

THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

MILITARY ACADEMIC

RECOGNITION PROGRAM



The South Carolina Veteran Military Academic Recognition Program highlights South Carolina Technical Colleges, Colleges, and Universities that support Service members, Veterans, Reserve, National Guard members, and their family members in achieving their academic and professional goals.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for recognition under this program, the education institution must:

- Be physically located in South Carolina.
- Be in good standing with the State Education Board and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

RECOGNITION CRITERIA

This program offers recognition at three grades: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. To qualify for any grade of recognition, the institution of higher education must meet all the associated standards in each grade. The school must meet all the requirements for Bronze and Silver before consideration for Gold. For example: If a school meets the Gold standard in one area, the Silver in a second, and the Bronze in the third, they are eligible for Bronze recognition. Details for each grade and area are on the back of this document.

APPLYING FOR RECOGNITION

To apply for Gold, Silver, or Bronze recognition as a South Carolina Veteran-friendly Higher Education Institution for this academic year, **contact us at va@scdva.sc.gov**. The duration of recognition lasts one academic year, to have your institution reevaluated in subsequent academic years, please reapply.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS MILITARY ACADEMIC RECOGNITION PROGRAM CRITERIA

GOLD GRADE

- The school has a centralized location with all Veteran Services including VA Benefits and offers dedicated meeting and study space with adequate technical support for Veterans and Military-affiliated students.
- The school has specific internships/apprenticeship opportunities for Veterans which consider military training and education; including preferred placement in programs that are tied to the South Carolina Defense Industry and South Carolina Cyber.
- Provides professional and career readiness, to ensure meaningful employment is secured after earning their degree or certificate.
- The school is a member of the South Carolina Veteran Coalition
- The school supports the holistic wellbeing of Veteran and Military-affiliated students through faculty/staff training to address military-specific cultural competency.
- Administers a Veterans need assessment bi-annually.
- School reduces tuition/fees to match Department of Defense allowable payments.
- The school has an active chartered Student Veterans Association Chapter or other Veteran support groups. Support groups may include Women and Minority Veterans.
- A system to evaluate and award academic credit based on military training and experience is in use by the school.
- The school has specific staff members dedicated to Veterans and Military-affiliated students (at a ratio of 1:250); the school has dedicated military-friendly contacts for Veteran students in every major department.
- An established and effective process for identifying Veterans and Military-affiliated students within the student population. To include: Reserve Officer Training Cadets, Active-Duty Service Members, members of the National Guard and Reserve, Veterans, Military and Veteran Family Members, and Military Dependent Children.
- School website includes Veteran and Military-affiliated student specific information that address admissions process, priority registration guidelines, military specific scholarships, how to apply for US DVA and other military benefits, and contact information for staff members.

SILVER GRADE

- The school has an active chartered Student Veterans Association Chapter or other Veteran support groups. Support groups may include Women and Minority Veterans.
- A system to evaluate and award academic credit based on military training and experience is in use by the school.
- The school has specific staff members dedicated to for Veterans and Military-affiliated students (at a ratio of 1:250); school has dedicated military friendly contacts for Veteran students in every major department.

BRONZE GRADE

- An established and effective process for identifying Veterans and Military-affiliated students within the student population. To include: Reserve Officer Training Cadets, Active-Duty Service Members, members of the National Guard and Reserve, Veterans, Military and Veteran Family Members, and Military Dependent Children.
- School website includes Veteran and Military-affiliated student specific information that address admissions process, priority registration guidelines, military specific scholarships, how to apply for US DVA and other military benefits, and contact information for staff members.



South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs Military Academic Recognition Application

Technical College, University, or College Name:

Veteran/Military-affiliated Student Point of Contact:

Mailing Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Total Number of Veterans/Military-affiliated Students:

Which Category Are You Applying For?

- Gold
- Silver
- Bronze

Is This a Renewal?

- Yes
- No

Provide documentation for the specific category you are applying for.

Agreement

Our organization agrees that all information provided is accurate as of submission date and we agree to abide by the criteria set by the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs. We also agree to maintain current certification level or withdraw from the program if we are unable to meet the requirements set by the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Organization Designated Representative Signature: _____