

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

INTRO: Welcome to the Student Veteran Needs Assessment. The information obtain from this questionnaire will be utilized in efforts to improve the student veteran experience at Texas A&M University and help ensure the VRSC it is meeting the needs of its student veterans.

Demographics

The Veterans Resource and Support Center would like to know more about your service and family. Please answer the following questions so we may better understand Texas A&M student veterans.

D1) Which branch of service do/did you serve? (Check all that apply.)

- a) Army
- b) Navy
- c) Air Force
- d) Marines
- e) Coast Guard

D2) Which of the following best describes your current military service status?

- a) Former active duty
- b) Current active duty
- c) Current Reservist
- d) Current National Guard
- e) Former Reservist/National Guard

D3) Please indicate the total number of months you spent in a combat zone.

- a) None
- b) 6 or fewer
- c) 7-12
- d) 13-18
- e) 19-24
- f) More than 24

D4) Please indicate your marital and family status.

- a) Single
- b) Single w/Children
- c) Married
- d) Married w/Children

D5b) (*Logic question if they indicate "Married" or "Married w/Children"*) If married, is your spouse attending college? (Check all that apply.)

- a) Attending college full-time
- b) Attending college part-time
 - (1) Attends Texas A&M
 - (2) Attends another institution
- c) Not attending college at this time

D5) Please indicate the number of dependents (excluding spouse/partner) in your household?

- a) 0
- b) 1
- c) 2
- d) 3
- e) 4 or more

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

Academics

A1) Please indicate which of the following services you have utilized: (Check all that apply.)

- a) Academic Success Center services
- b) On/Off campus tutoring
- c) On campus study skills
- d) Campus Libraries
- e) Veteran Learning Community (through College of Agriculture)
- f) Veteran Academic Academy

A2) On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being Strongly Disagree and 5 being Strongly Agree, please rate the following statements: *(include a N/A option)*

I have the time management skills to balance my course work and personal commitments.

I am aware of Texas A&M resources to improve study/time management skills.

I wish I knew more about resources on campus to help with academics.

I have sought out resources to improve study/time management skills.

I have sought out on-campus tutoring and/or Supplemental Instruction (SI).

A3) *True or False:* I feel my academic advisor has a good understanding of the of the issues veterans face in relation to academic success.

A4) Have you experienced difficulty with any of the following?

(Frequently/Often/Occasionally/Never)

Extreme stress during test taking or other important class requirements.

Difficulty hearing professors.

Difficulty in class because of being physically uncomfortable in the provided chairs/desks/tables.

Scheduling outside appointments (VA, doctor, etc.) around classes.

Managing frustrations or stress in class or at home.

Feeling as if faculty/staff do not understand or care about my struggles as a student veteran.

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

Student Life

SL1) Please indicate which of the following student organizations you are a member of: (Check all that apply.)

- a) Texas A&M Student Veterans Association
- b) Delta Co. (within the Corps of Cadets)
- c) V1 (within the Corps of Cadets)
- d) Other non-military affiliated student organizations

SL2) Have you taken advantage of the Peer Advising for Veteran Education (PAVE) program?

- a) Yes
- b) No

SL3) On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being Strongly Disagree and 5 being Strongly Agree, please rate the following statements: *(include an NA option)*

- a) I feel connected to other student veterans/service members on campus.
- b) Being connected to student veterans/service members who understand my experiences helps me succeed at Texas A&M.
- c) I want to be more connected with fellow student veterans/service members on campus.
- d) I would like to meet more married student veterans/service members to help my spouse/partner feel connected/supported.
- e) I feel Texas A&M is a veteran-friendly campus.
- f) I feel non-veteran students are supportive of veteran students/service members.
- g) I feel non-veteran students understand my challenges/issues as a veteran/service members.

SL4) In what situations would you feel most comfortable in connecting to other student veterans/service members on campus? (Check all that apply.)

- a) Social/Happy hours
- b) Veteran student lounge
- c) Peer mentoring program
- d) Veteran only class
- e) Student organizations
- f) Family/Spouse-Friendly Events
- g) Other (fill in)

SL5) *(Open-ended)* What are your biggest obstacles in connecting with other student veterans/service members on campus?

SL6) *(Open ended)* Please make any suggestions for activities or ways of increasing fellow student veteran connections.

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

Career/Post Graduation

C1) What do you plan to do after graduating from Texas A&M? (Check all that apply.)

- a) Return/join to active-duty military
- b) Return/join a reserve or National Guard Unit
- c) Seek part-time employment outside of the military
- d) Seek full-time employment outside of the military
- e) Continue my education with additional undergraduate or vocational training
- f) Continue my education with a graduate or professional degree
- g) Participate in an organization like the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps/VISTA, or Teach for America
- h) Participate in community service organization
- i) Travel
- j) Other (fill in)
- k) Unknown at this time (*have this response be mutually exclusive*)

C2) Please indicate what steps have you taken to prepare for post-graduation goals? (Check all that apply.)

- a) Update Resume
- b) Resume Review (by Career Center, professor, mentor, or other professional means)
- c) On-Campus Mock Interviews
- d) Off-Campus Mock Interviews
- e) On-Campus Job Fair(s)
- f) Off-Campus Job Fair(s)
- g) Vet-Connect events programmed by the VRSC
- h) Internship/Externship

C3) *True or False:* I feel prepared to complete a successful job search and employment process.

