CUNY Vets Newsletter



CUNY Council on Veterans' Affairs (COVA)





CUNY named the first public undergraduate system to receive the 2017 Military Friendly designation by Victory Media



CUNY is a Proud Member of NYServes!



Follow Your Passion Lisa Beatha, University Director of Veteran Affairs

So many of our fallen service members are buried in Normandy, France, and I have always been curious as to why. This summer, I decided to follow my passion to finally visit Normandy. And on Saturday, August 5, 2017 I had the opportunity to go on an allday D-Day tour, which began at the La Cambe, German



Cemetery, then continued onto Sainte-Mere-Eglise and the Airborne Museum. The church above is called Sainte-Mere-Eglise, and the blue stained glass window below the village chapel depicts the landing of the paratroopers who played such a vital role in WWII.

Over seven decades ago men and women from across the globe put on the uniform of this country for our freedom. And since the dawn of WWII in 1944, the GI Bill was created to support veterans. This trip to Normandy reminded me how much the GI Bill has evolved since its creation, and just how much our University system has to offer. I urge you to follow your professional and academic interests, and to utilize CUNY's focused support and developed services that help ensure post-graduation career success for our fellow veterans.



Veterans in Normandy



In the early morning of 6 June 1944, D Day began on the shores of Normandy with the largest seaborne mission to date. Over 150,000 men as well as mixed units of the U.S. 82nd Airborne and U.S. 101st Airborne Divisions occupied the town Sainte-Merė-Ėglise, giving it the claim to be one of the first towns liberated in the invasion.



During my visit I found out more ably how women contributed to the war efforts. My French guide told me of the 6888th Central Postal Battalion was made up of 855 enlisted African American women. There are only four women buried there and three of four are from the 6888 Battalion.



Graduate School 101 Information Session:

Join this information session to get an insider's perspective from a graduate admissions professional on the different degree options, the graduate admission and application process, as well as what to expect in the graduate programs.

Date: September 6, 2017

College: The University

Address: 217 East 42nd St. Manhattan, NY 10017

Time: 6:00 PM — 7:15 PM

Phone: 646-664-3550

Admission: Free

Forever GI Bill

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance ACT

The President signed into law the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act also known as the "Forever GI Bill," which will bring significant changes to Veterans education benefits. The law is named after the American Legion national commander who wrote the original GI Bill language in 1944, and will allow more Veterans to use the GI Bill and more time to use it. Some of the changes will go into effect immediately, and some are written to go into effect shortly after.

Some new provisions that go into effect immediately include:

- The 15-year time limitation for using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits is eliminated for Veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013, and qualifying dependents (Fry children who became eligible on or after January 1, 2013 and all Fry spouses).
- Reservists who had eligibility under the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) and lost it due to the program sunset provision will have that service credited toward the Post-9/11 GI Bill program.
- Certain work-study is permanently authorized; previously it had to be re-approved by Congress every few years.
- The VetSuccess on Campus program will be available to students across the country
- VA will help Veterans to more clearly identify schools that offer them priority enrollment

To read more about this miraculous feat, please visit the VA.Gov site and click on Education and Training.

Source: VA Benefits at VA.gov: http://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/ForeverGIBill.asp



FALL 2017 . COVA Newsletter

#VeteransOfCUNY



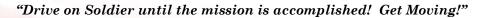
Ricardo Garcia, United States Army John Jay College of Criminal Justice

I am Ricardo Garcia and I served 23 years in the US Army. I received my Bachelor of Arts from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in Fall 2016; majoring in Political Science with a minor in History. My decision to study at CUNY was a direct result of my transition experience from US Army and Army National Guard deployments to civilian life. After the 9/11 World Trade Center Attacks I was called for numerous military and state side deployments. Upon completing my last military operation, I decided that I wanted to refocus my energy on my education. After touring the John Jay campus I learned there was a large population of student veterans taking clas-

ses. Because of this I was motivated to socially and academically entrench myself in the John Jay College community. John Jay offered a welcoming environment for service members, veterans and their families. Their unwavering support for all students solidified my decision to attend John Jay.

