Veterans' Pre-College Program Serves Veterans in 26 East Tennessee Counties

The Veterans' Pre-College Program (VPC) at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, offers a unique array of services and support—designed to ease transitions and help assure ultimate success for eligible veterans as they enter, persist in, and eventually graduate from their chosen target educational program. A VPC veteran participant may select from among the wide variety of postsecondary schools and programs across the country—a 2-year community college, a 4-year college or university, or some other public or private vocational or technical school. VPC services and support include academic competency development; individual career, educational and financial aid advising; help with applications for admission and financial aid at the target school; college life adjustment and study skills workshops; writing skills development; computer literacy training; and post-enrollment follow on support.

Women veterans, minorities and handicapped or disabled veterans are especially invited to participate. Veterans with less than a four year college degree who are seeking more education should call for an Eligibility Interview—dial (865) 974-4466 or toll free from outside the 865 calling area: 1-877-656-8387.

The 2001-2002 program year for the U.T. Veterans' Pre-College Program began on September 1, 2001. Since the project's first year of funding in 1989, over 1400 veterans from the 26-county East Tennessee target area have received VPC services. To date, nearly 1000 veteran participants have entered programs of postsecondary education.

Veterans who want or need education beyond high school are invited to contact the project immediately for eligibility pre-screening and enrollment assistance.

StudyWorks! 2002® Helps Vets Build Math and Science Skills

These motivating, interactive resources are now installed on all VPC computer lab workstations. You'll get excited just reading that they came in. Insert the CD-ROM for either program and away you go!

Mathematics Deluxe

StudyWorks! 2002 Mathematics Deluxe® delivers interactive, engaging lessons covering 10 comprehensive math competencies in each of six topics—in greater depth than any other package! Master a topic in three effective steps. Start with a colorful presentation of a key concept. Then learn how to apply it with easy-to-follow examples:

- Pre-Algebra
- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Geometry
- Trigonometry
- Pre-Calculus

See StudyWorks!—p. 5

DVA Help for Women Veterans

Women have served in the military from the American Revolution to the present, and by 2010, roughly 15 percent of all veterans will be women. Unfortunately, women have been historically underrepresented in utilizing the benefits provided for them, and have often been more reticent in claiming their veteran status. The Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to ensuring that benefits and services for women veterans are made as accessible as possible, and has created a number of outreach programs and revised guidelines toward this end.

Women veterans are entitled to the same VA benefits as male veterans. Gender-specific services and benefits—including breast and pelvic examinations—

See Women Veterans—p. 2

2001-2002 is the 13th consecutive Program Year for the UT Knoxville Veterans' Pre-College Program

Inside! Are You Eligible for VUB Services?—Page 3
Recent VPC Alumni

Congratulations to the following 2000-01 VPC Program vets who enrolled recently at their target schools...

The University of Tennessee - Knoxville
ROBYN DONOVAN
JON ERUSSON
HARLAN HANNA
JASON KAYLOR
HOLLY KEMP
JAMES LARRABEE
DARRYL LONG
JESSE OGLE
SUNSHINE PARKER
KERMIT PHIPP
BENJAMIN PIERCE
BRIAN RICKER
DEREK RISDEN
ELIJAH SHEKINAH
MICHAEL TALLEY
LORI WHITEHORSE
PATRICK WILLIAMS
JILL WINTER

Pellissippi State Technical Community College
CYNTHIA AULT
JOHN ENSOR
MACK GARNER
ROBERT JORDAN
MARVIN LEWIS
JAMES MOSER
MATTHEW PERRIN
HANK SWICEGOOD, JR.

The University of Tennessee - Memphis
ROBERT CLEMONS

Roane State Community College
TONY RIDENOUR

Walters State Community College
HARRY COOPER
VICKIE HALL
BRANDON NOE
MARIE WARD
BARABARA WILLLIAMS

Chattanooga State Technical Community College
BRUCE HALL
STEVEN WILSON

Tennessee Institute of Electronics
GARY GARRETT

Thomson Learning—Harcourt Online
RICHARD MOFFETT

TVA Apprenticeship Program
FREDDIE PHILLIPS

Women Veterans

continued from p. 1

and preventive care such as contraceptive services, menopause management, Pap smears, reproductive counseling, and mammography are available. VA health care professionals are trained to provide counseling and treatment to women suffering the effects of personal and sexual assault/harassment during military service. Care is available for any injury, illness or psychological illness resulting from such trauma.

