

Resource Guide for Veteran Students

Welcome to the University of Illinois at Chicago! The purpose of this guide is to assist incoming and current veteran students as they matriculate through UIC. It is a source for you to quickly identify departments on campus that can assist you as transition to life on campus.

On Campus Resources

Career Services

The Office of Career Services assists all undergraduate and graduate students on UIC's campus. The office provides opportunities for individual employment counseling, taped mock interview sessions, drop in advising and a host of workshops to prepare students for life once they leave UIC. The office contains resources that allow students to potential careers and potential employers.

Commuter Student Resource Center

The three main goals of the Commuter Student Resource Center (CSRC) are to provide programs, services, and facilities that enhance student learning and result in student success for our diverse and demographically changing student body. Spaces and services in the center include a lounge, kitchenette, multi-purpose room, lockers, wireless internet and study areas.

Counseling Services

The Counseling Center offers a wide variety of counseling services to students including individual counseling, group counseling, academic support, career counseling, referral information, and alcohol/drug services.

The Counseling Center is staffed by:

- licensed psychologists
- a psychiatrist
- clinical therapists
- advanced doctoral psychology trainees
- post doctoral fellows
- psychiatric residents
- undergraduate paraprofessional volunteers

all of whom are trained to help students. The Counseling Services staff adheres to all relevant ethical codes of conduct and state and federal laws and regulations. The staff is committed to the highest standards of competency in meeting the needs of individuals from diverse backgrounds, including differences of culture, race, ethnicity, national origin, classs, gender, ability, age, and sexual orientation. The Center is accredited by the International Association of Counseling Services, and its internship is accredited by the American Psychological Association.

Disability Resource Center (<http>)

As reflected in the University of Illinois' Nondiscrimination Statement and the UIC Chancellor's Statement of Commitment to Persons with Disabilities, UIC strives to maintain a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access classes, programs, services and other campus activities.

The Disability Resource Center facilitates access for students through consultation with faculty and campus departments, and the provision of reasonable accommodations.

The Disability Resource Center recognizes various environments in which people function: physical, programmatic, informational and attitudinal. Some modifications to these environments are readily-achievable through direct consultation with faculty or staff

Financial Aid

Most state and federal veteran educational programs can be used in conjunction with federal student financial aid to cover your Estimated Cost of Attendance (COA). You must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order to determine your eligibility for additional grants, loans, and federal work study (FWS). The staff in the Office of Veteran Affairs assists veterans in receiving benefits from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC). Staff are available to assist and provide services to veteran students in the following areas:

- Processing applications for VA Educational Benefits
- Counseling on VA Educational Benefits
- Certification of Enrollment
- Monthly verification of enrollment
- VA Work-Study Program
- Other VA entitlements and benefits

In order to have GI benefits processed, all Veterans must complete **both the Educational Benefit Enrollment Certification Form and the Academic Advisor Certification Form**. Also, a copy of your DD214 or Letter of Eligibility must also be on file, as well as a copy of your class schedule. Please be aware that additional forms may be required to continue the processing of your application. It takes approximately 4-8 weeks for the Department of Veteran Affairs to process an application. Checks are usually received within 6-10 weeks, so please plan accordingly.

Tutoring

African American Academic Network (AAAN) Learning Resource Center

AAAN staff assesses student's motivation, study skills and habits. Services include free individual and group tutoring in a variety of subjects. Students are tutored by peers who have been carefully selected. Additional services include:

- Access to a computer lab featuring instructional software
- Academic skill development workshops
- A resource library featuring current textbooks for on site usage
- Organized group study programs

Honors College

Qualified Honors College students are available to help you in almost every subject. The tutoring schedule, which lists both the classes and the times tutors are available to tutor those classes, is posted here at the beginning of every semester. You do not need an appointment to see a tutor; the service is free and available to every UIC student.

