Veteran Services

Volume 11 – Issue 7, Oct 2026



From the Director

October is here and fall has arrived. The Military Resource Center continues to serve our military educational benefited students. We would appreciate it if you were willing to provide suggestions to improve current practices. Past suggestions have resulted in improvements in policies and guidelines allowing us to better serve your needs as you work to accomplish your academic goals!

Andy Heitkamp
Military Resource Center Director

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

www.facebook.com/MinotStateVeterans

Studying in a medical or healthcare field



Are you studying in a field related to medicine or healthcare? The VA offers scholarships to students willing to work in a VA healthcare facility serving our nation's Veterans. Scholarships cover many degrees and certifications and are also often tax-exempt. Find more information about the different programs on our website.

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USO Coffee Connection event

Activities Attended

September

2 Safe Communities meeting

3 Minot Area MAC meeting
3 Prairie Warrior Bowl

7 University Closed, Labor Day

9 Behavioral Intervention Team meeting
9 MAFB JDC Veteran Resource Fair

10 Student Affairs meeting

14 Beaver Dam Ribbon Cutting

17 Inter Agency

10 Behavioral Intervention Team meeting

18 Athletic Hall of Fame luncheon

18 Academic Hall of Fame event

19 Homecoming Tailgate and game

23 University Cabinet meeting

23 Behavioral Intervention Team meeting

23 State Approving Agency meeting

23 Class service project meeting

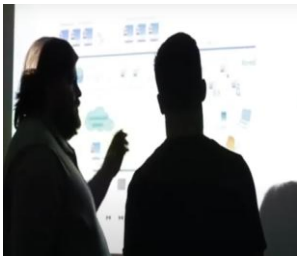
24 State Board meet and greet

24 Peer Vision open house

28 MinDaks Mental Health Council meeting

STEM Students: You may be eligible for additional benefits

If you're a Veteran using the Post-9/11 GI Bill or a Fry Scholar, you may be eligible for additional benefits of up to nine months or $30,000. You must:



1. Be enrolled in a qualifying STEM program.
2. Have completed a certain amount of time on your degree.
3. Have six months or less of your benefits left (if you apply too soon, you'll be denied).

Learn more about what types of degrees and what fields qualify and apply on our website.



James's Corner

Hello, everyone!

Hello to our new and returning students,

This month I wanted to discuss the importance of being on time with your semester worksheets and any updates to your enrollment. It is crucial that you get your semester worksheets submitted promptly after you enroll in your courses. This ensures that your monthly payments and book stipends (if applicable) are paid on-time. When we get late submissions (after the term has started, e.g.), you should not be surprised if your payments aren't received right away, as the VA works on enrollments in the order they are received. Also, it is important that you let our office know when you make any changes so that I can make the changes with the VA to prevent any potential overpayments which could land you in debt with the VA and/or Minot State. Additionally, we have been seeing a lot of students emailing and calling about not receiving their monthly payments. If you recall your Student Agreement meeting, the second paragraph on the first page mentions that you need to call the VA with any specific benefits questions, to include any information about your monthly payments. Our office is not involved in your monthly payments so we unfortunately cannot help with any payment questions.

Respectfully,

James Tucci - Veterans School Certifying Official



Important Dates

Academic Dates

October

1 – FAFSA application available
2 - Spring Graduation Application Due
12 – Assessment Day
14 – First 8 weeks finals
15 – First 8 weeks finals
19 – second 8-week classes begin
22 – Last day to add second 8-week classes
22 – Last day to drop second 8-week classes
22 – Last day to withdraw second 8-week and receive 100% refund
27-29 – Spring registration

US Armed Forces Dates

October

13 – US Navy Birthday
26 – Day of the Deployed
27 – Navy Day
31 - Halloween

OFFICE HOURS
8 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

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

MinotStateU.edu

Veterans Stand Down

October 15, 2026

10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Armed Forced Reserve Center
3420 2nd St. NE, Minot
(North of the Minot Int'l Airport)

Bring Your DD214, VA Card, or Drivers Lic. with "V" designation as Proof of Veteran Status, if possible



Services Provided

Veterans Benefits
Health Care
Legal Services
Counseling
Housing Assistance
Blood Pressure Screening
Hygiene Items
Flu Shots
Employment Assistance
Lunch is provided

For more information contact:
Kelli Weiand at 701-340-2779 or colleen.y.weiand.nfg@army.mil

Food Pantry at Minot State University

Student Food Pantry List

Protein
Cans of Tuna*
Cans of Chicken*
Canned Stew
Canned Chili
Hash
Pork and Beans
Soups
Spaghetti Sauce*
Kidney Beans
Peanut Butter*

Canned Vegetables
Beans
Carrots
Peas
Tomatoes
Corn
Instant Potatoes
Spaghetti Sauce