To ensure the privacy of women veterans, the VA medical centers have introduced a variety of structural changes. Women Veterans’ Coordinators are available at all VA facilities to assist women veterans in seeking treatment and benefits. More information is available at the VA Center for Women Veterans website, http://www.va.gov/womensvet/

Retrieved 9/15/01 from
http://www.va.gov/womensvet/

A certain measure of courage in the private citizen is necessary to the good conduct of the State, otherwise men who have power through riches, intrigue, or office will administer the State at will and ultimately to their private advantage.

Admiral Hyman G. Rickover
Are You Eligible for VUB Services?

Are you eligible for Veterans Upward Bound services through the Veterans’ Pre-College Program at The University of Tennessee? The fastest and surest way to confirm it is in a telephone eligibility pre-screening interview. In less than five minutes on the phone, potential veteran participants provide all the initial information needed either: (a) to schedule an in-person Intake and Orientation session at the VPC office, or (b) to receive an Intake and Orientation packet through the VPC Distance Learning/Home Study option. Callers in the Knoxville 865 local calling area need only dial 974-2132. From outside the 865 area, dial toll-free, 1-877-656-8387.

Internet users have another option—the VPC Online Eligibility Profile. The profile is accessible on the VPC website “24/7” (24 hours a day, 7 days a week.) The profile guides the VPC staff as to a veteran’s interest in the program and provides them with preliminary eligibility information. By entering a phone number in the profile, veterans can receive a prompt reply and complete the full eligibility confirmation process. If necessary VPC staff will reply by e-mail to the initial profile submission. To complete the profile online, scroll down and select the Online Eligibility Profile link on the VPC website “Front Page” at:
http://web.utk.edu/~utkvub/veterans.html

Who is eligible for this benefit?
You may receive this benefit if you are eligible for:
- The Montgomery G.I. Bill (also called the MGIB or Chapter 30)
- VEAP (also called Chapter 32), or
- Dependents Educational Assistance (also called DEA or Chapter 35) DEA is a benefit for children, spouses, and surviving spouses of veterans with 100% service-connected disability or who died in service or due to service connected disability.

What is the maximum test benefit you can receive?
You can receive up to $2,000 per test but no more than the actual cost of the test. There is no limit to the number of tests you can take.

Do you have to pass a test to receive the benefit? No, Can you retake a test that you failed? Yes. Can you take a test to renew your license or certificate? Yes. Can you take a test in a foreign country if it is approved in the U.S.? Yes.

How do you apply for reimbursement of a test?
Send the DVA a copy of your test results with a note requesting reimbursement. Please include:
- your name and social security number
- the name of the test you took and the date you took it
- name and address of the organization issuing the license or certificate (not necessarily the organization that administered the test)
- cost of the test NOTE: Registration fees, preparation guides, processing fees, etc. will not be reimbursed.
- the following statement: “I authorize release of my test information to VA.”
Send the above information to your state VA office.

What tests are currently approved for VA benefits?
Certification tests offered by the following organizations are approved:
- Aerobics and Fitness Association of America
- American Council on Exercise
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- CompTIA
- Electronics Technicians Association, International
- Interactive Educational Services
- Microsoft

VA Regional Office
PO Box 100022
Decatur, GA 30031-7022

VPC Writing Lab Students Address a Broad Array of Topics and Issues

Bygone Days of Youth and Glory
by Bob Hubbard

In 1978 Kawasaki Motors sold a motorcycle that was the first cafe racer made in mass production and sold in the U.S. I, being of unsound mind, had to possess one of these wonders of Japanese ingenuity; and for three weeks I was the proud owner of the fastest stock production motorcycle in the world. Then I heard that the Yamaha XS1100 was faster.

Not having learned that pride goeth before a fall, I went forth, riding this marvel of engineering, seeking someone to humiliate by blowing off their doors as I passed them. Guys impressing their girls while on dates were my preferred victims, especially if they were driving a sports car!

The drivers were left behind with just a twist of the throttle. The bike had ninety horses and weighed less than five hundred pounds. It was capable of going a quarter mile in less than twelve seconds. A regular automobile had no chance in a race with a high-performance bike like the ZIR.

