



THE TOPPER

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND AWARDED NEW FUNDING

Veterans Upward Bound received word on September 28 that it had received new funding to continue services for another 5 years. VUB at WKU was one of 51 Veterans Upward Bound projects that received funding from the U.S. Department of Education. The award of \$14,392,377 for all the projects will help some 6,831 veterans acquire the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in college.

We want to thank Martha Sales, Trio director, for the superhuman effort she made in writing our grant and fighting for our project. Most people do not realize that each five-year grant cycle is a competition where each project is competing with other existing VUBs and other schools writing grants to establish new VUBs. The funding slate is determined by a point system and the mere percentage of a point can leave a project straddling the fence when the funding is determined.

With our new funding, we will continue to provide refresher courses in all the core subject areas as well as assisting veterans with financial and personal counseling; assistance in preparing for college entrance exams and financial aid applications; information about postsecondary opportunities, and help in connecting with other resources designed to assist veterans.

As we celebrate the award of new funding, we'd like to take the opportunity to congratulate all the Veterans Upward Bounds that also received funding awards. They are listed by school and state:

- ◆ North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence, AL
- ◆ Gadsden State Community College, AL
- ◆ Henderson State University, AR
- ◆ Pulaski Technical College, AR
- ◆ University of Arkansas, AR
- ◆ Yavapai Community College, AZ
- ◆ Arizona State University, AZ
- ◆ Santa Ana College, CA
- ◆ TELACU Education Foundation, CA
- ◆ Colorado State University/Pueblo, CO
- ◆ Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO
- ◆ Pensacola State College, FL
- ◆ Georgia State University, GA
- ◆ Boise State University, ID
- ◆ Roosevelt University, IL
- ◆ Vincennes University, IN
- ◆ Wichita State University, KS
- ◆ University of Kansas, KS
- ◆ Delgado Community College, LA
- ◆ Southeastern Louisiana University, LA
- ◆ University of Louisiana/Lafayette, LA
- ◆ Suffolk University, MA
- ◆ University of Massachusetts/Boston, MA
- ◆ Prince George's Community College, MD
- ◆ Wayne State University, MI
- ◆ Minneapolis Community & Technical College, MN
- ◆ Metropolitan Community College, MO
- ◆ Montana State University/Northern, MT
- ◆ Central Carolina Community College, NC
- ◆ North Dakota State University, ND
- ◆ Western Nebraska Community College, NE
- ◆ University of New Mexico, NM
- ◆ Truckee Meadows Community College, NV
- ◆ CUNY/LaGuardia Community College, NY
- ◆ Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, OH
- ◆ Cuyahoga Community College, OH
- ◆ Redlands Community College, OK
- ◆ East Central University, OK
- ◆ University of Pennsylvania, PA
- ◆ ASPIRA, Inc. of Puerto Rico, PR
- ◆ Trident Technical College, SC
- ◆ East Tennessee State University, TN
- ◆ Austin Peay State University, TN
- ◆ University of Tennessee, TN
- ◆ University of Texas/Brownsville & Texas Southmost College, TX
- ◆ University of Texas/Arlington, TX
- ◆ Weber State University, UT
- ◆ Southwest Virginia Community College, VA
- ◆ University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee, WI

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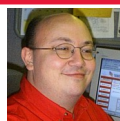
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◆ Davis & Elkins College, WV

With the awarding of new funding to all of these postsecondary institutions, the commitment to improve service members' transition from military life to civilian life by fostering educational opportunities and career and workforce readiness will be able to continue. The projects also support the President's goal for America to be first in the world in college graduates by 2020.

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Veterans Day is an American federal holiday and state holiday honoring military veterans. The holiday is intended to thank living veterans for their service and contributions, and to underscore the fact that all those who served—not only those who died—have sacrificed and done their duty.

