

Spotlight on Student Services

November-December 2015



CUYAMACA
COLLEGE



Veterans Education and Transition Services (V.E.T.S.)

Contact:

Osvaldo Torres, Veterans Counselor
Debbie Ayers, VA Certifying Official
Phone: 619-660-4282

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

One Stop Student Services Center, A-200

Serving Those Who Serve Us

Veteran Resource Center

Phone: 619-660-4060

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Student Center, I-121

Student Veteran Organization (SVO)

Monthly meetings are held at the Veteran Resource Center, I-121. Meeting schedule for the spring semester will be posted in the V.E.T.S webpage.

In the Spotlight:

The Veteran Resource Center in I-121 is available to all student veterans. Students have access to computer stations, printer (print up to 10 free pages), relaxation space (with T.V.), on and off campus resources, and kitchenette space. This is a great space for studying and/or relaxing.

For more information and updates, visit the V.E.T.S webpage:

<http://www.cuyamaca.edu/services/veterans/default.aspx>

“A Review” Highlights from 2015 Fall Semester

- Veterans Services celebrated their open house on May 27, 2015 by giving a tour of their installations and sharing delicious treats.
- Vet Net Ally Seminar took place, October 23, 2015. This half-day event focused on the needs and concerns of military service members and veterans studying at Cuyamaca College. Those who successfully completed the seminar were given a decal to display in their workspace to show they are Allies to Cuyamaca College student veterans.
- Veterans Week was celebrated from November 2-7, 2015. Vet Week events included, the Student Veteran Organization Food Sale, Resume Building workshop, Student Veterans BBQ, SCU Transfer Workshop, Veterans Week Book Display, and a Bowling Fundraiser.



November 2-7, 2015

Student Veteran Organization

Food Sale

Monday, Nov. 2nd • 12:00 pm-3:00 pm • VRC (I-121)

Student Veteran Organization will be selling a pizza combo (with chips and soda), to help raise money for club activities.

Resume Building for Your Future

Career Success Workshop

Tuesday, Nov. 3rd • 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm • I-104

The workshop will give students an opportunity to review the resume building process. By attending the resume workshop, students will increase in their knowledge and skills for successfully creating a resume.

Student Veterans BBQ

Wednesday, Nov. 4th • 12:00 pm - 1:30pm • Water Conservation Garden

Please join us for a complimentary BBQ in honor of our Veteran Students. Come celebrate with delicious food and giveaways. All students in attendance will receive an academic supply kit.

CSU Transfer Application Workshop for Student Veterans

Thursday, Nov. 5th • 9:00 am - 11:00 am • Transfer Center

The workshop will give students an opportunity to review the CSU application. By attending the application workshop students will increase in their knowledge and skills for completing the online application.

Veterans Week Book Display

November 2nd - 6th • Cuyamaca College Library

The library will create a book display to honor Veterans Week and those who served. The display features books and images related to veterans and their service.

Bowling for SVO

November 7th • 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm • Parkway Bowl, 1280 Fletcher Pkwy, El Cajon CA 92020

Come support Cuyamaca College's Student Veteran Organization in the Bowling for SVO fundraiser. All proceeds will go towards student veterans educational support programs and initiatives such as scholarships, expansion of book loan program and school supplies.

Please RSVP by Friday, October 23rd at

www.surveymonkey.com/r/GHYTJW3

Contact Jocelyn Pacheco at Jocelyn.Pacheco@gcccd.edu if you have any questions.

In observance of Veterans Day, Cuyamaca College remembers and honors the contributions of both our active military families and our veteran military families by hosting a week of veteran related activities.



Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board Members:
 Greg Barr, Bill Conner, Steven Hill, Debbie Johnson, Mary Kay Romala, Student Members: Evon Espinoza, Rafael Navarrete
 Chancellor: Cindy L. Miles, Ph.D. Cuyamaca College President: Juliana Barnes Ph.D.

Student Success



To do list:

1. Complete the Spring Semester Worksheet to receive VA benefits on time. No appointment necessary, walk-ins welcomed.
2. The Book Loan Program is available to all student veterans. Contact the V.E.T.S office for a list of available books.

Coming Spring 2016:

Boots to Books Scholar Initiative Workshops

Workshops to aid in the academic transition of student veterans will be held once a month beginning Spring 2016. Students will have the opportunity to meet with representatives who will provide information, tips and resources.

Debbie Ayers: Former Professional Bowler Now Helping Veterans at Cuyamaca College



With a father who served with the Navy during the Vietnam War and a grandfather who served with the Army in the Korean War, Debbie Ayers feels right at home with Veterans Services at Cuyamaca College as an Admissions and Records Specialist. “It makes the job more special to me,” said Ayers. “I enjoy working with student veterans and helping them succeed in reaching their educational goals. It’s really rewarding seeing them succeed in their educational endeavors and moving on to a new career.” Her duties include certifying that GI Bill benefits will pay for classes in which veterans are enrolled, advising student veterans about needed paperwork, and talking to them about the process needed to graduate.

Ayers, who grew up in El Cajon and graduated from Granite Hills High School, worked at Southwestern College, from where she graduated with an associate degree in business management, and for 13 years as a residency specialist in the Admissions and Records Office.

Then she took a couple years off to pursue her dream of becoming a professional bowler, capturing 13 titles on the Women’s Professional Bowlers Tour at tournaments from California to Connecticut before the effort fizzled due to a lack of sponsors. “I’ve been bowling since I was 5 years old,” Ayers said. “I grew up three minutes from El Cajon Bowl, where my mom worked doing everything from working the front desk to tending bar.” When she was a junior at Granite Hills, Ayers competed in Australia’s Koala Cup, a tournament for juniors in which she took first place in the singles, mixed doubles, and team events. After leaving professional bowling behind, Ayers came to work at Cuyamaca College, where her daughter is a student. She still finds herself competing in weekend tournaments in Nevada, however.

“Cuyamaca College is wonderful,” Ayers said. “It’s small, not as intimidating as some of the bigger colleges, and it is very student oriented. And I’m very proud of our department. We work together well to make sure veterans are getting the services they need and the benefits they’ve earned.”