Upon enrolling I learned so much from the wonderful faculty, staff and administrators at the college. Equally amazing was the commitment and support that John Jay students had for one another. Throughout my years at the college I made great connections and received assistance in resolving any, and, every issue, whether it was academic or personal. To me this serves as a testament to the fortitude of the people who worked and attended the institution. The ability to obtain a phenomenal education and secure my academic advancement was just the icing on the cake. From college President, Mr. Jeremy Travis, to the custodial staff each and every one of these individuals contributed somehow directly towards my education in and outside of the classroom.

As a result of the support I received from the faculty, the students, and the staff at John Jay I decided to continue on pursuing my academic goals after completing my Bachelors. The support and confidence that they gave inspired me to pursue my Jurist Doctorate. Furthermore, because CUNY was so good to me I am making every conscious effort to attend the CUNY School of Law in 2018. Currently I have been practicing for the LSAT Exam and I have sought professors at the college to assist me in ascertaining law school admissions. My final goal is to make my way into politics so that I may represent the amazing citizens of the great New York City/State. My career goal is a direct result of the rigorous yet fulfilling education offered at John Jay as well as the guidance and push towards excellence that I received from my professors. I would not be where I am today if it were not for the CUNY and John Jay veterans community and I am extremely grateful and humbled. My advice for future veterans is,





CUNY Central Office of Veteran of Veteran Affairs (COVA)



#VETERANSOFCUNY

COVA would like to invite you to participate in the new #veteransofCUNY initiative which aims to highlight the amazing veterans across the university, both professional and student.

Please see reverse side for details

SUMMER 2017 . COVA Newsletter

veterans who wish to be featured should submit the following info to: veterans@cuny.edu

Branch of Service

CUNY Campus & Graduation Date Degrees/Certificates Already Earned What influenced your decision to come to CUNY? Employment/Educational Goals Challenges faced during transition from Service Member to Scholar Advice for Future Veterans Personal Photo (Uniform or on Campus Location)

JOBS FOR VETERANS!



VETERANS JOB FAIR



NEW YORK HILTON MIDTOWN

Thursday, September 14, 2017

11:00 am – 3:00 pm 1335 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10019

A FREE HIRING EVENT

FOR VETERANS, TRANSITIONING MILITARY PERSONNEL, NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS, RESERVE MEMBERS AND SPOUSES

=COMPANIES ARE HIRING!=

Job Opportunities > Continuing Education Opportunities > Business Ownership Opportunities

REGISTER NOW!

Follow us on >> @RecruitMilitary / Facebook

Proudly Sponsored by

SKANSKA

For more details, visit RecruitMilitary.com/NewYork

CUNY Central Office of Veteran Affairs

sth Annual Veterans' Academic Awards Breakfast



HONOR AND SERVICE



CUNY Graduate Center

9:30 - 11:00 A.M

Minimum requirments: 3.5 GPA 40 credits for Community College Veterans and 90 credit from Senior College Veterans

2017 Veteran Professional Networking/Resource Fair is will follow immediately after which will be open to all CUNY veterans, reservists, active duty, or spouse.



365 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10016



SUMMER 2017 . COVA Newsletter

Central Office of Veteran Affairs

YETERAN

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING & RESOURCE FAIR

Monday, November 6, 2017 12 PM-3 PM CUNY Graduate Center 365 5th Avenue New York, NY 10016



Open to all CUNY student veterans!



Refreshments will be served



PosterMyWall.com



ACP Helps Veterans Find Their Next Career

 1:1
 Fortune
 98%

 and Customized
 ACP's Mentors come from America's top
 Most veteran Protegets would reconveterant protegets would reconvetera

<u>American Corporate Partners</u> (ACP) offers student veterans the opportunity to be mentored by successful professionals from Fortune 500 Companies, such as Bloomberg, Deloitte, The Home Depot, Intel, Raytheon, UPS and <u>many others</u> - at their own pace and at no financial cost.

Experienced business leaders can offer targeted guidance for veterans looking to get their foot in the door in the business world. For example, Mentors can help a student veteran with any of the following:

- · Clarifying career goals and creating a tailored action plan
- · Developing professional communication skills for more effective networking and social media presence
- Improving résumé and interview skills
- · Gaining industry insight and perspectives on advancement

Visit <u>www.acp-usa.org/mentoring</u> to request a Mentor in your career field. Please note that you were referred by **City University of New York** on your application. If you have questions, please email **Joshuah Chrisman** at <u>jchrisman@acp-usa.org</u> or give us a call at <u>(212) 752-0700</u>.