The Honors College Tutoring Program takes place Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Science Learning Center

Students can obtain tutoring in any of the 100-level science courses from graduate teaching assistants who keep regular office hours each week in the Science Learning Center. Students may also find their teacher in the Center as many of them use the open, friendly spaces available in the center for their office hours. The Center is a great place to meet friends to go over homework problems and to study for exams. The Science Learning Center also contains computers for general use as well as a formal computer lab that is overseen by the Academic Computing and Communications Center (ACCC), and an ACCC consultant is available to assist computer users at all times.

The Science Learning Center is also home to peer-led study groups that focus on the sciences. Student-leaders, who are trained in group dynamics and problem solving techniques, have expertise in a particular subject area. The goal of the peer-led study groups is to assist students to develop individual study strategies tailored to the demands of a specific discipline.

Minority Engineering Recruitment & Retention Program (MERRP)

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is the cornerstone of MERRP's academic support program for first-time and continuing students.

SI is available for mathematics, chemistry, physics, and some engineering courses. SIs are conducted by graduate and successful undergraduate students who use materials to supplement the textbook, and also review lectures and exams used in the actual courses. Supplemental Instruction's benefits include learning problem solving techniques, teamwork, developing efficient study habits and strategies, and improving academic performance and grades.

Mathematical Sciences Learning Center

The mission of the Mathematical Sciences Learning Center is to improve the quality of undergraduate education at UIC by offering a comprehensive program of support services for students of Mathematical Sciences at all levels of the curriculum.

This facility is open all day, five days a week, and offers a comfortable setting and both TA and peer tutoring. There are laptops for checkout and use in the center, supported by a wireless network.

Writing Center

The Writing Center serves all UIC students regardless of program or major. The service is free. The peer to peer program allows students to work with students. Any student can come in with any type of writing assignment at any stage of the process.

The University Writing Center staff can help you understand the assignment and plan your paper. They can help organize and revise papers and can teach how to proofread most common mistakes.

University Health Services

at University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) have access to a wide range of services including early treatment of illness and injury, prevention, nutrition education, health promotion/outreach services. There is no co-payment or charge for covered services when obtained at the Family Medicine Center.

The Family Medicine Center provides the following services to all students when medically necessary and appropriate and rendered on site in our center:

- Preventive health care services
- Basic gynecologic preventive care at approved intervals
- Common sexually transmitted infection screen and care, (including HIV testing and counseling)
- Contraception with Student Formulary covered medications (pharmacy charges minimal co-pay); Pregnancy counseling and Urine Testing

- Screening vision and hearing testing as provided by Family Medicine
- Physical exams and PPD skin testing as required by the students' college
- Administration of student provided Desensitization Injectables
- Tetanus booster when indicated
- Acute care services when rendered during office hours (available 9:00 to 4:30, Monday-Friday and 9:00 to 12:00 on Saturday)
- The following lab services when ordered by Family Medicine and covered under student health:
 - STD care: HIV, GC, Chlamydia
 - Basic Gynecologic Care: Urine Pregnancy Test, KOH/Saline (when done on site)
 - General Care: Cholesterol screening at approved intervals

Students can call our center at (312) 996-2901 to schedule an appointment.

Family Medicine Center

University Village
722 W Maxwell Street, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60607
312.996.2901

Outpatient Care Center, M/C 197
1801 West Taylor Street, Suite 4E
Chicago, Illinois 60612
312.996.2901

Office of Student Veterans Affairs

Housed in the Dean of Students Office, the Office of Student Veterans Affairs assists student veterans as they make the transition to the University. Staff acts a resource by providing information regarding services and assistance available to student veterans and acts as liaison and advocate at the University to meet veterans' needs.

University Policies Military Leave Policy

http://www.uic.edu/depts/oar/registration/withdrawal_military_undergrad.html

The UIC Faculty Senate has established policies regarding military withdrawal and reentry after deployment. Students withdrawing for military service can do so quickly and easily and know the steps required to reenroll at the end of their deployment. Students begin the process of withdrawing from or returning to UIC with the offices described below that have designated staff to work with these students.

