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THE TOPPER

Veterans Upward Bound
Western Kentucky University
1906 College Heights Blvd.
#11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098



WKU

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Important Numbers and Dates

Department of Employment Services, Bowling Green
Gerry Neely (270) 746-7425 Ext. 104
Schella Smith, VA Certifying Official
(270) 745-3732
Stephanie Gabbard, VA Voc-Rehab, B.G. Office
(270) 846-2092
VA Regional Office, Louisville
(800) 827-1000
VA Regional Office, Nashville, TN
(615) 695-6372
VA Medical Center, Louisville
(502) 895-3401
VA Medical Center, Nashville, TN
(800) 228-4973
Kentucky Center for Veterans Affairs, Louisville
(502) 595-4447
Military Records Branch, Frankfort
(502) 564-4883
Disabled American Veterans, Louisville
(800) 333-1720
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Bowling Green
(270) 781-1872
American Legion, Bowling Green
(270) 781-3574 Veterans Service Officer

Nov 5	ACT Registration Deadline, Dec 11
Nov 24-26	Thanksgiving Holiday (VUB Closed)
Dec 9	Last Day of VUB Winter Classes
Dec 11	ACT Test Date
Dec 18	WKU Fall Commencement
Dec 20-31	Christmas Holiday (VUB Closed)
Jan 7	ACT Registration Deadline, Feb 12
Jan 18	First Day of VUB Spring Classes
Feb 12	ACT Test Date
Mar 4	ACT Registration Deadline, Apr 9

*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.



WHAT IS VETERANS UPWARD BOUND?

Veterans Upward Bound is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of postsecondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll and complete postsecondary education programs.

All Veterans Upward Bound projects must provide instruction in mathematics through pre-calculus, laboratory science, foreign language, composition and literature. Projects may also provide short-term remedial or refresher courses for veterans who are high school graduates but have delayed pursuing postsecondary education. Projects are also expected to assist veterans in securing support services from other locally available

resources such as Veterans Administration, state veterans agencies, veteran associations, and other state and local agencies that serve veterans.

Other services include:

- ♦ Education or counseling services designed to improve the financial and economic literacy of participants
- ♦ Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, and other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- ♦ Academic, financial, or personal counseling
- ♦ Tutorial services
- ♦ Mentoring programs
- ♦ Information on postsecondary education opportunities
- ♦ Assistance in completing college entrance and financial aid applications
- ♦ Assistance in preparing for college entrance exams
- ♦ Information on the full range of Federal Student financial aid programs and benefits

- ♦ Guidance and assistance in alternative education programs for secondary school dropouts that lead to receipt of a regular secondary school diploma, entry into general education development (GED) programs or postsecondary education.

Participants must meet military service requirements stipulated in the authorizing statute and be low-income, prospective first-generation college students who are preparing to enter a postsecondary institution. The remaining participants must be either low-income or first generation military veterans who served in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for more than 180 days and received other than a dishonorable discharge; was discharged because of a service connected disability; was a member of a reserve component called to active duty for a period of more than 30 days; or was a member of a reserve component who served on active duty in support of a contingency operation on or after September 11, 2001; and have a high risk for academic failure.

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.

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.”

The origins of Veterans Day go

Armistice Day was the progenitor of



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VETERANS UPWARD BOUND

Veterans Day continued from page 1
Veterans Day, being first commemorated 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.

Career Transitions is a program that gives scholarships to anyone who has been laid off from work and attends a college in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. The scholarship pays half of a student's tuition for up to six credit hours (generally two classes) each semester.

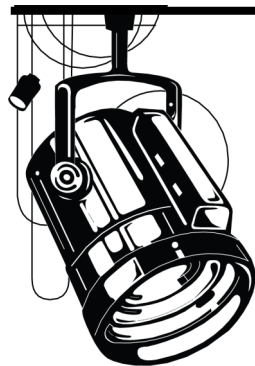
To receive the scholarship, students must live in Kentucky and filed for unemployment benefits since October 2008. The program is offered at 16 KCTCS schools across the state, including Bowling Green Technical College.