Fruits
Canned Fruits
Fruit Cups
Dried Fruits
Jelly
Raisins
Juice Boxes

*Indicates high demand items

If you would like to make a financial donation so that we can replenish the food pantry with necessary items, checks may be made to:

Lutheran Campus Ministry, memo: Food Pantry

Starches
Rice*
Pasta*
Macaroni and Cheese*
Crackers
Cans of Ravioli/Spaghetti O's*
Hamburger Helper
Boxed Meals*

Breakfast
Boxes of Cereal*
Instant Oatmeal (individual packets)*
Cereal Bars
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Pop Tarts
Muffin Mix

On the Go/Snacks
Tortilla Chips
Salsa
Pringles
Cookies
Granola Bars*
Microwave Popcorn
Easy Mac*
Microwaveable Non-Frozen Meals*



POST-9/11 GI BILL

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

Link to North Dakota Veteran laws,
http://www.nd.gov/veterans/laws/

Essential services for Veterans transitioning to civilian life



Print out your VA Welcome Kit
Whether you're just getting out of the service or you've been a civilian for years now, the VA Welcome Kit can help guide you to the benefits and services you've earned.

Based on where you are in life, your VA benefits and services can support you in different ways. Keep your welcome kit handy so you can turn to it throughout your life—like when it's time to go to school, get a job, buy a house, get health care, retire, or make plans for your care as you age.

https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/
guides to VA benefits and services
- For veterans
- For family members

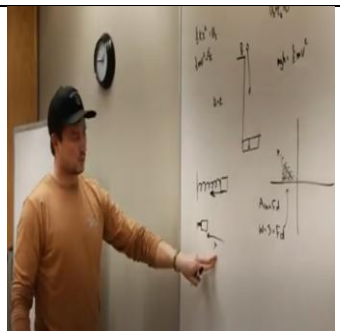


American Corporate Partners (ACP) connects post-9/11 Veterans with corporate professionals for customized mentorships. Veterans find meaningful employment outcomes, whether a higher-paying job or a promotion. Since 2010, more than 34,000 Veterans have found success with ACP.
In response to growing interest and the evolving needs of Veterans, ACP is launching a new entrepreneurship program, ACP Ventures.
ACP Ventures' mission is to cultivate a legacy of informed Veterans who venture their entrepreneurial journey with intention, creating enduring impact for themselves and their communities. Apply online (https://www.acp-usa.org/acp-ventures)





Are you eligible for the GI Bill tutoring benefit?

	If you're having trouble in a required subject and need a tutor, you can be reimbursed by the GI Bill for up to $100 a month and a maximum lifetime limit of $1,200. You're eligible if you're studying 51% or more full-time. Full-time for an undergraduate student is typically 12 credit hours, while it will vary for graduate students.	

Find more information and how to apply on our website.
(https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/how-to-use-benefits/tutor-assistance/)



Minot State Writing Center
The MSU Writing Center will open for Fall 2026 tutoring on Tuesday 9/8 2026.
To make an appointment, go to WC Online,(Log In | The Minot State Writing Center)
If you do not already have an account, click on "Register for an account."
Log in and click on any white square to make an appointment.
Please note that on some days, the tutors are only available virtually, for etutoring or online tutoring.
We offer face to face tutoring in the Center, etutoring (asynchronous tutoring via email), and online tutoring (synchronous tutoring through WC Online).
Questions? Contact Dr. Patti Kurtz, Writing Center Director at patti.kurtz@ndus.edu

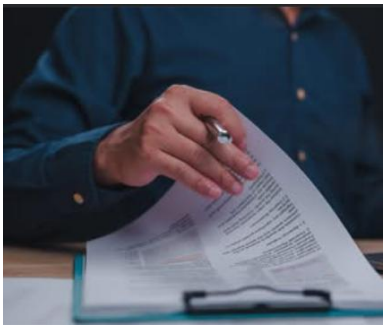
GI BILL BENEFITS GUIDES



GI Bill benefit guides Building your future with the GI Bill
Choosing your Education Pathway
https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/gibguideseries/chooseyoureducationpathway.pdf

Understanding your benefits
https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/gibguideseries/chooseyoureducationbenefits.pdf

Furthering your Career
https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/docs/GIBguideseries/FurtherYourCareer.pdf



A Veterans Guide to
Navigating Property Taxes and Insurance Costs
https://news.va.gov/141933/a-veterans-guide-to-navigating-property-taxes-and-insurance-costs/

DAV Chapter 4 Awards $1,000 Scholarship to Minot State University Student Ellianna Graves

Minot, ND — September 2, 2026 —



Photo (L-R) DAV Chapter 4 Sr. Vice Commander, Ron Garcia, Ellianna Graves, Jennifer Graves.

