

LCSC Veterans and Family Newsletter

Volume One Issue One

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What's New with Education Benefits?

The Post 9-11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)

Most veterans qualify for either Chapter 30 or the new Chapter 33. Which will benefit you the most? Here are some helpful resources if you are still unsure on what to do:

- Check out the New GI Bill calculator to compare monetary values of Chapter 30 vs. Chapter 33. Go to: <http://www.newgibill.org/calculator>
- Make an appointment to visit with the Veterans Coordinator at LCSC. Call 792-2224 or email us at veterans@lcsc.edu
- Visit www.gibill.va.gov and click on Post 9/11 GI Bill.
- Remember: only veterans that have performed active duty service after September 10, 2001 are eligible for Chapter 33. A minimum of 90 aggregate days of service or 30 days for service members with a service-connected disability may establish eligibility.
- The benefit will pay for tuition and fees not to exceed the most expensive in-state tuition at a public institution.
- You will receive a monthly housing allowance equal to E-5 with dependents.
- You will also receive a yearly book stipend of up to \$1000/year.



What's New with Education Benefits

The Post 9-11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) Transfer of Entitlement to Family Members

A special provision of the Post 9-11 GI Bill allows members of the Armed Services to transfer their Chapter 33 entitlement to their family members. Generally speaking, to be eligible veterans must be eligible for Chapter 33, have served at least 6 years in the Armed Forces, and must agree to serve an additional four more years. Service Members who are eligible for retirement from August 1, 2009 through August 1, 2013 may also become eligible. Family members that are eligible are the Veteran's spouse and/or children.

VA Benefits Backlog

As of October 15 some 30,000 veterans were waiting for their claims for benefits under the Post 9-11 GI Bill to be processed. A House subcommittee hearing was held to determine the depth of the backlog:

- 44,500 individuals have received a payment under Chapter 33
- 4 separate, no communicating IT systems are used in processing each claim
- 90 minutes are needed on average to process each claim
- 720 new employees have been hired by the VA to help process claims
- 70,000 estimated net increase in students enrolled in postsecondary education using VA benefits for 2009-2010

The process currently being used by the VA is a temporary solution while a new rules-based processing solution is being developed in cooperation with the Navy. This information has been provided by the Veterans Administration.

Tri-State Veterans Stand-Down 2009

The Blue Mountain Veteran's Coalition is hosting a stand-down for all military veterans with special invitation for homeless veterans. It will be hosted on November 18th, 2009 from 8am to 2pm at the

National Guard Armory in Walla Walla, Washington.

Services Provided will Include:

- Eye Exams
- Dental Exams
- Veteran Benefit Officers
- PTSD Counseling
- Employment Services
- Haircuts
- Showers
- Hygiene Products
- Obtaining Discharge Papers
- Breakfast and Lunch will be served

For more information call Jim Ziegenfuss (208)799-5000.

Veterans Club Raffle

LCSC Veterans' Club Raffle

The Veterans' Club is currently selling raffle tickets for \$2.00 a piece. The prizes being raffled are:

- A compound hunting bow from Alpine Archery
- A \$30.00 gift card from Domino's Pizza
- Bryden Canyon Corporate Gold Golf Passes
- A \$25.00 Gift Certificates from Inland Cellular
- 15 Piece Outers all gauge shotgun cleaning kit.

Tickets can purchased at Reid Hall in Room 208 from Mike Riener. You can also call 792-2224 for more information. Drawing will be December 8, 2009. Buy your tickets while they last!



Are you ready for Spring Semester?

Spring registration is fast approaching. Here are the dates and times for Spring registration:

Date	Class Level	Time
Nov 2	Srs & Post-Bacs ONLY	12:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.
Nov 3	Jrs ONLY	12:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
	Srs & Jrs	5:01 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.
Nov 4	Sophs ONLY	12:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
	Srs, Jrs & Sophs	5:01 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.
Nov 5	Freshman ONLY	12:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
	Sr, Jr, Soph & Freshmen	5:01 p.m. to 7:59 a.m.
Nov 6	All Students	8:00 a.m. and after

Breakdown of class level:

Seniors and Post-Bacs - 90 completed credits or more.

Juniors - 58 to 89 completed credits.

Sophomores - 26 to 57 completed credits.

Freshman - 0 to 25 completed credits.



How do I register?

- Be sure that you have all holds cleared, student with holds will not be allowed to register.
- Meet with your academic advisor.
- Login to Warrior Web
- Register for classes.

Follow this link to detailed instructions on how to register for classes:

<http://www.lcsc.edu/registrar/Information/register.htm>

Start planning your spring schedule NOW. You can search for spring classes on Warrior Web before the registration dates and plan your schedule.



More information can be found on the Registrar's website:

<http://www.lcsc.edu/registrar/default.htm>



Financial Aid and Scholarships

OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS: (LCSC is not responsible for content on these websites nor are they endorsed by LCSC.)