Meet the CUNY Welcome Center's (CWC) Veterans' Admissions Team



Pictured (left to right): Veterans Admissions Team, including

Geilyn Quinones, Peter Engel, Kevin Hill, and Tina Zucchetto.

Welcome from Admissions!

The CUNY Welcome Center's Veterans Admissions Team is dedicated to assisting service members and their families with CUNY's Undergraduate Application. Services include:

- <u>Inquiries & Guidance</u> The team responds to veteran inquiries by phone, email, or in-person consultations. and provides information about CUNY's resources, programs and application process.
- <u>Veterans Application Fee Waivers</u> Fee waivers can be issued by the team to veterans who submitted a Freshman and Transfer Undergraduate application. To request a waiver, veterans should email proof of military service to vetwaiver@cuny.edu. Fee waivers can only be issued for those who have served and are non-transferrable.
- <u>Application Assistance</u> Veterans can submit their application documents directly to members of the team to foster a smooth application process. The team also expedites the processing of veteran applications whenever possible.
- <u>Letters of Eligibility</u> These letters are issued to active duty service members to help initiate their separation/preparation process (they are issued on a case by case basis).
- <u>Assisting Campuses</u> We work with CUNY's Campus Veterans Coordinators to provide them with additional information about their veteran population.
- <u>ROTC</u> E-permits for ROTC courses are processed through the assistance of the Veterans Admissions Team.



CUNY Veterans Undergraduate Application Guide

	Quick reference guide on how veterans apply to CUNY		
STEP 1:	Apply Online – Prospective students should submit a freshman or transfer application online at www.cuny.edu/apply . On the application fee page, veterans should select the "Pay Later" option.		
STEP 2:	Obtain Fee Waiver – Veterans can email vetwaiver@cuny.edu to request an application fee waiver. They should at least provide name, application control number, and date of birth. Proof of military service must be attached to the email and can include copies of one of the following items: DD214 (Certificate of Release of Discharge from Active Duty) Pre-separation orders Other military-issued paperwork		
STEP 3:	Send Supporting Documents – Official transcripts and other supporting documents should be sent directly to the University Application Processing Center (UAPC).Regular MailGeneral Freshman AdmissionGeneral Transfer AdmissionMacaulay Honors College CUNY/UAPCCUNY/UAPCCUNY/UAPCCUNY/UAPCP.O. Box 350136P.O. Box 359023P.O. Box 359021Brooklyn, NY 11235-0001Brooklyn, NY 11235-9023Brooklyn, NY 11235-0001Overnight/Express Shipping (DHL, Fedex, etc.)CUNY/UAPC2001 Oriental Blvd., Building T-1, Room 122Brooklyn, NY 11235Brooklyn, NY 11235		
STEP 4:	 Request the JST – Veterans should also send their Joint Services Transcript (JST), which is the transcript of their military courses, to UAPC using the following websites: Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard: https://ist.doded.mil/official.html Create an account and sign-in. Click "Transcript," then "Official Transcript Request." Choose to submit the JST to City University of New York (Processing Center) and to any individual CUNY college(s) of your choice. Air Force: www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp Note: This transcript will not affect the admissions decision. The amount of military credits that can transfer to CUNY varies by college. After the veteran is accepted to a college, the campus' Admissions Office will determine the number of transfer credits each student can receive, including credits for military courses. 		





Dear Veteran,

CUNY has approved the review of military credentials to award transfer credit for military service. If you would like your military experience to be evaluated for academic credit and /or to illustrate your work experience on your resume, follow the steps listed below.

<u>Step 1:</u>	Create an account for your military transcript via the following websites: Army, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard: <u>https://jst.doded.mil/official.html</u> Air Force: <u>www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp</u>
<u>Step 2:</u>	Submit your transcript to CUNY UAPC (University Application Processing Center) and/or your current CUNY College.
<u>Step 3:</u>	Print and save a copy of your military transcript to a USB or secure cloud.
<u>Step 4:</u>	Use American Council of Education (ACE) Military guide to review a descrip- tion of your coursework: <u>http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/</u> <u>Military-Guide-Online.aspx.</u>

Using JST credits for college can count toward:	<u>Using JST credits for employment can:</u>
Elective credit	Showcase military occupation
Major or Minor electives	Illustrate responsibilities/duties
General Education elective	Illustrate leadership and training

