

### Military Resource Center

#### Volume 11 – Issue 8, August 2023

#### From the Director



The Fall semester is about to begin, stop in to check out the services available in Model Hall room 208, the office location!

Probably been awhile so please thank your/our health care providers, frontline office personal, first responders, and all those that silently and unselfishly serve, protect, and keep us safe!

The Military Resource Center wants to extend a special thanks to those individuals. , **THANK YOU** for your long hours and daily commitment!

We continue to assist our military educational benefited students and appreciates 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!

Looking forward to a great fall 2023 term!

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.

#### **Activities Attended**

#### July

- 4 University Closed Independence Day
- 13 Mental Health and Guns Debunking the Myths train
- 17 Student Affairs individual meeting
- 17 New student registration
- 18 Invest for success workshop
- 19 University Cabinet canceled
- 20 Suicide Training Model meeting
- 20 FERPA 101 workshop
- 21 Ideal Options training
- 22 State Fair Parade
- 26 VA Office Hours training
- 26 Dr. VanBrunt BIT Pathways to FERPA and HIPAA
- 27 Student Affairs meeting
- 27 VA Office Hours training
- 28 Wellington Veteran Breakfast
- 28 Wells County Veteran Fair
- 31 Student Affairs individual meeting

#### Warriors at Ease

https://www.warriorsatease.org/our-team-board

While great strides have been made across the Department of Defense and VA to make yoga more accessible to the military community, the team at <u>Warriors at Ease</u> still finds service members and Veterans often turn to the highly accessible, low-cost, side-effect-free practices of yoga, meditation and mindfulness as a last resort.

Founded in 2011, Warriors at Ease is a nonprofit group dedicated to ensuring that every member of the military community is trained in using yoga and meditation to alleviate the stressors of military life and aid in preventing and rehabilitating the physical and invisible injuries that stem from time in service. The organization's co-founders were involved in some of the first clinical studies funded by DoD and VA involving the use of yoga and meditation as an adjunct therapy for combat-related health conditions.

#### 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.

(<a href="https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AH">https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AH</a> BurnPitRegistry/#page/home)

- Participation in the registry is voluntary and cannot negatively impact your <u>access to VA health</u> <u>care</u> or your <u>claim for compensation</u> <u>and benefits</u>.
- 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

#### Post 9/11 GI Bill students (Chap 33)

Post-9/11 GI Bill® students who receive Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) and/or kicker payments are required to verify their enrollment to continue receiving their payments.

Enrollment verification information link below https://benefits.va.gov/qibill/isaksonroe/verification of enrollment.asp



#### When does enrollment verification start?

Students will need to verify at the end of each month once their courses or training starts.

For example, if your term starts in August, you will need to begin verifying at the end of August.

#### How do I verify enrollment?

You can verify enrollment via text, email, or online at VA.gov. See more details below:

If you need to verify your enrollment and are looking for instructions on how to do it, check out the How to Verify Enrollment for Post-9/11 GI Bill Students video link below <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LGxCgvN7S8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LGxCgvN7S8</a>

## Connect with The Post-9/11 GI Bill, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/gibillEducation



The Post-9/11 GI Bill, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

118K followers • 31 following

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)



https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/how-to-use-benefits/test-fees/

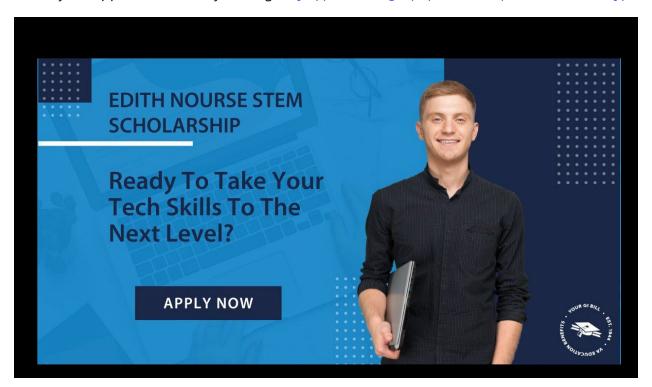
Get paid back for test fees

The GI Bill covers more than just tuition. You can use part of your entitlement to cover the cost of certain tests you need to take to become a licensed or certified professional—or to apply for college or a training course. We only cover tests approved for the GI Bill under this benefit, so find out what's approved before you take any tests.

#### **EDITH NOURSE STEM SCHOLARSHIP**

Did you know about the Edith Nourse STEM Scholarship? This fantastic opportunity is your launchpad to elevate your tech career to unprecedented heights. The scholarship supports additional education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math fields, paving the way for you to lead, innovate, and excel in the tech industry.

Start your application now by visiting <a href="https://www.va.gov/.../other-va.../stem-scholarship/">https://www.va.gov/.../other-va.../stem-scholarship/</a>





Welcome to Ask VA (AVA) https://ask.va.gov/

Get the most complete experience by signing in before starting your message!

