March 13, 2013

To: Student Veterans Community
   Oregon State University

From: Gus L. Bedwell
      Veteran Resources Coordinator
      Oregon State University

Re: Sequestration and Tuition Assistance (TA) benefits

Dear Student Veteran,

By now you may have heard the Departments of Navy, Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force decided to suspend TA benefits due to the sequestration. According to the reports we are receiving from the different branches these suspensions could affect the remainder of the fiscal year. However, in spite of this news I want you to know that there are options to help you navigate this time of uncertainty.

As the Veteran Resources Coordinator and facilitator for the Veterans Workgroups and Advisory Committee for Oregon State University I want to assure you my colleagues and I are glad to answer your questions and share available resources.

To start helping you navigate these suspensions, I would like to answer the reoccurring questions I have been asked over the last couple of days.

**I am on active duty, can I use GI Bills and how will that affect my future eligibility for these benefits?**

Yes, you can use either the Post 9-11 GI Bill or the Montgomery GI Bill.

If you use the Post 9-11 GI Bill while on active duty you will not be able to receive the Monthly Housing Allowance (BAH). Additionally, the Post 9-11 GI Bill will only pay up to the instate tuition and fees. E-Campus Students, there is no difference between resident and nonresident tuition and fees. You can find more information about the Post 9-11 GI Bill on the Oregon State University Veteran Website; http://oregonstate.edu/veterans/start/postgi.php

If you use Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill the max benefit will be the cost of tuition and fees, not to exceed the monthly benefit amount of $1,564.00. You can find more
information about the Montgomery GI Bill on the Oregon State University Veteran Website: http://oregonstate.edu/veterans/start/active.php

Are there any other benefits or resources I should explore to assist me in the absence of the TA benefits?

Yes, there are several other benefits or resources I want to encourage you to explore. Here are some of those resources.

- FAFSA Website: http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/
- The American Legion Scholarships http://www.legion.org/scholarships
- Student Veterans of America (SVA) http://www.studentveterans.org/
- Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation: http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/benefits/factsheets/serviceconnected/Ch31eg_0406.doc
- Chapter 1606 Reserve Montgomery GI Bill: http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/benefits/education/Ch1606eg_0906.doc
- Chapter 1607 Reserve Post 9-11 Montgomery GI Bill: http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/benefits/education/Ch1607eg_0906.doc

If I am a student on the OSU – Corvallis campus are there resources I can utilize to assist me with childcare, food, rent, relieve stress, get health care, etc.?

Yes, there are several resources on campus I want you to explore. Here are some of those resources.

- Human Services Resources Center (HSRC) http://oregonstate.edu/hsrc/
- Child and Family Resources http://oregonstate.edu/childcare/
- Student Health Services  
  http://studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/

- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)  
  http://oregonstate.edu/counsel/

In conclusion, if you have other questions or comments during this time please do not hesitate to contact me directly by phone at 541-737-7662 or by email at gus.bedwell@oregonstate.edu. In addition, please feel free to access Oregon State University Veterans Website; http://oregonstate.edu/veterans/home/ and Facebook page; http://www.facebook.com/VeteransAtOregonStateUniversity for additional resources and information.

Thank you for choosing Oregon State University to pursue your education.