

From the Director



Excitement is mounting as the Fall 2021 semester is about to begin, and we are busy preparing for the start of classes. Courses begin after 4 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 23.

During the summer, we moved to a different building on campus. We are now located in Model Hall Room 208.

In this newsletter, you will find important information about military education and training benefits and changes, National Night Out, and when the North Dakota National Guard Education Center will be on campus.

Again, please thank your/our health care providers, front-line office personal, first responders, and all those that silently and unselfishly serve, protect, and keep us safe! The Military Resource Center wants to **THANK YOU** for your long hours and daily commitment.

The Military Resource Center continues to assist our military educational benefited students and we appreciate it when you provide suggestions to improve current practices. Your suggestions have resulted in improvements in policies and guidelines allowing us to better serve your needs in our ever-changing environment, as you work to accomplish your academic goals!

Andy Heitkamp
Military Resource Center Director

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OFFICE HOURS

8 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Military Resource Center
Minot State University
500 University Ave W
Minot, ND 58707
701-858-4003 / 1-800-777-0750

MinotStateU.edu

Be seen. Be heard. Belong.

Ann's Corner

Hello, everyone!

School starts at the end of this month so remember to submit your semester worksheet ASAP! Please contact our office at 701-858-4003 if you have any questions.

Also, if you make any changes to your class schedule, please contact our office immediately. For any questions pertaining to your military benefit, please contact the VA at 1-888-442-4551.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and I will see you when classes begin.



*Ann Haider-Bougard
Veterans School Certifying Official*

Activities Attended

July

- 5 University closed, Independence Day
- 7 Presence software update
- 7 Code of Life review group
- 12 DoD updates (business office)
- 12 NDUS military GERTA workshop
- 12 VA Transitioning Services members, suicide prevention
- 13 Student Affairs book talk
- 14 VA anti-racism training
- 15 Student Affairs meeting
- 15 Village Family Center training
- 19 Student Affairs individual meeting
- 20 Marketing department meeting
- 21 MAFB Command Chief brief
- 21 University Cabinet cancelled
- 21 Behavioral intervention team meeting
- 23 VA Minority Mental Health Awareness training
- 24 MAFB strategic partnerships discussion
- 24 State fair parade
- 26 VA substance abuse training
- 27 Student Affairs book talk
- 30 North Dakota State Fair booth

Important Academic Dates

August

- 2 North Dakota National Guard Education Center on campus, details on page 4
- 16-31 Fall bookstore charging
- 23 Classes begin after 4 p.m.
- 24 First full day of class
- 26 Last day to add first 8-week classes
- 26 Last day to drop or withdraw from first 8-week classes and receive a 100% refund

September

- 1 Last day to add 16-week classes
- 1 Last day to drop or withdraw from 16-week classes and receive a 100% refund
- 6 University closed, Labor Day
- 8 Financial aid disbursement
- 8 Fall tuition due

Important US Armed Forces Dates

August – Anti-terrorism Awareness Month

- 1 Air Force Day
- 4 Coast Guard Day
- 7 Purple Heart Day
- 10 DoD Birthday
- 10 Agent Orange Awareness Day
- 14 Navajo Code Talkers Day
- 16 National Airborne Day
- 29 Marine Forces Reserve Birthday



Check out the Minot State Veterans Service Center Facebook page and give it a  to stay current with events.

www.facebook.com/MinotStateVeterans

Understanding your Certificate of Eligibility or Award Letter

Your Certificate of Eligibility (COE) and your Award Letters are two of the most important documents you get from VA about your GI Bill benefits and lay out what benefits you will receive; it's important to understand what they mean for you.

To help, the VA has created a step-by-step explanation of the common sections and pieces of information contained on both and what they mean. This is a reference you can use whenever you want to understand something on one of the documents.

[UNDERSTANDING YOUR CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY](#)

[UNDERSTANDING YOUR AWARD LETTER](#)

Rounding out changes start Aug. 1

The practice of “rounding out” provides eligible GI Bill students in their last term with the option to take additional classes to bring their course load to full time and receive a full-time monthly housing allowance.

In accordance with law, VA is only authorized to pay GI Bill benefits for classes that are part of an approved program of education and count toward completion of that approved program of education.

Beginning on Aug. 1, 2021, students can “round out” in their last term only if they are taking classes that are approved for their program of education. Classes approved for a program of education means those that can be used to satisfy the graduation requirements of the program as specified in the curriculum. Classes that have been previously completed cannot be used to round out the student's course load.

More information is available [HERE](#).

Be informed: learn about recent GI Bill updates

- [GI BILL OVERPAYMENT AND DEBT COLLECTION CHANGES](#)
- [STUDENT INFO](#)

Preparatory courses and your GI Bill

Do you need to complete a course to prepare for a required licensing or certification test?

Did you know that you can use your GI Bill to help pay for certain preparatory course?