This motorcycle was my pride and joy. It was kept on display in the living room, where all could behold its exquisite combination of form and function. Of course when I was single, I could get by with little things like storing a bike in the house.

Having worn the rear tire slick by doing burnouts, I had the widest and stickiest tire that would fit the bike installed. Now armed with more traction, I went forth seeking more foes to conquer.

While riding through Maryville on a very hot day—so hot that the tar in the road was sticky—I went forth like Sir Galahad...or maybe more like Don Quixote. Noticing two blonds in a small European convertible behind me, I decided that this was my chance to impress them as to how manly I was.

At a stop sign, I met my Waterloo; I increased the rpm’s and popped the clutch. I was sure that the bike would stand up on one wheel and in a heartbeat there would be nothing left behind but noise, black marks on the road, smoke, and two very impressed girls. Alas, it did not happen thus. When there is too much power and traction at the same time something has to give, so the sprocket and hub of the rear wheel shattered. I realized something was amiss because the engine was screaming and I wasn’t moving. I looked around and beheld parts of my pride and joy scattered all over the road.

Getting off the bike, turning it around, I started pushing it toward home. With the ladies laughing I didn’t look as cool as I had hoped.

Each fable written by the Greeks had a lesson at the end of it. The only lesson I learned was that the wise man who wrote “The best laid plans of mice and men oft go astray” knew what he was talking about!

Abortion: Convenience or Murder?
by Anthony Ridenoar

Abortion is a controversial subject in America. Many Americans believe in a woman’s right to control her own body and to have the freedom to terminate an unwanted pregnancy. Other Americans have strong feelings against the termination of pregnancies for moral reasons.

Some extreme groups have committed acts of terrorism against abortion clinics, such as the bombing of several clinics by the fugitive Eric Rudolph. Much of the difference in beliefs is based on world views. Many supporters of abortion are liberal thinkers who reject the notion of absolute right or wrong. They may belong to major religions, but they do not subscribe to traditional moral ideas taken from biblical teachings. Many Christians believe in the sanctity of human life and are opposed to abortion because they believe it is the murder of an innocent baby.

The first question regarding whether abortion is murder is centered on the humanity of the unborn baby. At what stage does a fetus become human? At conception, sperm enters an egg in a woman’s womb. This begins the process of life. Within seconds after conception the baby has started its transformation. After eight weeks the baby is fully formed. But the defining moment of life remains conception. Abortion supporters argue that an unborn baby is only tissue and that the fetus is not entitled to protection or rights. They suppose that a fetus becomes a baby at some stage in development. The idea is that if the fetus cannot live independently of its mother, it is not viable and its destruction is a perfectly acceptable option for a mother who does not want to have a child. Although science proves that life begins at conception, abortion supporters maintain that a woman has the right to take that life if she so chooses.

If it were legal or morally acceptable to terminate life because it caused an inconvenience for a mother whose child is incapable of independent living, then it seems logical to permit the termination of children up to the age that they can fend for themselves. This would be up to 12 years old for some children and much older for those who are disabled. Then the question of dependant elderly persons would also have to be considered. Many elderly are being cared for by their children. Would it be consistent with the logic of abortion to terminate old people who are mentally incapable of supporting themselves without help? It would not seem quite fair to permit parents the option to terminate their unwanted children and not also afford the same option to children with unwanted parents. This hypothetical discussion may seem ridiculous to the reader, but if life begins at conception what is the difference?
Many Ways to Learn

Preparing to enter and be successful in a postsecondary program can be rewarding and even fun for students in the Veterans' Pre-College Program. Learning takes place in individualized and small-group tutoring sessions, and in small-group workshops. Tutoring and workshops are conducted live by VPC instructional staff. Self-paced videotape and computer-assisted programs are also available.

