

Veteran Service Advisor Newsletter

(October 2, 2012)

Dear Reader,

This newsletter was created for the intent of keeping you informed of the Military and VA Communities. This newsletter is also a tool to communicate events and resources both at OSU and the community at large. The opinions and viewpoints expressed in the articles are not those of the Oregon State University Veterans Advisor Office or its counterparts.

Before I start the updates, I wanted to let everyone know all three OSU Campuses made the 2013 GI Jobs "Military Friendly School" list. Additionally, we were one of 1,700 schools nationwide this year. Here is an article about the 2013 list and a link to the GI Jobs List.

New 'military friendly' colleges list aims to weed out 'the noise,' 'bad actors'

The fourth annual list of "military friendly" colleges – published this week by a veteran-owned company – is as fascinating to peruse to see which schools earn that title as it is for noting which universities are absent. Using a weighted scoring system and reviews penned by veteran-students – then independently audited by accounting giant Ernst & Young – the 2013 "G.I. Jobs" list includes 1,700 American colleges. That means about 10,000 schools currently authorized by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to accept GI Bill money failed to make the cut.

<http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2012/09/21/13994721-new-military-friendly-colleges-list-aims-to-weed-out-the-noise-bad-actors?lite>

GI Jobs "Military Friendly" list: <http://www.militaryfriendlyschools.com/mfslst.aspx>

I also want to take a moment to answer questions and clear up any confusion created by an article I published in the September 17, 2012 Newsletter. Here is the article for reference.

New GI Bill Payment Rates Announced

Each year in October, the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) payment rates increase to meet the growing cost of education. This October the MGIB full-time student payment rate will be increased to \$1,564 a month for the 2013 fiscal year (2012-2013 School Year). Eligible veterans and service members could receive as much \$56,304 in cash benefits over 36 months. This new monthly payment rate applies to all MGIB users no matter when they became eligible for or began using the Montgomery GI Bill. View the new FY2013 MGIB rates for part-time through full-time enrollment.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/new-gi-bill-payment-rates-announced?ESRC=vr.nl>

Question 1: Which GI Bill benefit is affected by this change?

Answer: The benefit mentioned in this article is the Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill.

Question 2: Did the VA increase Basic Allowance Housing (BAH) for the Chapter 33 Post 9-11 GI Bill?

Answer: The Basic Allowance Housing (BAH) for the Chapter 33 Post 9-11 program, which is based on zip code 97331 for Oregon State University, is still \$1059.00. I checked the BAH website this morning and no changes have been made to the website. However, I will check every few days to see if there are any changes.

Thank you for the questions. Please never hesitate to email, call, or stop by the office with any questions you may have for me on any VA benefits.

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VA and Military Updates:

VA Health Care Eligibility

Eligibility for VA health care is dependent upon a number of variables, which may influence the final determination of the services for which you qualify. These factors include the nature of a veteran's discharge from military service (e.g., honorable, other than honorable, dishonorable), length of service, VA adjudicated disabilities (commonly referred to as service-connected disabilities), income level, and available VA resources among others.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/va-health-care-eligibility-100112?ESRC=vr.nl>

Subcommittee Hearing on Transition

The Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity of the U.S. House Committee on Veterans' Affairs recently held an oversight hearing entitled, "Examining the Re-Design of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP)." TAP has been a primary focus of the Committee's efforts this Congress to lower the veteran unemployment rate. Last November, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 was signed into law, which made TAP mandatory for all transitioning service members. While the Subcommittee remains optimistic about the future of TAP and its potential impact on service members returning to civilian life, some are troubled by the Department of Defense's (DoD) reservations regarding Congressional oversight. Testimony and a webcast of the hearing are available on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs website.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/subcommittee-hearing-on-transition?ESRC=vr.nl>

Cost-of-Living Adjustment Bill Delayed

Military.com reported that the annual bill to approve the cost-of-living increase for veterans compensation and pension programs has been taken off the "secret hold" and that the Senate will vote on it when they reconvene. The bill is generally considered a formality and was virtually "automatic" in past years. The fact that the bill was secretly put on hold may cause some concern among veterans. But, according an official spokesman, "the bill is now cleared for Senate action by both sides."

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/cost-of-living-adjustment-bill-delayed?ESRC=vr.nl>

Stop Loss Pay Deadline Nears

Oct. 21 is the last day for eligible servicemembers whose enlistments were involuntarily extended or had to remain on active duty beyond approved retirement or separation date due to stop loss authority, to apply for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP). RSLSP compensates active duty, Reserve component, former and retired servicemembers who, at any time between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009, served on active duty and had their enlistment or period of obligated service involuntarily extended. Claims are processed through the respective services personnel offices - for more information, visit the Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay webpage. For more on stop-loss pay and other military benefits, visit the Military.com Benefits page.

<http://www.military.com/military-report/stop-loss-pay-deadline-nears?ESRC=miltrep.nl>

Employment Opportunities:

Veterans Wanted: Chevron is Hiring

U.S. veteran talent wanted: You've met important challenges in your military career. Are you ready to apply your skills to new challenges in a career with Chevron? At Chevron, we recognize the value of your

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commitment to teamwork and service, and we invite you to join us where you can turn your experience and ideas into solutions.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/veterans-wanted-chevron-is-hiring-100112?ESRC=vr.nl>

Forest Service Representative, GS 462-11.