The origins of Veterans Day go back to the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919, officially ending World War I. However, combat had ceased seven months earlier when an armistice between the Allied nations and Germany had went into effect on the 11th hour of November 11, 1918. For that reason, that date is regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

Armistice Day was the progenitor of Veterans Day, being first commemo-

rated in the United States by President Woodrow Wilson in November 1919. The original concept was the suspension of business for a two minute period beginning at 11 A.M., with the day also marked by parades and public meetings. In 1926, Congress passed a resolution for all Americans to observe the day, and made it a legal national holiday in 1938.

In 1954, Congressman Ed Rees of Kansas introduced legislation in the United States House of Representatives to change the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day. A letter-writing campaign followed to secure the support of all state governors and on June 1, 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name officially to Veterans Day.



President Eisenhower signing legislation changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

On June 28, 1968, the Uniforms Holiday Bill was signed to insure three-day weekends for federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Monday: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. Many states did not agree with the decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

Due to the historic and patriotic significance of the original commemoration date, protests by veterans' service organizations, state legislatures,

and the American people were numerous and on September 20, 1975, President Gerald Ford returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to November 11th, beginning in 1978.

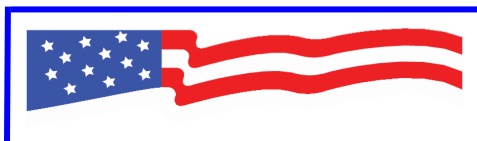
The restoration of the holiday to its original date not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but focuses attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

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WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

If WKU is having classes, we are also. WKU announces closings on all local radio stations and WBKO. The best source is WKYU-FM. Closures are also posted on WKU's homepage or you can call 270-936-0000 for a recorded message. We urge you to use your own best judgment. If you feel it is dangerous to be out, then call us (745-5310) and let us know you will not be in class.





ALL THE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FINANCIAL AID

The **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** is the form used by the U.S. Department of Education to determine your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) by conducting a “need analysis” based on financial information, such as income, assets and other household information, which you (and your parents if you are a dependent student) will be asked to provide. The form is submitted to, and processed by, a federal processor contracted by the U.S. Department of Education, and the results are electronically transmitted to the financial aid offices of the schools that you list on your application.

FAFSA is the application used by nearly all colleges and universities to determine eligibility for federal, state,

and college-sponsored financial aid, including grants, educational loans, and work-study programs.

Nearly every student is eligible for some form of financial aid, including low-interest Federal Stafford and/or parent PLUS loans, regardless of income or circumstances, provided that you:

- ◆ are a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national or an eligible non-citizen;
- ◆ have a valid Social Security Number;
- ◆ have a high school diploma or GED;
- ◆ are registered with the U.S. Selective Service (if you are a male aged 18-25);
- ◆ complete a FAFSA promising to use any federal aid for educational purposes;
- ◆ do not owe refunds on any federal student grants;
- ◆ are not in default on any student loans; and have not been found guilty of the sale or possession of illegal drugs during a period in which federal aid was being received.

Many states, colleges and universities have filing deadlines that are much earlier—some occurring as early as the first few weeks in January. Additionally, applicants have to pay particular attention to deadline specifics, as some refer to the date by which individual FAFSAs must be *submitted*, while others refer to the date by which individual FAFSAs must be *fully processed* (completed by the federal processor and made available to the school financial aid office).

IMPORTANT: We strongly encourage all students to check with their school's financial aid office to determine their exact FAFSA deadline requirements, and to file their FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1st.



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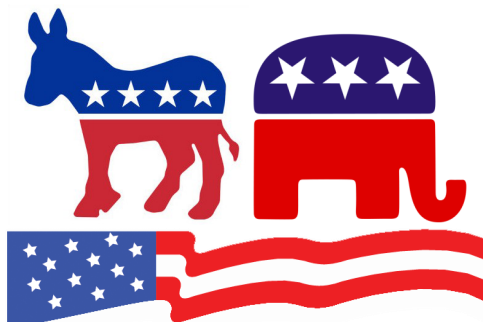


Notes and News

The United States presidential election of 2008, scheduled for Tuesday November 6th, will be the 57th consecutive U.S. presidential election and will select the President and Vice President of the United States.