The Following Topics are Offered:

**Math**
- Mathematics Skills Pre-Test
- Whole Number Review
- Fractions
- Decimal Numbers
- Percentage
- Graphs & Tables
- Signed Numbers
- Algebraic Expressions
- Polynomials
- Equations/Inequalities
- Ratios/Proportions
- Rectangular Coordinates
- Measurement
- Basic Geometric Concepts
- Triangles
- Plane & Solid Figures
- Pre-Calculus

**Botany**
- Animal Behavior
- Genetics/Classification
- Cell Biology
- Organ Systems
- Nutrition/Immunology

**Chemistry**
- Atomic Structure
- Chemical Reactions

**Physics**
- Energy & Motion

**Earth Science**
- Solar System/Atmosphere
- Water Cycle/Geology
- Volcanoes/Continents/Fossils

**Grammar & Usage I**
- Grammar & Usage II
- Sentence Structure I
- Sentence Structure II
- Spelling
- Writing Lab

**Social Studies**
- US History I (1492-1865)
- US History II (1865-Present)
- Geography
- Political Science/Government
- Economics
- Behavioral Sciences

**English (Writing Skills)**
- Diction & Vocabulary
- Style & Clarity
- Capitalization
- Logic & Organization
- Punctuation

**Math (General)**
- Math (Fractions)
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Science
- Social Studies

**Computer-Assisted**
- Keyboarding Skills/Typing
- Creating a Resume
- Word Processing
- Databases
- Spreadsheets
- Reading Compreh./Speed
- High School/College
- Math Review:
  - Algebra
  - Geometry
  - Pre-Calculus
  - Calculus
  - Chemistry
  - Geography

**Writing Lab Brings Out Vet Talents**

Think you can’t write a decent sentence? Or do you think you may have “the great American novel” locked up inside you? Either way, you can benefit from enrolling in the VPC Writing Lab, conducted by VPC Education Specialist, Dora Marmon.

Writing Lab students meet once a week for two-hours; they are exposed to literary classics—in print and/or on videotape. These sessions and the veterans’ life experiences serve as the basis for writing assignments in which at least three things happen: (1) vets get a chance to try out and apply English language skills they’re learning/reviewing; (2) they get a chance to try a variety of original writing assignments from simple paragraphs, to essays, to poetry; and (3) they get a taste of genuine college-level feedback and evaluation.

**StudyWorks!** continued from p. 1

**Science Deluxe**

*StudyWorks! 2002 Science Deluxe®*

delivers interactive, engaging lessons covering nine comprehensive science subjects! Master a topic in three effective steps. Start with a colorful presentation of a key concept. Then learn how to apply it, step-by-step, with easy-to-follow examples.

- Earth Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Astronomy
- Oceanography
- Statistics
- Internet Technology
- Science Fiction Writing

The package also includes a bonus pack, full of even more aids for the serious science student:
- Live Online Homework Help
- Interactive Periodic Table of the Elements
- Chemical Equation Balancer
- Science Careers Section

**Guide to Interactive Math**

*StudyWorks! Guide to Interactive Math®*

helps students quickly get up-to-speed on any skill related to StudyWorks math or science, with hundreds of exercises and a tutorial on advanced topics. The guide is a helpful companion to the CD-ROM materials and is available at each VPC computer lab workstation.
Instructional Cycle

- Competency-based Curriculum Levels A-G
- Self-paced Learning
- Computer-managed Instruction (CMI)

Outlook on Women Veterans

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were approximately 1.2 million women veterans, representing about five percent of the 23,822,000 veterans living in the United States in 1996. The states with the largest female veteran population in 1990 were California, Florida, Texas, and New York.

The majority of women veterans in August 1995 (651,000) served during peacetime, while 573,000 were war veterans. These female war veterans included 173,000 Vietnam-era veterans and 400,000 other war veterans.

Data from the 1990 Census showed that the female veteran population was 84 percent white, 12 percent black, and 4 percent Hispanic. For male veterans, the breakdown was 89 percent white, 8 percent black, and 4 percent Hispanic.

Between 1987 and 1991, women accounted for almost 11 percent of persons separating from the military. Unlike the male veteran population, which is projected to decline by about 28 percent between 1990 and 2010, the female veteran population is projected to increase by 17 percent, from 1,094,000 to 1,281,000 during that period.

Women veterans are generally younger than their male counterparts. The median age of women veterans is 46 years compared to 55 years for male veterans.

About 30 percent of female veterans are under age 35 compared to only 10 percent of male veterans. There are no longer any Vietnam-era veterans under 35 years of age or any other war veterans under 55 years of age.

CLA&SS College Life Adjustment and Study Skills Workshop Series Held Twice Monthly

The College Life Adjustment and Study Skills Workshop series is one of the most popular services offered by the Veterans' Pre-College Program. Over a period of three days, veteran participants focus on topics that are vitally related to success in any postsecondary education program, regardless of the major or academic discipline the student is pursuing.