The Willamette National Forest will soon be advertising one permanent, full-time Forest Service Representative, GS 462-11. The duty station is the Forest Headquarters Office, Springfield, Oregon.

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform the potential applicant pool of this position.

If you are interested in this position please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to Jeff Trejo: jtremo@fs.fed.us, no later than October 15, 2012.

See [Forest Service Representative, GS 462-11](#) [handout for additional details.](#)

Restoration Botanist, GS-0430-09.

The Siuslaw National Forest will soon be advertising one permanent, full-time Restoration Botanist, GS-0430-09. The duty station is Waldport, Oregon. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform the potential applicant pool of this position. If you are interested in this position please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to Jeff Uebel: juebel@fs.fed.us, no later than October 15, 2012.

See [Restoration Botanist, GS-0430-09](#) [handout for additional details.](#)

Sale Administrator, GS-0462-8/9/10

The Detroit Ranger District will soon be advertising one permanent, full-time Sale Administrator, GS-0462-8/9/10. The duty station is Detroit Ranger District in Detroit, Oregon. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform the potential applicant pool of this position. If you are interested in this position please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to Kenneth Loree at kllore@fs.fed.us no later than 10/30/2012.

See [Sale Administrator, GS-0462-8/9/10](#) [handout for additional details.](#)

Small Business Specialist - PORTLAND-120015727 U.S. Bank.

US Bank is searching for Small Business Specialists. The Small Business Specialist is responsible for demonstrating excellent customer service in accordance with the U.S. Bank Service Advantage Core Values. Actively develops new small business opportunities and deepens existing small business customer relationships. Responsibilities may include originating scored credit requests <\$100,000, deposit account opening, and providing other bank solutions and services. Requires outside sales. Responsible for referring opportunities outside of direct responsibilities to the appropriate area. Handles moderately complex Small Business customer service issues in assigned portfolio or as directed by SBS Sales Manager. Converts service opportunities into sales events.

Basic Qualifications are

- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent
- Minimum one to three years of experience in retail banking and/or sales industry
- One to three years of experience in outside sales
- Excellent customer service service/relations and community relations Preferred Skills/Experience
- Strong product and new business development/sales skills
- Thorough knowledge of all applicable bank and branch policies, procedures and support systems
- Demonstrated ability to make one-on-one and group presentations
- Excellent interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills
- Strong outbound telephone sales skills

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US Bank is extremely interested in hiring a Veteran Anyone that is interested in applying should send their email to me at Brooke.Henry@usbank.com.

Upcoming Events:

October 3, 2012 – Lt. Dan Choi speaking at LaSells Stewart Center Austin Auditorium.

Lt. Dan Choi is an acclaimed LGBT rights and veterans' health activist, known for his work opposing the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy in the U.S. military. Lt. Dan Choi will be presenting on his experiences with the repealed policy and his diverse identities as a Korean American, a gay man, a veteran of military service, and his raising in a Christian home. Lt. Dan Choi will also be answering questions on these topics. This event will be FREE admission for all at OSU and in the surrounding community. Doors will open at 5:30pm and the actual address will start at 6pm.

See attachment for additional details.

October 8th thru 12th, 2012 – World Mental Health Awareness Week.

Tuesday, October 9, 2012

Launch weeks activities. The theme is "Depression; A Global Crisis."

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Activities in the MU Quad to include having the Salem Vet Center Van present.

Thursday, October 11, 2012

Discussion Panel "Depression is a Global Concern", 12:00 to 1:30 in MU 206.

Joey Pantoliano – Talk on Bi-Polar Disorder, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in La Sells Stuart Center.

Friday, October 12, 2012

Be Well: Walk Run, 3:30 to 5:00, in the Memorial Union Quad

October 26, 2012 – Major General Buchanan will be speaking to Student Media and other students.

As details are finalized I will report more information on that event.

November 3, 2012 – Oregon State Football and Our Veteran Community – A winning team.

Activities honoring military, veterans, ROTC members, and loved ones happening across campus and during the game will be happening. Details to follow on the Veterans at Oregon State University and VFSA Facebook pages and in the October 15 and 29, 2012 Veteran Services Advisor Newsletters.

Veterans Resources:

OSU Veterans on Facebook.

I am happy to announce the OSU Veterans Services Team (Cathy Walker and Angie Williamson, OSU Veterans Certifying Officials and Myself) have joined forces with the Student Veterans Leadership Team (Kyle Hatch, President of Omega Alpha colony of Omega Delta Sigma, Brian Benavidez, President Veterans and Family Student Association, and Julie Stewart, Associated Students of Oregon State University Veteran Task Force Director) to create a Facebook page. Please view and like our page on Facebook. The link is <http://www.facebook.com/VeteransAtOregonStateUniversity>.

Resources from the New ASOSU Veterans Task Force Director.

Hi All,

Links below for tutoring schedule for any student who needs tutoring. Also, a workshop on how to apply for pro-school.

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<http://engineering.oregonstate.edu/academic-coaching>

<http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/hubbub/2012/05/11/time-to-apply-to-pro/>

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OSU Veterans Website:

<http://oregonstate.edu/veterans/home/>

Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs Website:

<http://www.oregon.gov/odva/Pages/index.aspx>

Oregon Department of Employment Veteran Representatives:

<http://www.oregon.gov/EMPLOY/Pages/index.aspx>

OSU Veterans and Family Student Association Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Veterans-and-Family-Student-Association/253736621335275>

Thank you and have a great day.

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