Veterans Educational Benefits

Veterans Affairs Office

The mission of the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Veterans Affairs Office is to assist servicemembers, veterans, and dependents in receiving entitled educational benefits and in achieving educational goals. The Veterans Affairs Office strives to assist active duty servicemembers and veterans with the transition from military to academic life. For more information on educational programs and updates on the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, please visit the Veterans Affairs Office.

Enrollment Certification

Certifications for veterans’ educational benefits are submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Muskogee, OK. Please visit the Veterans Affairs Office for information on eligibility requirements, applications and forms, and updates on the following benefits:

- Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty Educational Assistance Program
- Chapter 1607 Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)
- Chapter 33 Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008
- Chapter 1606 Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve
- Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program
- Chapter 32 Post-Vietnam Era Veterans’ Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)
- Chapter 35 Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance Program

A Veterans Intent to Enroll Form is required each term for certification and provides the VA Certifying Official with authorization to submit an enrollment certification on behalf of the student. Students must notify the Veterans Affairs Office of any enrollment changes, to include: added or dropped courses, withdrawals, or change of major. A degree plan from the academic advisor is required for the veteran file. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi does not participate in the VA Advance Payment Program.

Hazlewood Exemption

In accordance with the Texas Education Code, Section 54.203, Texas veterans and eligible dependents must apply for benefits under the Hazlewood Act each term. An exemption of tuition and fees, with the exception of the student services fee, is granted per term for Hazlewood eligible students, up to 150 cumulative credit hours. Students must submit the application, discharge papers (VA Form DD-214 member 4 copy), and other qualifying documentation, and a letter from the Muskogee, Oklahoma VA Regional Processing Office stating that they have exhausted federal veterans’ educational benefits. The Hazlewood file must be completed, and the exemption requested by the census date per term. The number of credit hours a student is registered for on the census date of a given term is the number of Hazlewood credit hours reported for the term to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Training Time

Training time for students receiving veterans’ educational assistance refers to enrollment status and is defined below. For information on enrollment status requirements for students receiving financial assistance, administered through the Office of Financial Assistance, please review that section of the catalog. The criteria for enrollment status of students receiving financial assistance and training time for Department of Veterans Affairs benefits may differ. Please contact the Veterans Affairs Office to determine training time criteria for the various summer terms.

Undergraduate and Post Baccalaureate Students

Full-time student: 12 hours or more in fall or spring term
Three-quarter-time student: 9 to 11 hours in fall or spring term
Half-time student: 6 to 8 hours in fall or spring term
Less than half-time student: 5 hours or less in fall or spring term

Reimbursement of tuition and fees only
Academic Support Services

The University provides a variety of academic support services that complement the academic programs and help students reach their educational goals.

NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS

The Office of Student Recruitment and New Student Programs coordinates programs that inform first-year students, transfer students, and prospective students about the educational opportunities available on campus. Examples include New Student Orientation, Transfer Transition Workshops, and Island Days. New Student Orientations provide first-year students with information regarding academic advising and registration. Advisors assist students in selecting the courses for their first semester at A&M-Corpus Christi. Parents who attend the orientation program have their own activities and have opportunities to meet key faculty and administrative personnel for an exchange of questions and ideas. Transfer Transition Workshops provide transfer students with an opportunity to gain information, meet with academic advisors, become familiar with the campus, and register for classes. New Student Orientation programs are offered prior to the fall and spring semesters. Students will be provided with dates upon their acceptance to the University. Campus tours are available throughout the year.

The Office of Student Recruitment and New Student Programs is located in the Student Services Center. For additional information, please call (361) 825-6051 or log on to http://tour.tamucc.edu for tours or http://orientation.tamucc.edu for orientation.

ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTERS

Academic advising centers are housed in each college and staffed by full-time academic advisors. Undeclared/exploratory students are advised through the Academic Advising Transition Center (AATC) located in the Student Services Center (SSC). Full-time academic advisors are available to assist students with their educational plans, course selections, degree requirements, and other academic matters. Academic advisors support students from the time of their initial enrollment to the successful attainment of their educational goals. An additional feature of the academic advising program is the direct involvement of University faculty as advisors or career mentors. To locate your academic advisor and/or find out more about advising, please call (361) 825-5931 or visit the web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC TESTING

The Office of Academic Testing provides testing services for students and the community. Some of the exams administered include the COMPASS, CLEP, LSAT, THEA, the Major Field Test, and correspondence exams. Students are required to take a TSI - (Texas Success Initiative) approved exam (ASSET, ACCUPLACER, COMPASS, or THEA) prior to enrolling in college-level courses. For information on TSI exemptions, see the “Admission” section of the catalog. For information on TExES examinations, see the “College of Education” section of the catalog. Please visit http://www.tamucc.edu/~atcweb/ or call (361) 825-2334 for other services provided by this office.

TUTORING AND LEARNING CENTER

The Tutoring and Learning Center (TLC) is committed to providing academic support services to help students reach their own educational goals and succeed in the university environment. TLC programs are designed to improve the retention and graduation rates of university students. Students are encouraged to contact the Tutoring and Learning Center, located in Room 216 of the Bell Library, or call (361) 825-5933 for further information.

THEA Academic Advising

The Retention Specialists at the Tutoring and Learning Center coordinate THEA Advising. THEA requirements are discussed in the “Texas Success Initiative” section of the “Admis-
Academic Support Services

The mission of TLC is to assist the university by providing academic support programs that ensure that students have every opportunity to be successful in college. Those programs include tutorials, supplemental instruction, and advising and implementing an Individual Success Plan for students in developmental education. For additional information, call the Retention Specialists at (361) 825-2977.

TLC Services

The needs of students coming to TLC are thoroughly assessed through tests, individual instructors, and by the TLC Retention Specialists. The center’s primary service is peer tutoring in mathematics, writing, chemistry, Spanish, history, study skills, and most core subjects.

Services are free and available to all A&M-Corpus Christi students. In order to receive tutoring in a subject, a student must be enrolled at A&M-Corpus Christi. TLC operates on a walk-in basis. Students do not need appointments for the writing center, but the writing consultants do encourage students to make appointments when requesting assistance. For more information, please call (361) 825-5933 or visit the web site at tlc.tamucc.edu.

PEER MENTORS

A new program that the TLC implemented Fall 2008 is the Academic Insight Mentor (AIM) program. The AIM program has been designed by the TLC to provide direct mentor-to-student assistance with educational matters. Peer Mentors primarily assist students by providing information, such as suggesting techniques for academic success. Peer Mentors may also assist by providing information regarding the particular resources that are available to students through the university.

TLC Computer Lab

The Tutoring and Learning Center’s Computer Lab, which is open to all students, is set up to complement the other services offered by the TLC. Printers and scanners within the lab are available for student use, in addition to an array of applications, tutoring software, class-specific programs, Internet access, as well as access to the University’s other academic resources. For more information, please call (361) 825-5933.

TLC Supplemental Instruction (SI)

TLC also offers Supplemental Instruction (SI) that is designed to increase student performance and retention. This program targets large entry-level courses and provides regularly scheduled, out-of-class, peer facilitated sessions.

SMARTHINKING

In Fall 2008, the TLC provided a new service called SMARTHINKING. SMARTHINKING is a web-based tutoring service which covers a variety of subjects. The classes offered include writing, math (basic through Calculus II), accounting, statistics, finances, economics, biology, introductory human anatomy and physiology, physics, chemistry, and Spanish.

MARY AND JEFF BELL LIBRARY

For information on library resources and services, see “Mary and Jeff Bell Library” in the catalog section entitled “The University.”

COMPUTING RESOURCES

For information on computing resources, see “Campus Facilities” in the catalog section entitled “The University.”