Department of Defense

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Supporting Service Member Career Readiness

TAP as a Pathway to Higher Education

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Every year, approximately 200,000 men and women leave U.S. military service and return to life as civilians, a process known as the military to civilian transition.

The Transition Assistance Program (TAP) provides information, tools, and training to ensure service members and their spouses are prepared for the next step in civilian life.

Military to civilian transition occurs within a complex and dynamic network of relationships, programs, services, and benefits, which includes transition planning and assistance efforts by individual Service branches, the interagency TAP partnership, and community resources delivered through local government, private industry, and nonprofit organizations.
In addition to the Military Departments, TAP is the result of an interagency partnership between the:

Department of Defense, Department of Labor, Department of Education, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, in conjunction with the Small Business Administration and the Office of Personnel Management.
**INDIVIDUALIZED INITIAL COUNSELING (IC)**
- NLT 365 days prior to separation or retirement
- Personal Self-Assessment/Individual Transition Plan (ITP)

**PRE-SEPARATION COUNSELING**
- NLT 365 days prior to separation or retirement

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**TAP Process**

**DoD TRANSITION DAY**
- DoD Transition Day includes:
  - Managing Your Transition
  - MOC Crosswalk
  - Financial Planning for Transition

**VA BENEFITS AND SERVICES**
- Explores VA benefits earned by the service member and how to apply them.
- How to leverage earned benefits for the best possible outcome.

**DOL ONE-DAY**
- Overview of employment topics and best practices.

**CAPSTONE**
- Culminating event in which Commanders verify achievement of Career Readiness Standards (CRS) and viable ITP prior to transition.
- Must occur no later than 90 days before separation.
- If not, referred to appropriate agency for further assistance via a Warm Handover.
- Statement of benefits to be received no later than 30 days post-transition.

**2-DAY SERVICE MEMBER ELECTED TRACKS**
- Transitioning service members select one of the two-days of instruction:
  - DOL Employment Workshop
  - DoD Education Workshop
  - SBA Entrepreneurship Workshop
  - DOL Vocational Workshop

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**Title 10, Chapter 58**

Transition activities can occur as early as 24 months for those retiring, and no later than 365 days for those separating/transitioning.
CORE CURRICULUM IN TAP

DoD Transition Day

VA Benefits and Services

DOL Employment Fundamentals of Career Transition
2-DAY TRACKS

- EMPLOYMENT
- VOCATIONAL
- ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- EDUCATION
MANAGING YOUR EDUCATION
EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

- Nelson Mandela

4000+ Higher Education Institutions

200,000 Service Members Transition Annually

$100,000+ Average Worth of GI Bill Benefits
MANAGING HIGHER EDUCATION

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Getting Started
- Learning the Basics
- Choosing a Field of Study
- Choosing an Institution
- Gaining Admission
- Funding Your Education
LEARNING THE BASICS

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS

TYPES OF STUDENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

METHODS OF DELIVERY

System

Quarter

Semester

Online Term

Administrative Offices
- Admissions
- Financial Aid
- Registration & Records
- Student Accounting/Finance
- Student Services

Student Services
- Academic Advising
- Career Services
- Commuter Center
- Child Care Facility
- Dining Services
- Disability Services
- Recreation Center
- Health Services
- Learning Resource Center
- Library System
- Public Safety
- Residential Services
- Student Outreach & Support
- Veteran Student Services
HIDDEN CURRICULUM

DEFINITION:
A term used by educational professionals to describe the cultural codes, norms, values, and expectations that operate at an educational institution.

MILITARY vs. CIVILIAN EDUCATION

- Personal choice
- Personal Accountability
- Attendance/Completion
- Attire
- Requesting Help
- We vs. I
- Peer Interaction
- Language
CHOOSING A FIELD OF STUDY

Factors when choosing a field of study

Transfer Credits

Articulation Agreements
CHOOSING AN INSTITUTION

- Location
- Quality
- Student Outcomes
- Student Veteran Support
- Cost
GAINING ADMISSION

Application

Entrance Exam
Transcripts

Other
Interview
Resume
Etc.

Essay

Admission Package
FUNDING YOUR EDUCATION

GI Bill = $25,162
YRP = $14,937
VA = $14,937
Complete a comparison of higher education institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 4: Choosing an Institution</th>
<th>Institution #1</th>
<th>Institution #2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name and website</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public, private nonprofit, or private for-profit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Size: Undergraduate population</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate population</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CREATE YOUR ACTION PLAN

- Whom do I need to call, write, or visit?
- What do I need more information about?
  - What am I unclear about?
- What are some specific questions I need to ask to get clarification?
  - What things must I do?
THANK YOU!

Questions?

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CONNECT WITH US:
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