Study Skills Workshops are held weekly on a rotating schedule. Weekly topics include those listed in the next column.

- Lifestyle Changes
- Establishing Goals & Time Management Skills
- Self-Concept
- Test Anxiety & Stress Management
- Note-Taking, Outlining & Reading
- Listening & Critical Thinking Skills
- Library Skills
- How to Study For and Take Exams


The easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.

Andy Rooney
Veterans Chart Academic Course with Adult Basic Skills Academic Cycle

In order to qualify for enrollment in the VPC program, the veteran's academic need for the program must be assessed and demonstrated. In addition to documented academic need, the staff must assure that the veteran makes documentable academic progress throughout the enrollment period.

Those requirements are easy to meet in the 1999-2003 funding cycle, with use of the Adult Basic Skills Programs. One chief advantage of the material is the structured cycle of instruction—including needs diagnosis and assessment, accurate academic placement, individualized instructional planning, progressive levels of instruction in reading/language, basic math, and algebra skills using instructional booklets, review cards, mastery tests and computer-assisted progress tracking and documentation.

Entering students begin with Placement Tests for each academic component. Placement Test results confirm the student's appropriate starting level. Diagnostic Tests for the appropriate level confirm the competencies already mastered, making possible a customized academic prescription that charts a course of study emphasizing true need, with no time wasted on needless review of things already mastered.

The academic prescription is part of the veteran's Individual Education Plan (IEP) for the Veterans' Pre-College Program. The IEP includes not only goals for academic refresher and skills development but also goals related to career advising and target school selection, computer literacy, study skills workshops, financial aid counseling, admissions and application assistance, cultural enrichment and community service activities.

As the veteran demonstrates mastery at each successive level of instruction, he/she progresses to the next level until they have completed the full criterion referenced series of self-paced lessons.

Computer-assisted tracking of each veteran's progress through the instructional cycle allows for more than just automatic documentation of academic progress required by Federal guidelines. Individual Placement Profiles and Individual Achievement Reports allow VPC staff to observe and follow the veteran's progress, and to offer assistance and encouragement when needed. To the veteran student, the reports offer continuous, clear, no-nonsense answers to the question "Where am I?" at any given point in the cycle of academic development.

Advisory Board Assists VPC Program

The Veterans' Pre-College Program Advisory Board performs these general functions:

1. Advises and informs the Veterans' Pre-College Program of potential opportunities to enhance overall effectiveness and operation of the program.
2. Advises and informs the program of potential means to deliver program services to individuals and/or to the community in general, within Federal program guidelines.
3. Identifies and assists in establishing appropriate linkages between the program and the community; assists in establishing an effective system of applicant referrals and community resource networking.
4. Identifies and refers potential program participants to the Veterans' Pre-College Program.
5. Assists in establishing general community awareness and support for the Veterans' Pre-College Program.

Members of the Veterans' Pre-College Program Advisory Board include:

- Mr. Richard A. ("Fick") Ayres, Veterans' Benefits Representative, State of Tennessee Dept. of Veterans' Affairs
- Dr. Ernest W. Brewer, Project Director—Veterans' Pre-College Program, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Ms. Vickie D. Clark, Supervisor—Veterans' Affairs Office, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Mr. Joel D. Coates, Associate Director—Veterans' Pre-College Program, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Mr. Ron Coffin, Team Leader, Knoxville Vet Center
- Mr. Bill Howell, Sr. Veterans' Employment Representative, State of Tennessee Dept. of Employment Security
- Ms. Janice Kennedy, Program Developer—Remedial and Developmental Programs, Pellissippi State Technical Community College
- Mr. Robert Kerr, Associate Director—Knoxville WAVE, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Mr. Arnold Mullins, President & Founder, Volunteer State Veterans' Honor Guard & Museum
- Mr. Deway Roberts, Admissions Counselor, Tennessee Technology Center, Knoxville
- Mr. Charles Staley, Blount County Service Officer, State of Tennessee Dept. of Veterans' Affairs

Thanks, Advisors!

