education for careers on and around military bases that fit the professional development of military spouses, dependents, and civilian professionals serving the military. The degree and certificate programs offered via the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance are totally online. MSU is offering programs in youth development. Additional programs are being planned.

Financial Aid
http://finaid.msu.edu/veterans.asp

MSU offers institutional financial aid programs designed specifically for veterans. The MSU Disabled Veteran’s Assistance Program provides veterans with service-related disabilities a financial aid package, covering the full cost of attendance with gift assistance and work. If a student’s disability precludes employment in student employment positions, then this component is replaced with additional MSU gift assistance.
The Yellow Ribbon Program is available to students using the Post-9/11 GI Bill and uses a 50/50 matching grant from the Veteran’s Administration and MSU to cover the non-resident portion of tuition.

**In-State Fee Classification**

[www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Text.asp?Section=112#s460](http://www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Text.asp?Section=112#s460)

The Office of the Registrar processes requests for in-state tuition classification in accordance with university policy:

A student, the spouse of a student, or the parent of a dependent student who:

1. is serving on active duty in the United States Uniformed Services;
2. is serving in the guard or reserves in one of those reserve components; or
3. has received an honorable discharge from one of those Services or reserve components.

**MSU Course (UGS 101) – Freshmen Seminar Military Transitions in Society**

[http://schedule.msu.edu](http://schedule.msu.edu)

This seminar is designed to help student veterans, active duty military, and their family members become academically and personally successful while examining transitions from military life to civilian life and studying the history of veterans in the United States. Issues discussed in class pertain to servicemembers such as the transition from military to college life and personal growth. Students are expected to explore their view of human nature as it relates to change, as well as their personal values and experiences related to the transition from military to civilian life.

**MSU Student Veterans of America**

[www.msu.edu/~msusva/MSU_Student_Veterans_of_America/Home/Home.html](http://www.msu.edu/~msusva/MSU_Student_Veterans_of_America/Home/Home.html)

MSU hosts a student veteran’s association chapter. This non-partisan, registered student organization is committed to providing a welcoming atmosphere for veterans.

**Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)**

[www.rcpd.msu.edu/programs/veterans](http://www.rcpd.msu.edu/programs/veterans)

The Disabled Veterans Assistance Program (DVAP) provides veterans with service-related disabilities with a financial aid package void of loan obligations. Each year, veterans with a service-related disability are eligible to receive an individualized needs assessment and support in accessing the DVAP.

To provide the best support possible for veterans, the RCPD combines staff interest, donor support, and community networks. Key activities include:

- The RCPD, in conjunction with other campus departments, hosted annual welcome receptions for student veterans, service members, and their families. The reception honored those who have served or are currently
serving in the military, and connects students with key resources available to them at MSU.

- The “Veterans with Disabilities” webpage (www.rcpd.msu.edu/programs/veterans) provides information about resources available to students, faculty, and staff with a service-related disability. Team RCPD assists veterans with identifying and registering any disabilities, with the goal of achieving full-campus participation.

- RCPD allocated office space for use by the Student Veterans Association (SVA) to provide members with a common meeting place and access to RCPD resources.

- In June 2009, the RCPD hosted the regional DVAP Summit to assemble and introduce likely partners, establish mutual understanding of MSU’s new aid package, build a cross-organizational network of supports, gain an understanding of challenges and opportunities faced by veterans, identify potential gaps in services or other issues that may represent unmet needs, and understand differences in disability standards, documentation and reporting.

- In November 2009, RCPD hosted a Student Veterans Forum with a focus on identifying ways to improve services for veterans and servicemembers.

**ROTC Programs**

The ROTC program offers four–year, three–year, and two–year scholarships to qualified students. An Army ROTC scholarship can provide all or most of the tuition and fees at Michigan State University. The scholarship also provides an allowance for text books. Scholarship students also receive a monthly allowance for up to ten months per year ranging from $300 to $500. Selected students participating in the ROTC program may attend Airborne, Air Assault, Jungle Expert, Master Fitness, or Northern Warfare training.

Additionally, selected students are offered the opportunity to participate in a three-week Cultural Awareness program, Cadet Troop Leadership Training and spend three weeks performing the duties of an officer at an Army installation. Non–scholarship students in the Advanced Course may elect to serve as officer trainees in local National Guard and Army Reserve units, thereby receiving additional training, experience, and financial support while attending college.

**Tuition Assistance**

[http://ctlr.msu.edu/COStudentAccounts/ebillQuestions.aspx#Pmt16](http://ctlr.msu.edu/COStudentAccounts/ebillQuestions.aspx#Pmt16)

MSU accepts letters of sponsorship for all military personnel, including Tuition Assistance awards for active duty military servicemembers. Sponsorship authorizations should be forwarded to the Student Accounts-Fees/Sponsored Aid/Fellowships Office, Hannah Administration Building, 426 Auditorium Road, Room 140.

As a member of the Principles of Excellence Program, MSU is committed to making a good-faith effort to:

- “Provide students with a personalized form covering the total cost of an education program.
- Provide educational plans for all Military and Veteran education beneficiaries.
- End fraudulent and aggressive recruiting techniques and misrepresentation.
- Provide accommodations for Service Members and Reservists absent due to service requirements.
- Designate a Point of Contact for academic and financial advising.
- Ensure accreditation of all new programs prior to enrolling students.
- Align institutional refund policies with those under Title IV.” (www.gibill.va.gov)