Air Force Aid Society: <http://www.afas.org/index.cfm>

Official charity of the Air Force, they provide grants and also have links to other scholarships



AMVETS: http://www.amvets.org/programs/programs_scholarships.html

AMVETS annually awards scholarships to veterans/active military, their sons, daughters, or grandchildren. A son, daughter, or grandchild of a deceased veteran is also eligible.

Army Emergency Relief: <http://www.aerhq.org/education.asp>

Army Emergency Relief offers scholarships to children and spouses of Army Soldiers on federal active duty, retired, or deceased while in active or retired status.

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance: <http://www.cgmahq.org/>

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance offers education benefits to active duty Coast Guard and retired Coast Guard military personnel, members of the Coast Guard Select Reserve, Coast Guard Civilian employees, Coast Guard Auxiliaries, and Public Health Officers serving with the Coast Guard.



Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation: <http://www.mcsf.com>

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships to the children of Marines and Navy Corpsman who have served with the Marine Corps.

Military.com: <http://aid.military.com/scholarship/search-for-scholarships.do?>

Military.com provides a search engine to find scholarships for military members.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: <http://www.nmcrrs.org/education.html>

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provides education benefits to Navy and Marine Corps service members and their families.



Financial Aid and Scholarships

LCSC SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Be sure to fill out the 2010-2011 General Scholarship Application beginning December 1 with a March 1 deadline.
- Other LCSC applications will be available December 1 and may have separate deadlines.
- For more information visit www.lcsc.edu/financialaid

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA):

- Remember to fill out the FAFSA each year beginning January 1
- Be sure to submit the FAFSA before the March 1 priority deadline.
- FAFSA is required for scholarships that require financial need.

Beware of Financial Aid Scams

Don't Pay for Help to Find Money for College:

Commercial financial aid advice services can cost well over \$1,000 and do not provide any information that you cannot get for free.

Don't Pay for the FAFSA:

Several web sites offer help filing the FAFSA for a fee, these sites are not affiliated with or endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education. You can receive free help filling out the FAFSA from the financial aid office at school, the FAFSA's online help at www.fafsa.ed.gov, and the Federal Student Aid Information Center.

Scholarship Scams:

- Never pay a fee for scholarship money.
- Don't fall for guarantees or claims that someone has information you cant get anywhere else.
- Know that legitimate scholarships never charge fees and are available to everyone.



OIF/OEF Veterans Medical Services

The Department of Veterans Affairs has promoted new eligibility rules that provide Active Component and Reserve Component personnel who served in designated combat zones (since November 11, 1998) with five years of free care from the date of separation from active duty. Personnel can receive care at the Walla Walla VA Medical Center. In order to receive this benefit you must apply by completing VA form 1010EZ. This form may be obtained by visiting, calling, or writing any VA health care facility or veterans' benefits office. You can also access the form online at www.va.gov/1010ez.htm or call the VA Healthcare Eligibility Center at 877-222-VETS (8387).

OIF/OEF Veteran Program Manager:
Dave Beebe, LICSW
Phone: (509) 525-5200, ext 22671
Cell: (509) 520-7945
Email: dave.beebe@va.gov

OIF/EOF Transition Patient Advocate:
Jennifer Allison-Oord
Phone: (509) 434-7286
Email: jennifer.allisonoord@va.gov

Idaho Division of Veterans Services

The Idaho Division of Veterans Services provides representation to Veterans, surviving spouses, children, and parents of deceased Veterans before the Department of Veterans Affairs. They can help with the full completion of a claim for VA benefits, assist in the appeals process, and give guidance on the laws and regulations that structure VA claims. Some of the Benefits available are:

- Health Care and/or Prescriptions
- Disability Compensation
- Pension
- Life Insurance
- Home Loan Guaranties

Their website is: www.veterans.idaho.gov

The Lewiston branch can be reached at 208-799-5084



Stay on Track with your Degree



Having Trouble in class?

- Talk to your Instructor
- Utilize the on campus college services, i.e. Math and Science Lab, Writing Lab, Learning Resource Center
- Talk to your advisor

Want to Run a Program Evaluation?

You can use the program evaluation tool to track the progress of your degree and plan for future semesters. To run the evaluation tool follow these instructions:

- First login to Warrior Web
- Click on Students
- Under Academic Profile, click Program Evaluation
- You can either choose to check how your current degree is going or you can see what things would look like if you changed majors
- Once you choose your options click submit and your Program Evaluation will open



What can I do with this Degree?

The Career and Advising web page has a new section that can help you decide on a major or find jobs that fit your current major: <http://www.lcsc.edu/cas/majors/>



Can't Decide on a Degree

Career and Advising services sponsors a class entitled Career Exploration (SD 120). This class can help you decide on a degree and prepare for a future with your degree.

Visit the Career and Advising web page for more information:

<http://www.lcsc.edu/cas/>



Lewis-Clark
S T A T E
C O L L E G E

LCSC Financial Aid Office
Veteran Services
500 8th Ave
Lewiston, ID 83501
veterans@lcsc.edu
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