C4) Please indicate what Career Center programs you have taken part in. (Check all that apply.)

- a) Advising Appointment/Walk-in session
- b) Employer Information Session
- c) Panel Program or Workshop
- d) Other (please specify) _____
- e) I am unaware of the Career Center's services

C5) (*Open ended*) What skills would you like to enhance or concerns do you have related to your post-Texas A&M plans?

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

Financial

F1) Please indicate your current Educational Benefits eligibility and usage information:

- a) Currently using federal VA Education Benefits.
- b) Currently using state Hazlewood Exemption.
- c) Currently using a combination of both VA and Hazlewood.
- d) Ineligible for/exhausted both benefits.

F2) Will you exhaust federal VA benefits (GI Bill®) prior to graduation?

- a) Yes

F2a1) (*Logic Question if "yes"*) Are you eligible for the Hazlewood Exemption?

- a. Yes

i. (Logic Question) Will you exhaust Hazlewood prior to graduation?

1. Yes
2. No

- b. No

- b) No

F3) Please indicate if you have completed a FAFSA?

- a) Yes, I completed the FAFSA for 1819 AY.
- b) I have not completed the FAFSA for 1819 AY.
 - a. If not, why?

F4) Please indicate your current household income level:

- a) Below \$20,000
- b) \$20,000 to \$39,999
- c) \$40,000 to \$59,999
- d) \$60,000 to \$79,999
- e) \$80,000 and above
- f) Unknown

F5) Please indicate your current employment status:

- a) Employed

F5a1) (*Logic Question if "Employed"*) Please indicate the average number of hours per week that you work.

- a. 0-15
- b. 16-20
- c. 21-35
- d. 36 or more

- b) Not employed at this time.

F6) If married, please indicate your spouse's current employment status:

- a) Employed

F6a1) (*Logic Question if "Employed"*) Please indicate the average number of hours per week that you work.

- a. 0-15
- b. 16-20
- c. 21-35
- d. 36 or more

- b) Not employed at this time.

- c) N/A

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

F7) If you have children, do you have enough income, financial aid, or benefits to adequately cover childcare expenses needed for you to attend classes?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) N/A

F8) Have you utilized the Aggie Shields textbook lending library?

- a) Yes

F8a1) (*Logic Question if "yes"*) What is the approx. total value you have received in lent textbooks?

- a. \$0-\$250
 - b. \$251-500
 - c. \$501-\$1000
 - d. \$1001-\$2500
 - e. \$2501 or greater
- b) No

F9) Please indicate the level of financial stress you experience for each of the following expenses:

Scale of No Stress to Extreme Stress

- a) Tuition and Fees
- b) Cost of Text books
- c) Housing and Living Expenses
- d) Transportation Related Expenses
- e) Childcare Expenses
- f) Other (fill in) _____

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

Healthcare

H1) In the past 12 months, where have you received health care services? (Check all that apply.)

- a) Private physician's office
- b) Veterans Administration (VA) facility
- c) TAMU Student Health Services (i.e., A.P. Beutel Health Center)
- d) County Health Clinic
- e) Community Hospital (inpatient services)
- f) Community Urgent Care (i.e., Caprock, Brazos Valley Urgent Care, etc.)
- g) Community Emergency Rooms

H2) Are you currently registered with Veterans Administration Healthcare Services?

- a) Yes
- b) No

H3) What Kind of Health Insurance Do You Currently Have? (Check all that apply.)

- a) I do not have health insurance
- b) Student Health Plan (BCBS-TX)
- c) ACA (Obama care) health insurance exchange
- d) TRICARE
- e) Veterans Administration Healthcare
- f) Other commercial health insurance plan

H4) Are you currently aware of Texas A&M's no-cost parking pass provision for veterans with a qualifying vehicle plate?

- a) Yes
- b) No
 - a. Include a logic response for Transportation Services Information
<http://transport.tamu.edu/Parking/disabled.aspx>
(979) 862-7275

VRSC Student Needs Assessment 1819

Resource Contacts and Recommendations

R1) Please indicated your preferred method(s) to connect with campus resources? (Check all that apply.)

- a) In person
- b) Email/Chat
- c) Online group/forum/social media
- d) Single website with resource listings/contacts
- e) Small in-person group sessions
- f) Other (fill in)

R3) Do you struggle with knowing whom to contact on campus regarding various needs you may have?

- a) Yes, often
- b) Yes, sometimes
- c) No

R4) When you have questions regarding student veteran services, whom do you contact first?

- a) Veteran Services Office (Financial Aid)
- b) Veteran Resource & Support Center (Student Affairs)
- c) Academic Advisor
- d) Faculty/other staff
- e) Friends
- f) Other (fill in)_____

R5) Are you a member of the Aggie Veteran Network?

- a) Yes
(Logic question if "yes") (Open ended) Please tell us what kind of interactions through the AVN would you most benefits from?
- b) No
(Logic question if "no") (Open ended) Please explain what has prevented you from joining.

R6) *(Open ended)* What do you feel is the single most important thing that needs to be accomplished to improve overall veteran services and/or transitions to TAMU?

R7) *(Open ended)* If you are a Woman Veteran or service member, what additional resources or services do you feel should be available to better support your success at TAMU?

CLOSING: The Veteran Resource and Support Center deeply appreciates and values your participation and input. If you have any questions regarding the information requested in this questionnaire, please contact our office at 979-845-3161.