The program also give students help filling out federal financial aid forms, extra advising and training, and additional help with the admissions process.

For Bowling Green Technical College, contact Debbie Smith (270) 534-3479



SPOTLIGHT ON RECRUITMENT



VUB is a grant program federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Our grant stipulates that we must serve 120 veterans a year from the area we serve which is comprised of these counties: Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Simpson, and Warren.

For the majority of those vets we serve, we have to actively recruit them. Many are contacted through the local career center in Bowling Green. Since only a limited number of our office personnel can be out of the office at one time, recruitment and meeting the goal of 120 vets can become very challenging.

Not meeting our commitment to serve 120 veterans a year jeopardizes the continuance of VUB. To put it simply, the U.S. Department of Education will cease to fund our program, which almost happened this past fiscal year that ended on 30 September.

We need your help. Please refer vets to us if you think they are interested in preparing for school, whether it be a college or tech/trade school. If you can take brochures to places you frequent, it would help us to have them displayed. We can provide brochures if you contact us.

We are the only VUB program in the state of Kentucky and we don't want to see the vital services we offer veterans no longer be available.

facebook

Veterans Upward Bound now has a Facebook page. For those not familiar with Facebook, it is a free social networking access website that is operated and privately owned by Facebook, Inc. Users can join networks organized by city, workplace, school, and region to connect and interact with other people. People can also add friends and send them messages, and update their personal profiles to notify friends about themselves.

The website's name refers to the paper facebook depicting members of a campus community that some US colleges and preparatory schools give to incoming students, faculty, and staff as a way to get to know other people on campus. The website currently has more than 200 million active users worldwide. To access Facebook, go to www.facebook.com and become a member and a VUB friend.

Financial Aid

Remember that financial aid monies are limited, so it's important to file early to ensure that you are considered for all possible aid. According to the FAFSA website, the priority deadline for filing in Kentucky is **March 15**. While that doesn't mean that you absolutely can't get any money if you file after that deadline, it does mean that your chances will be less if you file late. So file early to get all the money you need for school.

Got Financial Aid Questions?

Call VUB at 270-745-5310



The Director's Desk

DIRECTOR LEAVES FOR UTAH

As you read this, I will already be on the job in Ogden, Utah as the Director of Veterans Upward Bound at Weber State University. I have worked at WKU for fourteen and a half years of my 31 years in the Federal TRIO Programs and I have seen many veterans come through our program. I am happy to have had the opportunity to indirectly be of assistance to the vets in the area and I am even happier every time one of our participants finishes postsecondary school and we learn he or she is now using their education to work in better jobs than they had before.

I will miss WKU and VUB at WKU but I am also excited to have the new challenge and to be able to live close to family again.

As I leave, I want to challenge each

participant to stick to you educational plans. This is just one more mission for you to complete. With your degree from college or technical school, you can improve your earning power and that can be translated into a better lifestyle. Remember to call on VUB or Student Support Services if you need help at WKU and also remember that the campus also has tutoring programs and other sources you can tap into.

WKU now has an organization for veterans called the *Student Veterans Alliance of Western Kentucky University*. I urge you to join it if you are planning to attend WKU because it is a group that advocates for veterans rather than being a social fraternity. Check them out at <http://www.wku.edu/sva/>.

Good luck to each of you!
Randy Wilson

Notes and News



Winter is just around the corner and we want to remind all our students about our policy regarding bad weather. VUB follows WKU's lead in whether we are open or closed for classes. WKU announces on all local radio stations and WBKO. The best source would be WKYU-FM. Weather closures are also posted on WKU's homepage or students can call 270-936-0000 for a recorded message. Still, we urge all our students to use their best judgment when ascertaining weather conditions and deciding if it is safe to venture out.

NEED A RIDE?



All veterans needing transportation to the VA Campus in Nashville, TN can catch a ride by contacting the local American Legion Post. Call (270) 781-4046, leave your name and spell it out, and the leave the last 4 of your Social Security number. Don't forget to provide the date you need the ride. The van leaves from the American Legion Post at 208 Dishman Lane at 7:30 sharp, so don't be late!