## MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT RESOURCE GUIDE

Many students have questions about the military education benefits and resources for students. We hope you find the following information helpful and encourage you to reach out for support.

#### **Veteran Student Organization (VSO) & Veteran Lounge**

The Veteran Students Organization aims to ease veterans' transition to our higher education institution. It supports them by addressing veteran and scholarly needs and concerns throughout their time at NJIT and preparing members for graduation and beyond. The VSO is a chapter of Student Veterans of America and helps to facilitate various ceremonies and memorials for September 11th, Memorial Day, and Veterans Day.

#### Visit the Veterans Lounge in the Campus Center, Room 455.

To receive the access code, please contact Ms. Babinski at <u>Babinski@njit.edu</u> or the VSO Eboard at <u>VSO@njit.edu</u>.

Visit the <u>Highlander Hub</u> to review a list of VSO programs, events, and contact information.

#### **VITAL - VA Social Worker**

The Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) program is a partnership between the Department of Veterans Affairs and local universities and colleges. The VITAL program comprises VA mental health professionals who can assist student veterans and their universities/colleges by providing or assisting with various services, resources, and support. The mission is to help veterans achieve their academic goals.

## Meet with Joseph Diacheysn, LCSW

NJIT Campus, Veterans Lounge, Campus Center - Room 455 Gov't Cell (973) 968-2855 or email <u>joseph.diacheysn@va.gov</u> Remaining Fall 2024 Semester Dates: 112/3, 12/17. Hours: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Click here for more information about the VITAL program and Joseph Diacheysn.

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#### **Student Veterans of America (SVA)**

Student Veterans of America® elevates veterans' academic, professional, and personal development in higher education through chapter programs and services, outcomes and impacts research, and advocacy at every level. With a mission focused on empowering student veterans, SVA is committed to providing an educational experience beyond the classroom.

Explore the Student Veterans of America® Success Hub, your one-stop resource for academic, career, and lifelong achievement. The <u>Advising Center</u> provides personalized advising for transitioning service members, maximizing GI Bill benefits. SVA's <u>premier programs</u> and liaison support cultivate leaders through events like Regional Summits and NatCon. Access a suite of services to ensure your career readiness, develop your resume, find mentors, and secure a career with premium employers dedicated to hiring our nation's best talent.

### **Helpful Links**

Military & Veteran Benefits <a href="https://www.njit.edu/financialaid/military-benefits">https://www.njit.edu/financialaid/military-benefits</a>

Mental Health & Wellness Resources <a href="https://www.njit.edu/studentaffairs/mental-health-wellness-resources-0">https://www.njit.edu/studentaffairs/mental-health-wellness-resources-0</a>

## **Using Benefits at NJIT**

The VA approves all NJIT undergraduate and graduate degrees and certificates for benefit coverage (Chapter 31, Chapter 33, Chapter 35, Chapter 1606). NJIT has also been approved for federal tuition assistance through individual military branches and accepts the NJ National Guard Commanders Certificate.

Students can apply for VA benefits via <a href="www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/">www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/</a>
Students can submit all documentation via <a href="www.njit.edu/veterans/va-military-benefit-request">www.njit.edu/veterans/va-military-benefit-request</a>

All questions regarding benefits can be directed to Allison Babinski, MSEd, Assistant Registrar for Veteran/Military Students, Registrar's Office, Student Mall (Under the Summit St. parking garage)

(973) 596-5475 - <u>Babinski@njit.edu</u>

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## **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### If I missed class, how can I get that excused?

Students who miss class due to bereavement, medical concerns, military activity, legal obligations, or university-sponsored events must provide the Office of the Dean of Students (DOS) with official and verifiable documentation related to the absences within 14 days of the first date of absence and complete an online <u>Student Absence Verification Request</u>. Once the absence has been verified, the DOS will communicate to your professor(s) on your behalf.

#### What if I am called to serve during the semester?

Students who will miss more than two weeks of classes or cannot complete the semester due to military activity are asked to contact Sean Dowd, Senior Associate Dean of Students, at <a href="mailto:sdowd@njit.edu">sdowd@njit.edu</a> for assistance. The Office of the Dean of Students (DOS) will take the lead on communicating with faculty for support measures that may include incomplete grades or a course withdrawal without penalty.

## Who can I contact if I'm struggling with classes?

Students struggling are encouraged to speak with their academic advisor for general guidance. Alternatively, students can contact Sean Dowd, Senior Associate Dean of Students, at <a href="mailto:sdowd@njit.edu">sdowd@njit.edu</a> for assistance. The advisor or DOS will often develop a support plan, including direct outreach to faculty or university support services for support.

## What career development supports are available?

NJIT's <u>Career Development Services</u> (CDS) is available to assist students with career planning and preparation virtually and on campus. Together with academic, employer, and community partners, CDS seeks to immerse all students in a progressive and comprehensive approach to career advising, coaching, skill-building, and practical experience opportunities that best ensure career readiness upon graduation.

Explore the Student Veterans of America® <u>Career Center</u>, connect with employers who value your military service, and embark on a journey to achieve your career aspirations through the camaraderie of an excited and supportive community.