

— *Serving Those Who Served* —



Registering for Fall

The Cuyamaca Veterans Center Bi-Weekly e-Newsletter

FALL 2020 PRIORITY REGISTRATION:

June 29, 2020

A MESSAGE FROM OUR VP OF STUDENT SERVICES:

"On behalf of Cuyamaca College Student Services I would like to remind you we are here for you and take pride in supporting you throughout your educational journey. My virtual door is always open for you for any questions, comments, or support. Thank you for your service to our Country and thank you for choosing Cuyamaca College."

~Dr. Jessica Robinson, MSW



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

Your VA Education MHA

With all the uncertainty that has come with the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, and the subsequent campus closures, there has been many questions and concerns surrounding the impact of VA education benefits and monthly housing allowances. There have been regulations set forth by the VA on what now constitutes an in-person class versus distance learning. The regulation can be found [here](#), and below.

In order to address these regulations and protect your full MHA benefit, Cuyamaca College has instituted a policy for virtual campus, and a way for you to see which classes will be considered for certification as in-person.

VA Education benefits require that at least one class be certified as in-person in order for a student to receive full MHA benefits.

To use your VA Education benefits please log on to <https://www.cuyamaca.edu/services/veterans/using-va-educational-benefits-at-cuyamaca-college.aspx> for step-by-step instructions and required forms. Please send all forms and documents to debra.ayers@gcccd.edu.

On the VA Education Website

Regulations of Senate Bill S.3503

As stated below, only classes which have a resident training counterpart may be certified as an in-person class. This means that if a class that has been converted to online due to COVID-19 and would otherwise be offered in-person, it can be approved as an in-person class. If a class is offered online but would be offered online regardless of the pandemic, it can only be approved as distance learning.

Q1. My school changed my program from in-residence classes to online classes? Can I still get GI Bill benefits for this?

Based on the recently passed legislation, if your school converts from an approved residence training course to online training for that course (distance learning) due to COVID-19, your benefits will not change. However, the law only authorizes this special authority from March 1, 2020, to December 21, 2020.

The new law applies to both current and new students enrolled in courses affected by COVID-19.

Note: Other types of changes to your enrollment status (for example, dropping a class results in a reduced rate of pursuit) may affect payments.

Q2. What happens to my housing allowance if my school changes from in-residence classes to online classes due to COVID-19?

Post-9/11 GI Bill students whose schools convert to online programs from previously approved resident programs will not see reduced monthly housing payments. Current and new beneficiaries can receive the resident housing rate when in school March 1, 2020, to December 21, 2020.

Note: Other types of changes to your enrollment status (for example, dropping a class results in a reduced rate of pursuit) may affect payments.

To find more questions and answers like these, please visit
<https://benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/COVID19EducationBenefits.asp>

If you have any questions on how a course will be certified to VA, please send an inquiry to
debra.ayers@gcccd.edu

On WebAdvisor

Distance Education Course Indicator

Courses that are offered 100% online will be certified as distance learning courses and are indicated in the locations column, stating "Internet 100%". See example below:

| <u>College Composition & Reading 0661</u> | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|-------------|
| Seats | Times | Locations | Instructors |
| 35 | 8/17/2020 - 12/14/2020 | Cuyamaca College, Distance Education/Online WEB Internet 100% | Wolfe, K |

| <u>College Composition & Reading 0663</u> | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|-------------|
| Seats | Times | Locations | Instructors |
| 35 | 8/17/2020 - 12/14/2020 | Cuyamaca College, Distance Education/Online WEB Internet 100% | Bucky, M |

In-Person Course Indicator

Courses that are offered in-person but have been converted to online due to COVID-19, will be certified as in-person (resident course) are indicated by a daily schedule. See example below:

| <u>College Composition & Reading 1286</u> | | | |
|---|--|---|-------------|
| Seats | Times | Locations | Instructors |
| 35 | T 9:30 AM - 11:20 AM 8/17/2020 - 12/14/2020 | Cuyamaca College, Distance Education/Online WEB Lecture | Wolfe, K |
| | Th 9:30 AM - 10:20 AM 8/17/2020 - 12/14/2020 | Cuyamaca College, Distance Education/Online WEB Lecture | |
| | Th 10:30 AM - 11:20 AM 8/17/2020 - 12/14/2020 | Cuyamaca College, Distance Education/Online WEB Laboratory/Studio/Activity | |

Hybrid Course Indicator

Hybrid courses will be certified as in-person (resident). Hybrid courses will be indicated with the phrase "Internet <50% Online". See example below:

| <u>Intermediate Accounting 9371</u> | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|-------------|
| Seats | Times | Locations | Instructors |
| 50 | T 6:00 PM - 8:35 PM 8/17/2020 - 12/14/2020 | Cuyamaca College, Distance Education/Online WEB Lecture | Pacco, R |
| | TBD 8/17/2020 - 12/14/2020 | Cuyamaca College, Distance Education/Online WEB Internet <50% Online | |

Important Announcements for Summer:

Veterans Center Textbook Vouchers

Spend up to \$150 at the Cuyamaca College Online Bookstore for textbooks or access codes and pay nothing at check-out. Upon check-out, indicate that you will be paying with Financial Aid and enter your name and student ID number. Your items will then be shipped to the address on file with the bookstore. **Orders must be submitted by June 30th.**

Veterans Center School Supply Vouchers

Spend up to \$50 at the Cuyamaca College Online Bookstore for school supplies (no swag or books) and pay nothing at check-out. Upon check-out, indicate that you will be paying with Financial Aid and enter your name and student ID number. Your items will then be shipped to the address on file with the bookstore. **Orders must be submitted by June 30th.**

Have questions or concerns?

Please feel free to email cuyamaca.veterans@gcccd.edu

Monday - Thursday: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Friday: CLOSED