Office of Records and Registration

Student Services Building

Room 1200

1200 West Harrison Street

(312) 996-1825

The Veteran's Registration Coordinator in the Office Records and Registration coordinates the formal withdrawal from classes, tuition and fee refunds, health insurance options, coordinates with academic departments on issues of grades and graduation, and activates a students enrollment upon return to the university. All students withdrawing from or returning to UIC from military service must meet with the Veteran's Registration Coordinator. Students should bring their activation orders or other official notification with them to their appointment.

Office of Student Financial Aid

Student Services Building

Room 1800

1200 West Harrison Street

(312) 413-2697

The Veteran's Affairs Office Coordinator within the Office of Student Financial Aid assists veterans receiving educational benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. All students receiving benefits at the time of deployment must meet with the Veteran's Affairs Office Coordinator before deployment. All returning veterans must meet with this office for counseling and assistance in processing applications for VA benefits.

Undergraduate Students Withdrawing from UIC to Enter Military Service

1. Are entitled to withdraw without penalty and without academic credit, and receive a full refund of tuition and fees.

OR

2. If withdrawal for deployment occurs upon completion of the 12th week of the semester, undergraduate students are entitled without examination to receive full credit for each course in which they attained a standing of "C" or better at the time of withdrawal. Students will receive the grade attained in each course at the time of withdrawal. Grades reported below C are recorded as W (withdrawn). Students using this option are not eligible for a full refund of tuition and fees. Nursing students and other students in majors that have licensing, credentialing or accreditation requirements are not eligible for t his option.

3. Policy Governing Graduating Seniors

A student in his/her last semester of study leading to graduation, who qualifies for full credit upon completion of the twelfth week, or later, of the final semester, may be recommended for the degree at the discretion of the student's college and major department provided that the following conditions are met:

- a. The student has been in residence at UIC for at least two full semesters (not including the term of withdrawal);

- b. The student has met all requirements for graduation (including minimum scholarship requirements), except for those requirements that the student would fulfill by completing the courses for which he/she is registered at the time of withdrawal during the last term.

A senior in good standing who withdraws from the University at any time to enter military service as a result of state or national emergency, and who does so enter within ten instructional days and who lacks no more than one-sixteenth of the total semester hours required for the degree, may, at the discretion of the student's college and on approval of the major department concerned, be recommended for such degree. No such student who has acquired hours under the twelfth weeks rule adopted by the Senate, however, shall be considered eligible for this privilege.

A "senior in good standing" is meant as one whose progress during University registration has been satisfactory to the administration officers of the student's college. Among grounds for dissatisfaction might be negligence in meeting requirements or scholastic deficiencies.

"At any time" shall be interpreted to mean "during any semester in residence or the interim between semesters." It is not intended that students who, after these rules are operative, stay out of college for any semester, and who thus do not make continuous progress to their degrees, shall be eligible for the privilege extended in these rules

4. Campus housing residents are entitled a prorated refund of room and board charges.

Undergraduate Students Returning to UIC after Military Service

1. Returning students must meet with the Veteran's Registration Coordinator in the Office of Records and Registration and the Veteran's Affairs Office Coordinator within the Office of Student Financial Aid.
2. Undergraduate students who have attended classes and withdraw from the university to enter military service are entitled to a leave of absence for a period of up to five years, and may return to the university without having to apply for readmission.
3. Students admitted to UIC as first time students, who did not attend any classes before deployment, are entitled to defer their admission for up to 24 months after their return from military service and may return to the university without having to apply for readmission.
4. All students returning from military service will have priority registration. A returning veteran must check in with the Veteran's Registration Coordinator in the Office of Records and Registration in order to be granted priority registration.
5. All students returning from military service will have priority for on campus housing including the option of temporary campus housing while making a decision about where to live.

