

3357:10-4-19 Valuing veterans and service members.**(A) Definitions.**

- (1) “Service member” means a person who is serving in the armed forces of the United States.
- (2) “Veteran” means any person who has completed service in the armed forces, including the national guard of any state or a reserve component of the armed forces, and who has been discharged under honorable conditions from the armed forces or who has been transferred to the reserve with evidence of satisfactory service.

(B) Purpose.

- (1) Marion technical college (the “college”) seeks to assist service members and veterans as they pursue an advanced degree and/or certificate. In an effort to better serve this population, the college has adopted this policy as required by section 3345.421 of the Revised Code. The purpose of this policy is to set forth the support and assistance the college will provide to service members and veterans.

(C) Policy.

- (1) The college will provide support and assistance to service members and veterans.
 - (a) Establish and maintain service member and veteran student services.
 - (b) Refer service members and veterans to proper local, state, and/or federal agencies in the event the college believes that the service member or veteran is eligible for services.
 - (c) Work with the Ohio board of regents to develop a veteran-friendly campus that increases the opportunity for service members and veterans to succeed academically.

- (d) Work with other Ohio institutions of higher education to disseminate and share promising practices for serving service members and veterans effectively.
- (e) Promote veteran-friendly campuses by utilizing the board of regents' structure to disseminate and share promising practices statewide for serving service members and veterans effectively.
- (f) Train appropriate faculty and staff to increase awareness of the mindset and unique needs of service members and veterans returning from combat zones and/or tours of duty overseas.
- (g) Create "safe zones" for service members and veterans through a student service member/veteran club, organization, or association and campus-wide awareness training.
- (h) Provide a portion of student orientation (or a separate session) specifically for service members and veterans.
- (i) Recognize the service of service members and veterans at various events such as graduation, community service awards, honors awards, and an appreciation day.
- (j) Regularly evaluate institutional policies and procedures that create barriers to service member and veteran success.
- (k) Empower those working directly with service members and veterans to provide services designed to promote educational achievement.
- (l) Provide training, in partnership with veterans' affairs, in the proper certification methods for certifying officials on each campus.

- (m) Develop a clear outreach strategy to communicate with eligible persons about educational and training benefits to encourage the use of GI Bill benefits, as well as services and assistance offered by the institution.
 - (n) Work with the legislature, workforce, and higher education community to identify and develop statewide policies to ensure the transition to higher education is seamless for all students, including service members and veterans. (This may include, but is not limited to, issues such as transfer, credit for prior learning and/or experience, career ladders, support services, etc.).
 - (o) Ensure the campus community is aware of benefits associated with the new Post 9/11 GI Bill and through our campus veterans' services and veteran coordinator(s) to find ways to connect returning service members and veterans with the services offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (D) The president shall establish procedures for the implementation of this rule.

Effective: 03/26/2015

CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Certification

03/12/2015

Date

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