


Name of Policy: <u>Veteran and service members' support and assistance.</u>		 Revision date: September 28, 2022 Original effective date: January 1, 2015	
Policy Number: 3364-71-18			
Approving Officer: Board of Trustees			
Responsible Agent: Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs			
Scope: All service members and veterans enrolled at the University of Toledo			
Key words: service members, veterans, military, GI Bill			
<input type="checkbox"/>	New policy proposal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Minor/technical revision of existing policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Major revision of existing policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy statement

The University of Toledo is committed to providing assistance and support to meet the unique needs of service members and veterans so they may succeed at degree attainment. In an effort to best serve this student population, the University of Toledo has adopted the Veteran and Service Members Support and Assistance policy 3364-71-18 pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.421.

(B) Purpose of policy

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the support and assistance The University of Toledo will provide to service members and veterans while enrolled at the institution. In alignment with Ohio Revised Code section 3345.42, this policy utilizes the following definitions for “service member” and “veteran:”

“Service member” means a person who is serving in the armed forces of the United States.

“Veteran” means any person who has completed service in the armed forces, including the national guard of any state or a reserve component of the armed forces, and who has been discharged under honorable conditions from the armed forces or who has been transferred to the reserve with evidence of satisfactory service.

(C) Scope

All service members and veterans enrolled at The University of Toledo.

This policy shall supersede, to the extent necessary to fulfill the requirements of this policy, the following related policies: priority registration (3364-71-12); credit for prior learning (3364-71-17); military service member readmit (3364-30-51), graduate student leave of absence (3364-77-04); administrative adjustment for extenuating circumstances (3364-71-16).

(D) Procedure

- (1) In support and assistance provided to service members and veterans The University of Toledo will:
 - (a) Establish and maintain a service member and veteran student services office.
 - (b) Refer service members and veterans to proper local, state and/or federal agencies in the event The University of Toledo believes that the service member or veteran is eligible for services.
 - (c) Work with the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) to develop a veteran-friendly campus that increases the opportunity for service members and veterans to succeed academically.
 - (d) Work with other Ohio institutions of higher education to disseminate and share promising practices for serving service members and veteran effectively.
 - (e) Promote veteran-friendly campuses by utilizing the ODHE's structure to disseminate and share promising practices statewide for serving service member and veterans effectively.
 - (f) Train appropriate faculty and staff to increase awareness of the mindset and unique needs of service members and veterans returning from combat zones and/or tours of duty overseas.
 - (g) Create "safe zones" for service member and veterans through a student service member/veteran club, organization, or association and campus-wide awareness training.
 - (h) Provide a portion of student orientation (or a separate session) specifically for service members and veterans.


- (i) Recognize the service of service members and veterans at various events such as graduation, community service awards, honors awards, and an appreciation day.
 - (j) Regularly evaluate institutional policies and procedures that create barriers to service member and veteran success.
 - (k) Empower those working directly with service members and veterans to provide services designed to promote educational achievement.
 - (l) Provide training, in partnership with Veterans Affairs, in the proper certification methods for certifying officials.
 - (m) [new language added] Engage with off-campus stakeholders such as PreK-12 Purple Star Schools, Ohio Department of Veterans Services, Ohio National Guard, and other related community organizations to strengthen resources and policies geared toward service members and veterans.
 - (n) Develop a clear outreach strategy to communicate with eligible persons about educational and training benefits to encourage the use of GI Bill benefits, as well as services and assistance offered by the institution.
 - (o) Continue to work with the legislature, workforce and higher education community to identify and develop statewide policies to ensure the transition to higher education is seamless for all students, including service members and veterans. (This may include, but is not limited to, issues such as transfer, credit for prior learning and/or experience, career ladders, support services, etc.).
 - (p) Ensure the campus community is aware of benefits associated with the new Post 9/11 GI Bill and through our campus veterans' office and veteran coordinator(s) to actively find ways to connect returning service members and veterans with the services offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (2) The University of Toledo will work to provide better access and success for service members and veterans in postsecondary education and training while improving transition to civilian work.

Services provided will include:

- (a) An online tool for exploring careers, searching programs in Ohio and providing consumer reporting information on earnings and employment outcomes for each program. This website should include special information targeted to service members and veterans regarding shortening the time to receive a credential or degree through:
- (i) Expanding credit for prior learning;
 - (ii) Articulation and transfer agreements;
 - (iii) Bridge programs;
 - (iv) Applied Baccalaureate degrees; and
 - (v) Online tools
- (b) Improving services for service member and veteran job seekers by promoting seamless workforce development services such as those provided at Ohio Means Jobs Centers, campus career centers, and through affiliates.

(F) References

Ohio Revised Code 3345.421 - 424

<p>Approved by:</p> <p>The University of Toledo Board of Trustees</p> <p>By  _____ Stephen R. Ciucci, Chair</p> <p><i>Review/Revision Completed by: Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs; Senior Leadership Team; Board of Trustees</i></p>	<p>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</p> <p><i>This policy shall supersede, to the extent necessary to fulfill the requirements of this policy, the following related policies: priority registration (3364-71-12); credit for prior learning (3364-71-17); military service member readmit (3364-30-51), graduate student leave of absence (3364-77-04); administrative adjustment for extenuating circumstances (3364-71-16)</i></p> <p>Initial effective date: January 1, 2015</p> <p>Review/Revision Date: September 28, 2022</p> <p>Next review date: September 2025</p>
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