

Step-by-step instructions

1. Apply for admission to the university

Generally, it is a good idea to apply for admission six months before you plan on attending. The application deadline is February 1 for the fall and summer semesters, and October 1 for the spring semester. Sometimes the university gives recently-separated veterans a break and expedites late applications. Also, be sure to apply for financial aid when you apply for admission.

Website: www.admissions.wisc.edu

2. Visit your County Veterans Service Officer

Find your CVSO's number in the phone book and make an appointment to take care of a few things. First and foremost, make sure you register your DD 214 (report of separation). If you were to ever lose your DD 214, it would take a great deal of work to get another copy of it, if you could get a copy at all. By registering your DD 214, you will be able to obtain a copy anytime, whether it be two years or 50 years from now. In addition, you can also establish your eligibility for Wisconsin benefits, review all your benefits and claim disability.

Website: www.wicvso.org/your_cvcs0.htm

3. Attend SOAR

The UW-Madison offers SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration) many times throughout the year. Your transition to becoming a UW-Madison student begins at SOAR. Required for all incoming students, SOAR is your opportunity to take all necessary placement tests, talk with an academic advisor, and register for your classes*.

Website: www.wisc.edu/sop/soar

*Note: register online before SOAR, if possible.

4. Visit the Student Veteran Services Office

See Linda Struck at 21 N. Park St., room 7207, to activate your GI Bill. Also, Linda can help you with pre-applications for VedEd and the Wisconsin GI Bill.

Website: registrar.wisc.edu/students/vets

5. Stop by Vets for Vets

Education benefits are constantly changing at both the state and the federal level. Often times students are unaware that they are eligible for certain benefits. Vets for Vets has been serving student veterans at UW-Madison since 1972 and we employ a professional benefits counselor. We have helped vets get millions of dollars in education benefits. Visit Vets for Vets for a thorough review of your education benefits.

Website: vets.studentorg.wisc.edu



General advice and info

Housing

You probably don't want to live in the dorms. The UW-Madison provides an excellent resource for finding a place to live through their Campus Information and Visitor Center website: housing.civc.wisc.edu/search.asp.

Free credits for military service

You may be eligible to receive college credit for your active duty. You could receive anywhere from one to six credits, depending on your training and which branch of the military you served with. See "Free credits for vets" at vets.studentorg.wisc.edu for more information.

Child care assistance

If you need financial assistance with child care costs while you attend classes at the UW-Madison, you may be eligible for assistance through the Child Care Tuition Assistance Program (CCTAP). For more information, eligibility and an application, visit www.housing.wisc.edu/occftr.

Free medical coverage

If you are a veteran and a full-time student at UW-Madison, you are eligible to receive certain medical benefits both on campus and at the local veterans hospital. On campus, you can take advantage of the services provided by University Health Services. If you wish to receive medical treatment at the local VA Hospital, you can apply for coverage by completing a few forms. See "Free medical coverage" at vets.studentorg.wisc.edu for more information.

Financial Aid

Many people think that veterans who receive the GI Bill are not eligible for financial aid, but this is not true. There are a couple of things to consider when filling out the application. First, veterans are considered independent, so your parents' income no longer counts. Second, if your income will drop when you become a student you should say so in the Special Circumstances section. For further instructions, see "Financial Aid" at vets.studentorg.wisc.edu.

VETS FOR VETS
RECENTLY
SEPARATED
BROCHURE

Info and advice continued

Free software training

UW-Madison's Software Training for Students (STS) can really help you stand out. STS offers dozens of free classes to UW-Madison students to help you build your resume, learn new software applications and increase your future job prospects. Their student-led classes are typically one to two hours in length and are scheduled at various campus locations throughout the semester. For additional information, visit wisc.edu/sts.

Summer school

Despite common beliefs, college summer school is fun, and maybe easier, too. UW-Madison offers numerous classes during the summer session that can fit any schedule, work or vacation. What's more, you can probably receive your GI Bill benefits during the entire summer, not just while you are attending class. So why not take class during the summer and get paid for it? See "Summer school at the UW" at vets.studentorg.wisc.edu for more information.

Buying textbooks

Textbooks are extremely expensive and more often than not you will have to spend \$500 on books for a single semester. By ordering your books online you can find much better prices. Visit the University Bookstore or find your class' syllabus online to determine what books you will need, then start searching the Internet for the best prices. Some books won't be available because they may be specialized, but you should be able to get your hands on the majority of the textbooks you will need.



VETS FOR VETS

See our other brochures for additional benefit information:

- Tuition Help for Veterans
- GI Bill
- Wisconsin Veterans Benefits
- Reserve & Guard
- Map to Veterans Services

These brochures are available online at vets.studentorg.wisc.edu, or stop by our office which is conveniently located at 714 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53715.

Phone: 608.263.3456

Vets for Vets
Guide for

RECENTLY SEPARATED VETERANS

At the UW-Madison

SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

This brochure provides general information and guidance for veterans who have recently separated from active duty and plan on attending the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Included are the step-by-step instructions that are essential for a successful transition from full-time military service to becoming a full-time student.

Also included is a wealth of information that will make your life as a student more enjoyable.



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