The Federal TRiO Programs are educational opportunity outreach programs designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds. One of the TRiO programs is Veterans Upward Bound, which targets veterans who are low-income and/or will be first-generation college students through our counseling and academic program.

With our VUB program dependent on federal funds, a presidential administration that is supportive of all educational programs is manifest in the continuation of Veterans Upward Bound. It is not our place to tell our readers who to cast your votes for, but we ask that you listen closely to how the Democratic and the Republican candidates define themselves on the issue of education.



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!





THE TOPPER

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WKU

VA's DNA Database Will Help Future Vets

VA's Million Veteran Program (MVP) is out to gather as much genetic information as it can over the next five

to seven years from a million vets, perhaps more. The idea is to take the intelligence gleaned from those genes and someday render it actionable in the war against disease. This mission is strictly for volunteers that are enrolled in the VA health system.

Volunteers would go to one of 40 participating VA medical centers and having their blood drawn. Then giving informed consent for the genetic data derived from that blood to be tied, via code, to your VA electronic medical records.

The code is designed to protect privacy and security, concerns raised by vets who were surveyed. VA says all samples will be stored in a secure bio-repository, that the participant code will be restricted to a handful of authorized VA employees, and that no one can directly identify participants.

For about the last 10 years the National Human Genome Research Institute has made a concerted effort to study genome-wide associations by rapidly scanning

markers across the complete sets of DNA, or genomes, of many people. The aim is to detect genetic variations associated with a particular disease.

The MVP aims at compiling what scientists term a longitudinal data set, or a group of people who can be followed over time. That gives more than just a snapshot of a subject, in effect it shoots a motion picture—one that follows the veteran through a significant slice of his or her life.

While still far south of the million mark, the sample size is growing. MVP deliberately started slow with the first year comprising a "vanguard" phase. The effort has now shifted gears, entering a "ramp-up" region, where enrollment is beginning to roll in. As of May 2012, VA says 117,000 veterans had participated in the *Million Veteran Program* baseline survey, 56,000 of whom donated a blood sample.



Article adapted from September 2012 issue VFW



Important Numbers and Dates

Schella Smith, WKU VA Certifying Official
(270) 745-3732

Stephanie Gabbard, VA Voc-Rehab, B.G. Office
(270) 846-2092

Military Student Services, WKU
(270) 745-5837

John Rose, BGTC VA Certifying Official
(270) 901-1003

Department of Employment Services, Bowling Green
Don "Mac" McGlothlin (270) 746-7265

VA Regional Office, Louisville
(800) 827-1000

VA Regional Office, Nashville, TN
(615) 695-6372

VA Medical Center, Louisville
(502) 287-4000

VA Medical Center, Nashville, TN
(800) 228-4973

Military Records Branch, Frankfort
(502) 564-4883

American Legion, Bowling Green
(270) 781-3574 Veterans Service Officer
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Bowling Green
(270) 781-1872

NOV 2	Registration Deadline for ACT, Dec 8
NOV 6	Presidential Election Day, VUB Closed
NOV 11	Veterans Day
NOV 21-23	Thanksgiving Holiday, VUB Closed
DEC 8	ACT Test Date
DEC 19-JAN 1	Christmas Holiday, VUB Closed
JAN 11	Registration Deadline for ACT, Feb 9
JAN 21	MLK Birthday Holiday, VUB Closed
JAN 22	First Day of VUB Spring Classes
FEB 9	ACT Test Date
MAR 8	Registration Deadline for ACT, Apr 13

*Please call early for information on test dates. VUB may pay testing fees, but to do so we must have your application at least six weeks prior to the registration postmark deadline.