When you are signed in you will enjoy these benefits:

- Track your message from submission to resolution
- Receive secure responses that will protect your personal information
- See all your past messages and responses

#### Student Loan Repayment update COVID-19 Emergency Relief and Federal Student Aid

Student Loan payments restart in October <a href="https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/covid-19">https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/covid-19</a>

The U.S. Department of Education's COVID-19 relief for student loans is ending this year. **Student loan interest will resume starting on Sept. 1, 2023, and payments will be due starting in October.** 

You will get your billing statement or other notice at least 21 days before your payment is due. If you do not get a billing statement at least 21 days before your payment due date, contact your loan servicer.

For additional information contact the Minot State University Financial Aid Office

Minot State Financial Aid (701)858-3375 call for questions <a href="https://www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/">https://www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/</a>

Title IV School Code: 002994



Applications available in the Minot State University Military Resource Center Model Hall 208

#### **PACT Act updates**

https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/#gulfwar-era-and-post-911-vete



#### Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veteran eligibility

added more than twenty burn pit and other toxic exposure presumptive conditions.

#### Vietnam era Veteran eligibility

added two new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

Agent Orange exposure presumptive conditions list <a href="https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/#requirements-for-agent-orange-">https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/#requirements-for-agent-orange-</a>





#### **Information for survivors**

-can Veterans' survivors get compensation payments under the PACT Act

Yes. If you are a surviving family member of a Veteran, you may be eligible for these benefits:

#### Tucci's Corner



#### Students,

It's time for fall enrollment! Please ensure that the classes you are enrolling in are approved for your degree plan, I am not allowed to certify courses that are not approved for your particular degree. Also, a reminder that a semester worksheet must be completed every term you wish to use your benefit- I cannot submit your certification to the VA without this! Failure to complete this worksheet on time (30+ days from term start) causes delays in stipends (housing allowance, book stipend, monthly payments), payment of tuition and fees, and will take additional time to process by the VA once submitted. so please be punctual to alleviate potential financial burden. Our office is always available to answer questions and to help you succeed during your college journey!

> Respectfully, James Tucci Veterans School Certifying Official

#### **Important** Academic Dates

#### August

- 2 Frosty's Ice Cream Truck on campus
- 9 11 am roundtable discussion
  The Impact of AI on Higher Education Webinar
- 7-30 Fall Bookstore Charging
- 22 first full day of class
- 24 Last day to add 1st 8 wk classes
- 24 Last day to drop or withdraw from 1st 8 wk classes for 100% refund
- 30 Last day to add 16-week class
- 30 Last day to drop or withdraw from 16 week classes for 100% refund
- Sept 4 University Closed Labor Day

#### **Important Dates**

#### **US Armed Forces dates - August 2023**

Aug - Antiterrorism Awareness Month

- 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



# Brian Duncan 18 Hole Golf Benefit

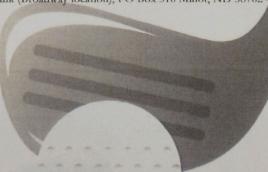


Wildwood Country Club 8401 County Rd 15 W Minot ND 58703 Saturday September 23, 2023

9am to 6pm (9am registration/10am shotgun start)
To register DR make a silent auction contribution call or text:

LeAnn 701/721-5679 or Lynnae 701/509-1622

- \$500 per team of 4 (entry fee includes golf fees, cart, & taco bar)
  - An additional \$250 per team of 4 buys a hole sponsorship with your company logo at hole
- 36 team maximum / payment due by September 15 to hold reservation
- Cash prizes for top 3 teams
- Prizes for: 1) closest to the hole on all par 3's; 2) longest drive for men; 3) longest drive for women; 4) longest putt
- Putting contest at clubhouse for a 36" blackstone griddle
- Silent Auction 11am to 4pm
- Free will donation taco bar starting at 11:30am
- 50/50 raffle
- Not golfing? Come & enjoy some of your day at Wildwood & show your support for Duncan!
- Not able to attend...monetary donations can be dropped off or mailed to:
   Gate City Bank (Broadway location), PO Box 310 Minot, ND 58702 Attn: Brian Duncan benefit account



You may also show your support by purchasing a Team Duncan t-shirt using the following link or QR code:

https://teamduncan.itemorder.com/



His story..... Duncan, a military veteran serving in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm/Desert Shield, was diagnosed with stage 4 esophageal cancer on May 1, 2023, after noticing difficulty swallowing food. The cancer thickened his blood, and as a result, he had strokes on both sides of his head, affecting his vision, followed by a heart attack and pulmonary embolism. Due to failure to thrive and malnutrition, he received a feeding tube. Duncan is currently on three types of chemo and immunotherapy to beat this aggressive cancer. His wife Cari is unable to work due to needing to care for him full time. Their three boys 21, 18, and 13 are all on the Autism spectrum.

## Veterans Information Fair

Join us to learn about Veteran Benefits!

- ✓ Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, from 10am-2pm
- ✓ Available to ALL Veterans and family
- ✓ Tons of valuable information from our local partners
- ✓ Located near the Dakota Farms restaurant.
- ✓ Any questions, call the Minot Vet Center at 701-852-0177 or Todd Schreiner CVSO at 701-462-8541 x804