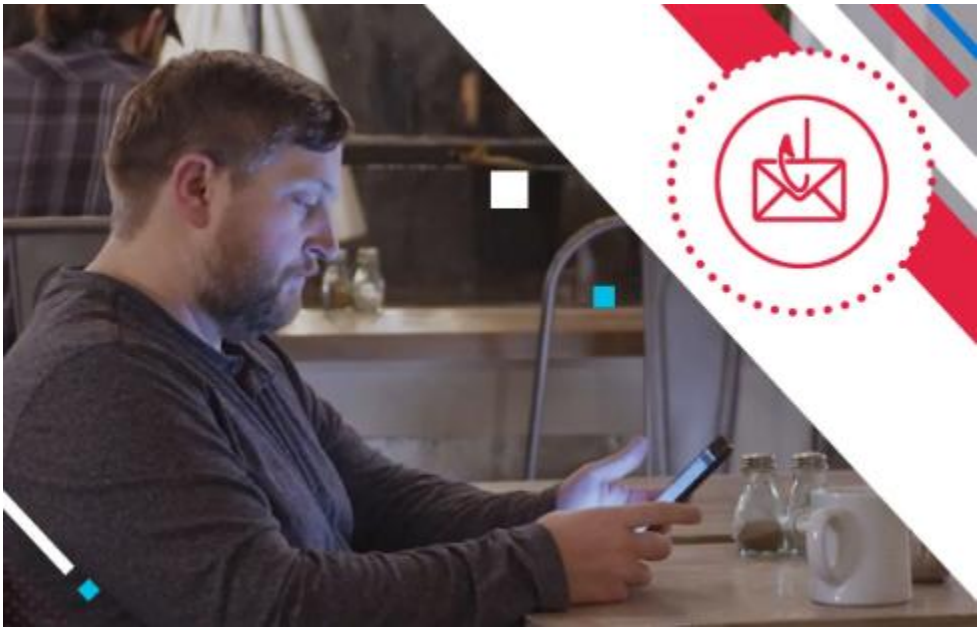
Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 4 proudly presented a $1,000 academic scholarship to Ellianna Graves, a Minot State University student, during the DAV Coffee gathering held Wednesday afternoon in the Ward County Administration Building's Veterans Room.

The scholarship was formally awarded by Sr. Vice Commander Ron Garcia, who recognized Ellianna's academic dedication and her support of the veteran community. Ellianna attended the event with her mother, Jennifer Graves, as chapter members celebrated her achievements and future goals.

The chapter congratulates Ellianna and wishes her continued success in her studies at Minot State University.



LEARN NEW SKILLS WITH VA AND IBM SKILLSBUILD!
https://www.ibm.com/account/reg/us-en/signup...
As demand for versatile job skills grow, IBM supports Veterans, service members, and their families by offering free, virtual training through IBM SkillsBuild.
You can earn industry-recognized digital credentials in not only technology courses such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Analytics, Cybersecurity but also in professional skills such as project management, Agile, leadership and more.
Join the upcoming webinar to gain job-ready, free resources, and professional guidance. Register today to learn more



Phishing – without rods - DigitalVA
It happens all the time. You get an email from a trusted source. It could be a friend or family member, a retailer you frequent often, or even a subscription renewal. You open it, everything looks normal, and then you see a hyperlink. Without thinking twice, you click it, unaware of the scam on the other side.

