

FACT SHEET

Adult Learner—may be 24 years of age or older; a veteran of the armed services or active-duty; returning to school after four or more years of employment, homemaking, or other activity; a person who assumes multiple adult roles, such as parent, spouse/partner, and employee.

Military and Veteran Students at Penn State



Helping to serve the education needs of our military has always been a part of Penn State's mission. We currently have more than 4,000 student veterans enrolled, and almost half of those students are studying online with the Penn State World Campus. This represents approximately **18%*** of the undergraduate student population.

In 2014, *U.S. News & World Report* recognized Penn State as the No. 1 national university for veterans.

**Source: Outreach Analytics and Reporting*

Services Available for Penn State's Military and Veteran Students

Penn State in San Diego

Penn State will have its first dedicated teaching site on a military base in the fall of 2015, when select courses through Penn State World Campus will be offered at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. An on-base office is staffed with Penn State employees to provide direct assistance and information to these recruits.

Legal Clinic for Veterans and Servicemembers

The Penn State Law Veterans and Servicemembers Legal Clinic is designed to fill a critical gap that exists between the demand for specialized legal assistance and the limited supply of such services in Pennsylvania and across the nation. Initially, the clinic will focus its work in three areas: Veterans benefits appeals, veterans rights cases, and state and federal policy matters that pertain to veterans and service members.

Fry Scholarship Benefits

Effective summer 2015, the Fry Scholarship covers the full cost of a college education for all of the children and spouses of members of the United States Armed Forces who have died in the line of duty while on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Covered costs include 36 months of tuition and fees up to the maximum in-state tuition, as well as a monthly living stipend and book allowance. All eligible veterans and dependents receiving Fry Scholarship benefits will be eligible for in-state tuition regardless of residency.

Priority Registration

Penn State's Faculty Senate approved priority registration for honorably discharged student veterans of the United States Armed Forces, Reserve, and Guard to provide greater access to course availability.

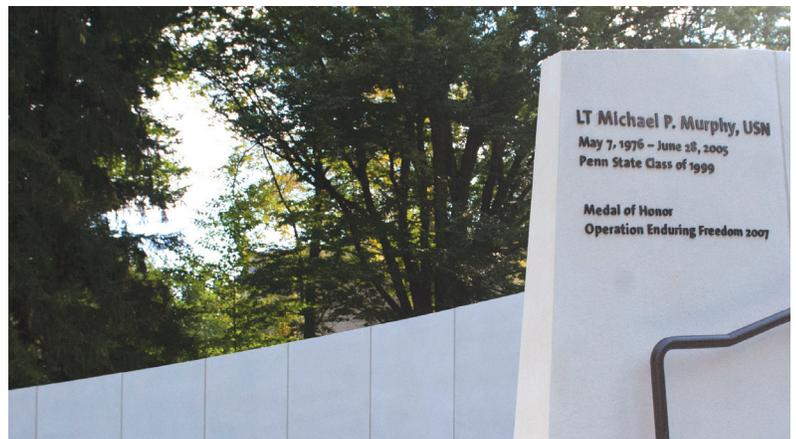
Participant in the Post-9/11 GI Bill Yellow Ribbon Program

Penn State participates at the full amount in the Yellow Ribbon Program. This applies to all undergraduate and graduate programs, with the exception of the Penn State College of Medicine. More information can be found at equity.psu.edu/veterans.

Scholarships

We are proud to support our adult learners and military students through a variety of means, and we participate in all the major federal and state student aid programs. Penn State offers a variety of scholarships that are awarded on the basis of merit and/or financial need as defined by the specific scholarship program including:

- Alexander P. Fletcher Navy Student Award
- Fischer Family Scholarship for Continuing and Distance Education
- Military Annual Award in the Penn State World Campus
- Navy SEAL Lt. Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Award



The Penn State Veterans Plaza honors all Penn Staters who have served in the United States Armed Forces. The wall is named for Lt. Michael Patrick Murphy, a 1998 Penn State graduate, who was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for heroic actions during the war in Afghanistan.

Commission for Adult Learners Update from the Committee on Military and Veteran Services

This spring, a survey was sent to all active duty military, veterans, and members of the reserve/National Guard to discover gaps in support services and to gather information for future planning efforts. Highlights include:

87.2% agreed that "my campus is welcoming toward military and veteran students"

48% did not know about a certifying official located on campus

24% did not know about priority registration

70.2% agreed that it is a challenge to balance school, work, and family responsibilities

Analysis of responses will be discussed and shared with appropriate University leadership, with proposals for improved support services included.