UTSA and VA Offer Veterans Tools for Success

Have you heard of the “VSOC” program? It is an acronym for the Department of Veteran’s Affairs (VA) VetSuccess on Campus program – and UTSA houses one of the selected locations! Through the VSOC program, VA places experienced vocational rehabilitation counselors on college campuses to assist the growing number of Servicemembers, Veterans, and dependents attending school under the Post-9/11 GI Bill® and other VA educational programs.

These VSOC counselors are trained to provide academic and vocational guidance to Veterans, and help connect them to other VA benefits, including health care and mental health services. VSOC counselors maintain close relationships with local VA Vet Centers and VA medical facilities, referring Servicemembers, Veterans and dependents as needed and providing assistance applying for VA medical and nonmedical benefits. UTSA has two VSOC counselors, who can be found on campus at the Veterans Certification Office on main campus (MH 3.01.26), and at the downtown campus on Wednesdays (Monterey Building, 1st floor Conference Room). Please visit in person, or call 210-458-4540 for additional contact information.

VetSuccess on Campus services are available to Servicemembers and Veterans eligible for any of VA’s educational programs, including the Post 9/11 GI Bill and Montgomery GI Bill, as well as VA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (CH31) Program. VSOC counselors can also assist dependents of Veterans who are receiving VA education benefits, including eligible spouses and children attending school through the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

In addition, VA’s Education and Career Counseling Program offers a great opportunity for transitioning Servicemembers and Veterans to get personalized counseling and support to guide their career paths, ensure most effective use of their VA benefits, and help them achieve their goals. Contact UTSA’s VSOC counselors to learn more about this program.

VA’s GI Bill website (http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/) offers tools to help Veterans transition from military service to student success. For career assistance, including connecting to employers looking to hire Servicemembers, Veterans and dependents, the new Veterans Employment Center on eBenefits (https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/jobs) is a one-stop-shop offering online tools and resources.