TRAVELING SOON – Seamless care for traveling Veterans



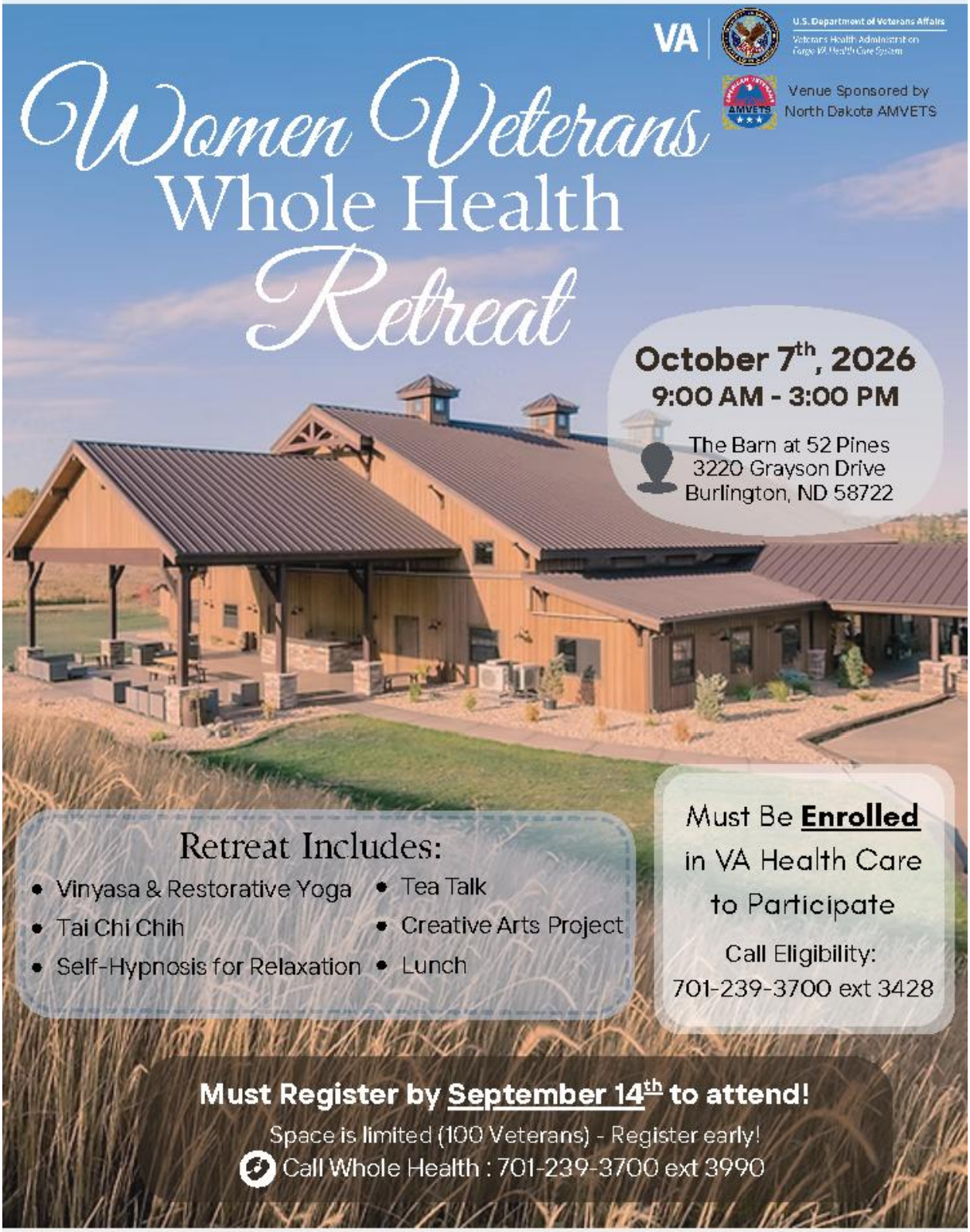
[Fargo Travel Brochure 6.29.26 (Final).pdf]

Minot State University Beavers
Prairie Warrior Bowl 2026








VA
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Fargo VA Health Care System
Venue Sponsored by
North Dakota AMVETS
Women Veterans
Whole Health
Retreat
October 7th, 2026
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
The Barn at 52 Pines
3220 Grayson Drive
Burlington, ND 58722
Retreat Includes:
• Vinyasa & Restorative Yoga
• Tai Chi Chih
• Self-Hypnosis for Relaxation
• Tea Talk
• Creative Arts Project
• Lunch
Must Be Enrolled
in VA Health Care
to Participate
Call Eligibility:
701-239-3700 ext 3428
Must Register by September 14th to attend!
Space is limited (100 Veterans) - Register early!
Call Whole Health : 701-239-3700 ext 3990

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

GET YOUR VA PAYMENTS FASTER & SAFER

Enroll in Direct Deposit (EFT) Today

Receive eligible VA payments securely and directly to your bank account.



- ✓ Fast Payments
- ✓ Safe & Secure
- ✓ No waiting for Paper Checks
- ✓ Convenient Access to Funds

SCAN HERE to Learn More

Your information is protected and secure.

WHAT YOU NEED TO GET STARTED

1. Social Security Number
2. Address
3. Bank Name and Address
4. Bank Routing Number
5. Bank Account Number
6. Account Type (Checking or Savings)

If you need assistance with the Customer Engagement Portal (CEP), contact the VA FSC Customer Care Center at 1-877-353-9791 (option 2) or email vafsccshd@va.gov. You may also request a Direct Deposit/EFT Enrollment User Guide from the Customer Care Center.

Faster Access. Greater Security. Peace of Mind. | VA.gov

USO COFFEE CONNECTIONS

DESIGN AND DECORATE AIR-DRY CLAY DISH



Mil Spouses!
Take a break and join us for a creative night out. You'll design and decorate your own air-dry clay jewelry dish.

Oct 20, 6:00-8:00
Spots are limited.
Register today!

USO

USO.org/CoffeeConnections