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To School or Not to School

Did you know that 90% of all service members enter the service for the educational benefits? However, only 50% actually use their educational benefits. Here are some compelling reasons why you should seriously consider continuing your education:

- **Income:** Those with HS diplomas have a median income of $28,122.50; those with Bachelor’s degrees earn $45,489.00. Over a lifetime that amounts to 44% more.
- **Your military experience may have earned you college credit.** The American Council on Education (ACE) has established guidelines for evaluating military credit. It is important that you find out if the college you want to attend will accept military credit.
- **Continuing education is more flexible than ever.** Thirty years ago, going to college part time was the exception; today it is the rule. Over 60% of today’s college students are part-time students. 10% of all college students are taking online courses. Even better, online education is now becoming the wave of the future. A survey of working adults conducted by Opinion Research Corp. revealed that 54% believe that college courses offered via the Internet are the future of higher education.
- **Skill Development & Certification:** Today’s workers are taking command of their careers and becoming free agents in the workforce. Workers that hone their skills and obtain industry certifications earn 49% more than workers that do not. In certain industries, (Internet Technology for example) certification ensures that a worker will command top wages.
- **Workers must continually learn.** World famous management guru Peter Drucker explains “The impact of the Net on higher education is almost certain to be very much greater than on any business. The average knowledge worker will outlive the average employing organization. This is the first time in history that this has happened. You must have a great deal of knowledge today, and it must often be highly focused. So the center of gravity of higher education is already shifting from the education of the young to the continuing education of adults.”
- **Junior officers and enlisted technicians with Masters degrees are some of the most sought after employees by corporate America.** Students with Masters degrees earn 41% more than undergraduate students over a lifetime.

Retrieved 8/15/01 from http://www.military.com/Careers/Content/FILE=toschool_oromet.html&area=Content

The American Council on Education has developed a fully searchable, web-based version of the Guide to the Evaluation of Education Experiences in the Armed Services, created to help schools and students to view ACE college credit recommendations for courses and MOS’s evaluated by ACE’s Military Programs group. See the website at http://www.militaryguides.acenet.edu/index.cfm

Government Aid Office to Send PIN Numbers to Students Electronically

* By Stephen Burd, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

The U.S. Education Department’s Office of Student Financial Assistance announced that starting in January, 2002, students who apply online for financial aid will be able to receive their personal identification numbers electronically rather than through the mail. Speaking at the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators’ annual conference, Greg Woods, the chief operating officer of the financial-assistance office, was greeted with cheers when he reported the plan to aid administrators gathered here. Mr. Woods said the change would significantly reduce the time it takes to apply for aid. “There will be no more delays of days, no more missed deadlines that can cost you prospective students,” Mr. Woods said.

Earlier [in July, 2001], the Education Department began allowing students applying for aid to use PIN’s distributed by the department, or other types of electronic signatures provided by their lenders, to identify themselves when applying for aid, signing for their loans, or monitoring their loan accounts on the Internet. Previously, students using the department’s electronic aid-application form, FAFSA, on the Web, had to show proof of identity by mailing separate signature pages to the department. Moreover, the department and lenders had to obtain written signatures from students on their promissory notes before they could disburse direct- and guaranteed-loan funds.

College officials believe that using electronic signatures will make the delivery of grants and loans to students easier and faster.

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Veterans Warned To Avoid Benefit and Pension Buysouts

Federal officials are warning veterans across the country to be wary of a growing number of companies that are offering to buy their disability benefits or military pensions for a lump-sum payment. Knight Ridder News Service reports that companies who buy veterans’ benefits are not doing anything illegal because they are taking advantage of loopholes and a gray area of the law.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) says the companies are taking advantage of desperate veterans who may be down on their luck and in need of quick cash. Some companies pay as low as thirty cents on the dollar.

Veterans interested in signing up with lump-sum payment companies should ask themselves whether they can live without their monthly benefits after the cash advances is gone.


Financial Aid Phone Numbers

The best place to start—your VPC staff:

- (865) 974-4466
- or toll free 1-877-656-8387

Information about your individual financial aid application, or duplicate copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR):

- 1-(800) 801-0576

General information about federal financial aid programs:

- 1-(800) 433-3243

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation—information about TN Student Assistance Award (grant), other TN state aid, and the available student loan programs:

- 1-(800) 342-1663

VPC Program Hours

Monday - Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday as announced

For Special Appointments Call (865) 974-4466
11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday