

6.013 Military Veterans and Active Duty

(1) College Credit for Military Training and Education Courses.

Each university board of trustees shall adopt a regulation that establishes a policy and process that enables students who are or were eligible members of the United States Armed Forces to earn appropriate academic college credit for college-level training and education acquired in the military.

(a) The policy and process established by regulation shall include:

1. Specification that college credit will be granted to students with military training or coursework that is recognized by the American Council on Education (ACE) subject to regular institution transfer practices or limitations on amount, level, etc. of transfer credit. The process is subject to the same treatment as any other transfer credit evaluated;
2. Utilization of the ACE Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services in order to determine equivalency and alignment of military coursework with appropriate university courses;
3. Specification that if the course to which the military training or coursework is equivalent fulfills a general education or major course or degree program requirement at the receiving institution, the credit should count towards graduation and meet a requirement accordingly. Otherwise, appropriate course credit including free elective course credit will be granted; and
4. Articulation of credits earned via military training and coursework between state universities. Credit that was previously evaluated and awarded by a college degree granting institution, and that is appropriate to the transfer student's major at the university, should be accepted, subject to institution limit on the amount and level of transfer credit allowed for a given degree.

(b) Credit awarded for military education and training shall be noted on the veteran student's transcript and documentation of the credit equivalency evaluation shall be maintained in the student veteran's file.

(c) Each university shall provide a copy of the policy and process on the university registrar's website and within its university catalogs.

(d) Credit awarded for military education and training shall not be counted in the excess hours fee per Board of Governors Regulation 7.003 due to the credit being based on work accomplished while serving on active-duty.

(2) Priority Course Registration for Veterans

(a) Each university that offers priority course registration for a segment of the student population shall provide the same priority course registration for each veteran of the United States Armed Forces who is receiving GI Bill educational benefits and for the spouse or dependent children of a veteran to whom the GI Bill education benefits have been transferred.

(3) Student Withdrawal from Courses Due to Military Service

(a) Withdrawal Due to Military Service.

Each university board of trustees shall adopt a regulation to provide that any student enrolled in a college credit course at a state university shall not incur academic or financial penalties by virtue of performing military service on behalf of our country. The regulation shall encourage withdrawal and possible eligible refund without academic penalty except in cases where the student and faculty member agree that completion is imminent and possible. If the course is no longer offered when the student seeks to resume study, an equivalent course may be selected. If the student chooses to withdraw, the student's record shall reflect that the withdrawal is due to active military service.

(b) The provisions of this subsection and related university regulations shall apply to:

1. Students who are currently on active duty with any unit of the United States Armed Forces who receive orders that require reassignment to a different duty station or absence from class for an extended period of time during the semester in which they are enrolled; and
2. Students who are members of a National Guard, Air National Guard, or other military reserve unit who receive orders calling them to active duty for operational or training purposes during the semester in which they are enrolled, excluding any regularly scheduled weekend and annual training duty; and
3. Students who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces and who are recalled to active duty during the semester in which they are enrolled; and
4. Students who enlist in any branch of the United States Armed Forces and whose induction date falls within the semester in which they are enrolled.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; Section 39.205, Fla. Stat.; History: New 11-08-12, Amended 11-3-16.