Find out how you can get reimbursed for test fees [HERE](#).

Isakson and Roe updates

For the most recent updates to your benefits, be sure to check out this [WEBSITE](#).

North Dakota National Guard Education Center

The NDNG education center will be on the campus of Minot State University, Model Hall Room 208 on Monday, Aug. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to assist army and air National Guard servicemembers with their educational benefits such as federal tuition assistance, state tuition reimbursement, dual compensation, answer questions, and more.

Fall 2021

National Guard Education Benefits Workshops

• ArmyIgnited • State TA • GI Bill

Get expert one-on-one assistance before classes begin to ensure you maximize your education benefits and avoid costly errors!

2 August • 10 AM - 2 PM
Minot State University

Model Hall 208 building 17, Minot

4 August • 10 AM - 2 PM
Bismarck State College

NECE, Rm 253, Bismarck

5 August • 10AM - 2PM
University of Mary

Military Student Service Center
Lower level, Benedictine Center, Bismarck

11 August • 9 AM - 2 PM North
Dakota State College of Science

Haverty Hall, Rm 205, Wahpeton

12 August • 9 AM - 2:30 PM
North Dakota State University

Minard Hall, Rm 332, Fargo

18 August • 9 AM - 3 PM
University of North Dakota

McCannel Hall, Rm 170, Grand Forks



North Dakota Army National Guard
Education Office

Tel. 701-333-3071/ 701-792-4515
ng.nd.ndarng.list.j1-esos2@mail.mil
Facebook: www.facebook.com/NDNG.ED

VA benefits for burn pit exposure

Burn pits were used at several military bases to dispose of waste. You may qualify for compensation if you were exposed to burn pits during your service and have a related health condition. Join the registry to help us better understand the long-term effects of burn pit expos

To check your eligibility for the registry and complete the online questionnaire, visit the [SECURE REGISTRY PORTAL](#).

- Participation in the registry is voluntary and cannot negatively impact your [access to VA health care](#) or your [claim for compensation and benefits](#).
- You may save and submit your responses to the registry questionnaire and notes from optional medical assessment to support your VA claim if you choose.
- Completing the questionnaire can also help you proactively identify health concerns, discuss them with your health care provider, and get follow-up care.
- You can participate even if you do not recall any exposure to airborne hazards during your military service.

Did you lose your job due to COVID-19?

You may be eligible for the [Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program \(VRRAP\)](#).

Participating Veterans can receive up to 12 months of tuition and fees and a monthly housing allowance based on Post-9/11 GI Bill rates.

Learn more [HERE](#).

2021 Camp Grafton Disabled Veteran Deer Hunt

Valley City, ND- July 28, 2021 –The Barnes County Veteran Service Office in cooperation with North Dakota Department of Fish and Game would like to announce the 2021 Camp Grafton Disabled Veteran Deer Hunt for Veterans who are 50% disabled or greater. The Disabled Veteran Deer Hunt will take place on Monday, November 8th and Monday , November 15th at Camp Grafton, ND. Applications are due by October 1, 2021 and are available from any County Veteran Service Office.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a shotgun with slug only hunt, no rifles will be allowed or provided this year.



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**Tuesday, August 3
5:30-8:00 p.m.
Roosevelt Park**

Trinity Health is teaming up with the Minot Police Department, and area businesses and organizations to promote public safety and recognize those who keep our community safe.

- Free games
- Free food
- Prizes
- Inflatables
- Educational booths
- NorthStar Criticalair
- Law enforcement special equipment displays
- MAFB K9 demonstrations

Event sponsored by:



2021 Camp Grafton Deer Hunting Application
For Disabled Veterans Deer Hunt

PLEASE NOTE: THE 2021 HUNT IS SHOTGUN WITH SLUG ONLY.
SHOTGUNS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED* *NO RIFLES ALLOWED

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

VA percentage: _____

****Please attach VA Rating Decision Letter****

*****Veterans must be rated by VA 50% disabled or greater and be a North Dakota Veteran.*****

My Assistant Will Be:

If an aide is required:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Please select day of preference: (Select 1st and 2nd choice)

_____ Monday, Nov 8, 2021

_____ Monday, Nov 15, 2021

Signature

Date

****Application must be signed and all information must be provided for consideration.****

Enclose: 1) This Application

2) Proof of general tag purchase

3) \$30.00 state resident license fee

(Check payable to ND State Fish & Game Dept.)

4) Copy of VA Rating Decision

Mail to: Angela Hunt, Veterans Service Officer

Barnes County Courthouse

230 4th ST. NW, Room 204

Valley City, ND 58072

RETURN BY: October 1, 2021

NOTE: A screening committee will select 10 applicants. Successful applicants will be notified by mail no later than October 15, 2021. Unsuccessful applicants will have their gun license applications and fee returned. This year's hunt will be conducted on Camp Grafton with a maximum of 5 hunters each day.