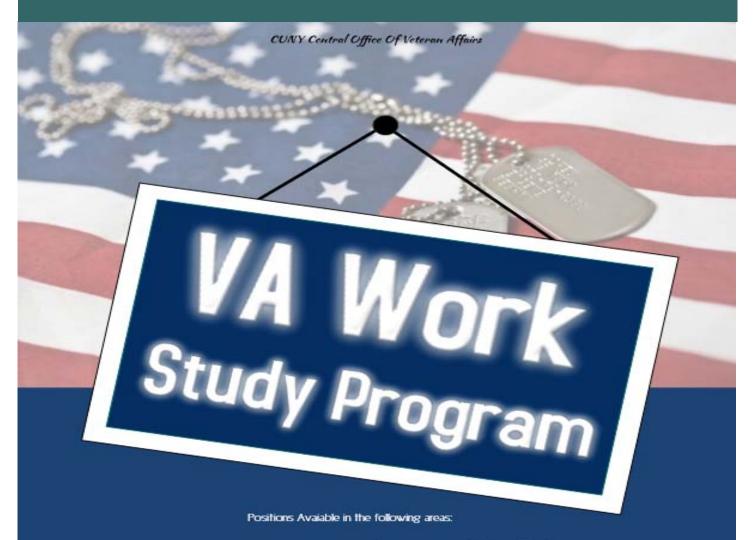
Would you like to have a career that relates to your military occupational specialty (MOS)?

Learn what certifications and degrees match your area of expertise by using the COOL sites...

Army: <u>https://www.cool.army.mil/</u> Navy: <u>https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/</u> Marine Corps: <u>https://www.cool.navy.mil/usmc/</u>



Join VA Work-Study



VETERAN MENTOR GRAPHIC DESIGN

ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM ASSISTANT OUTREACH RESEARCH & STATISTICS ADMISSIONS COUNSELING

The CUNY Central Office of Veterans' Affairs has expanded its involvement in the VA work-study program. The program allows student veterans and dependents who are receiving education benefits from the Department of Veteran Affairs to work in a veteran related office at CUNY. Participation in the VA Work-Study program provides veterans with valuable civilian work experience and additional funding for their tuition.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL VETERANS@CUNY.EDU

VA Work-Study FAQ

How do I know if I am eligible for VA work-study program?

CUNY student veterans and dependents are eligible if they are **CURRENTLY** registered to take classes in a college degree program, a vocational program or a professional/graduate program **AND** receiving education benefits under one of the following chapters:

Chapter 30: The Montgomery GI Bill Chapter 31: Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation Program Chapter 32: Veterans Educational Assistance Program Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill or Transfer of Entitlement Chapter 35: Survivors and Dependence Educational Assistance Program Chapter 1606: The Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve Chapter 1607: Reserve Educational Assistance Program

What type of work will I perform?

VA Work-Study students who are participating in the program at an Educational Institution will perform such duties as preparing and processing paperwork that would include filling out the VA Form 22-1999, Enrollment Certification and VA Form 22-1999b, Notice of Change in Student Status forms and answering veterans inquiries. The student can assist with doing monthly check-in procedures to verify the course load on veterans.

Work responsibilities will vary according to work location. Under the VA work study program student veterans have worked as peer mentors and assisted in areas related to veterans' admissions, communications/outreach, administration, social media/graphic design, research/statistics, budget/finance, and human resources amongst several others. The work you actually do will depend on your interests and the type of work available.

How much will I make?

Your hourly pay rate will be the greater of (1) the federal minimum wage OR (2) the minimum wage for the state/city in which you are working. Please visit <u>https://www.labor.ny.gov/home/</u> to confirm the minimum wage for your area.

How many hours can I work ?

Weekly work schedules are determined by the student and work-study supervisor. The total hours a student can work in one semester is given by the Buffalo VA Regional Office: Work-Study Department. The hours are based on 25 hours per weeks of enrollment.

Where do I sign up?

Contact the veteran coordinator on your campus for more information or send an email to veterans@cuny.edu



Campus Representatives

The CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs is dedicated to fostering a sense of community and to developing a channel of communication among veteran and reservist students, and with faculty, staff and administration Below is a complete list of campus veteran representatives

Community Colleges

Borough of Manhattan Community College Wilfred Cotto, Veteran Services Coordinator 199 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007 212-220-5363; wcotto@bmcc.cuny.edu

Bronx Community College Betsy C. Montanez Coordinator of Veterans and Military Resources 2155 University Avenue, Loew Hall Room 114, Bronx NY, 10453 718-289-5447; betsy.montanez@bcc.cuny.edu

Hostos Community College Charles Prince Uwa, Veterans Affairs Coordinator 450 Grand Concourse, RM C-377 Bronx, NY 10451 718-319-7955; cuwa@hostos.cuny.edu

Kingsborough Community College Tara Yarczower, Director/Certifying Official Office of Military and Veteran Services 2001 Oriental Blvd Brooklyn, NY 11235 718-368-5978; tara.yarczower@kbcc.cuny.edu

LaGuardia Community College Stephen Clark, M.A, Veteran Services Director 31-10 Thomson Avenuee Building C, RM 371-D Long Island City NY, 11101 718-730-7590; sclark@lagcc.cuny.edu

Queensborough Community College Director of Military and Veterans Services/Certifying Official 222-05 56th Ave RM L421 Bayside, NY 11364 718-281-5767; amcdonald@qcc.cuny.edu

Senior Colleges

Baruch College John Seto Veterans Affairs Certifying Official 151 E 25th St RM 850 New York, NY 10010 646-312-1264; john.seto@baruch.cuny.edu

Brooklyn College Claudette Guinn Coordinator of Veterans Affairs/Certifying Official 2900 Bedford Avenue James Hall 1407 Brooklyn, NY 11210 718-951-5105; cguinn@brooklyn.cuny.edu

City College Christopher Gorman, Director of Veterans Affairs/Certifying Official 160 Convent Ave, Wingate Hall, RM 107 New York, NY 10031 212-650-5374; cgorman@ccny.cuny.edu

College of Staten Island Laura Scazzafavo, Veteran Support Specialist 2800 Victory Blvd, RM 1C-219 Staten Island, NY 10314 718-982-3108; laura.scazzafavo@csi.cuny.edu

Hunter College Brian Martineau, Academic Advisor for Student Veterans 695 Park Ave, RM 1119 East New York, NY 10065 212-772-4923; arosero@hunter.cuny.edu

John Jay College of Criminal Justice Richard Pusateri, Military and Veterans Services Manager 524 W 59th St. 229 Haaren Hall New York, NY 10019 212-484-1329; rpusateri@jjay.cuny.edu

Lehman College Luis E. Soltero-Rodriguez Dircetor of Veterans and Military Affairs 250 Bedfrod Park Blvd West. Shuster 201 A/B Bronx NY 10468 718-960-7188; luis.soltero-rodriguez@lehman.cuny.edu

Medgar Evers College Hamilton JB. Raymond, Veterans Affairs Coordinator/Certifying Official 1637 Bedford Avenue; Brooklyn, NY 11225 718-270-4915; rhamilton@mec.cuny.edu

NYC College of Technology Robert Timmins, LMSW Veteran Services Coordinator 300 Jay Street RM NG15 Brooklyn, NY 11201 718-260-4980; rtimmins@citytech.cuny.edu

Queens College Dennis Torres, Veterans Outreach Specialist 65-30 Kissena Blvd; Student Union RM 320 Queens NY 11367 718-997-3033; dennis.torres@qc.cuny.edu

School of Professional Studies Christopher Leydon, Veteran Services Coordinator/Certifying Official 119 W 31st RM 413-B New York, NY 10001 646-664-8616; Christopher.leydon@cuny.edu

York College Larry D. Eaton; Veteran Affairs Manager 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd; Jamaica NY 11451 718-262-5298; leaton@york.cuny.edu

For a complete list of CUNY honors and professional schools veteran representatives please visit cuny.edu/veterans

Veteran Resources

VA MEDICAL CENTERS

Bronx VA Medical Center 130 West Kingsbridge Road Bronx, NY 10468; (718) 584-9000

NY Div VA Medical Center 423 East 23rd St New York, NY 10010; (212) 686-7500

BK Poly Pl Campus VA Medical Center 800 Poly Place Brooklyn, NY 11209; (718) 836-6600

St. Albans Extended Care Center 17901 Linden Blvd Jamaica, NY 11434; (718) 526-1000

CLINICS

Bay Shore CBOC 132 Main St. Bay Shore, NY 11706 (631) 328-9092

East Meadow Clinic 2201 Hempstead Turnpike Bldg. Q East Meadow, NY 11554 (631) 754-7978 VA Harlem Care Center 55 West 125th St. New York, NY 10027 (646) 273-8125

Thomas P. Noonan Jr. Clinic 47-01 Queens Blvd Sunnyside, NY 11104

Staten Island Health Care Center 21 Water Street Staten Island, NY 10304 (718) 761-2973

White Plains VHA Clinic 23 South Broadway White Plains, NY 10601 (914)-421-1951

Yonkers VHA Clinic 124 New Main St Yonkers, NY 10701 (914) 375-8055x4400

VET CENTERS

Bronx Vet Center 2471 Morris Ave Suite 1A Bronx, NY 10468 (718) 367-3500

Brooklyn Vet Center 25 Chapel Street Suite 604 Brooklyn, NY 11201 (718) 624-2765 Harlem Vet Center 2279 3rd Ave 2nd FL New York, NY 10035 (212) 426-2200

Manhattan Vet Center 32 Broadway 2nd FL, Suite 200 New York. NY 10004 (212) 742-9591

Nassau Vet Center 970 South Broadway Hicksville, NY 11801 (516) 348-0088

Queens Vet Center 75-10B 91 Ave Woodhaven, NY 11421 (718)296-2871

Staten Island Vet Center 60 Bay Street Staten Island, NY 10301 (718) 816-4499

White Plains Vet Center 300 Hamilton Ave Suite C White Plains, NY 10601 (914) 682-6250

Websites

eBenefits	www.eBenefits.va.gov
Education Benefits	www.benefits.va.gov/gibill
Health Care Eligibility	
Homeless Veterans	www.va.gov/homeless
Mental Health	www.mentalhealth.va.gov
National Resource Directory	
Records	www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel
Women Veterans	www.va.gov/womenvet
VA Benefit Payment Rates	
VA Forms	www.va.gov/vaforms

#CUNYVets2017



Contact Us

Central Office of Student Affairs 555 West 57th Street 14th Floor New York, NY 10019 P: 646-664-8800

Main Email <u>veterans@cuny.edu</u>

Vet Fee Waiver Email <u>vetwaiver@cuny.edu</u>

Web Site <u>www.cuny.edu/veterans</u>

Lisa Beatha

United States Army Veteran University Director of Veterans Affairs <u>Lisa.Beatha@cuny.edu</u> (646) 664-8835

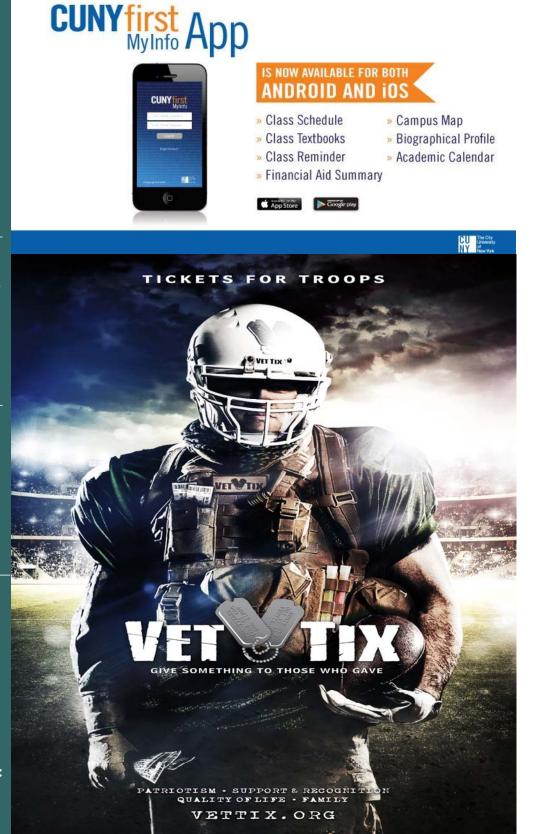
Social Media CUNY Veterans @CUNYVets @CUNYVeterans CUNY Veteran Affairs

Want to see stories about veterans at your campus?

Submit them!!

Just email questions, comments or articles to: <u>veterans@cuny.edu</u>

Additional Resources



For Previous Issues, visit: http://www2.cuny.edu/about/university-resources/veterans-affairs/about-us/cuny-vets-newsletter/