Congratulations May Graduates!!!

On Sunday, May 18th, 2014, the Commencement Ceremony for Spring graduates will be at the Patriot Center, George Mason University, beginning at 2:00pm. This semester over 300 of the graduating class will be Alexandria military and veteran students. Red, White, and Blue honor cords are now available for graduating service members for the Commencement Ceremony. The cords signify the appreciation NOVA feels toward our military and veteran students for their distinguished service and sacrifice. Contact the Veterans Advising Office at Veterans-AL@nvcc.edu if you are interested in obtaining a Red, White, and Blue honor cord to use at Commencement. Congratulations to our graduating military and veteran students!!!

Start Strong—On-Time Registration

NOVA wants you to understand the College’s new On-Time Registration policy. Starting with the Fall 2014 semester, you must register for classes by 11:59pm on the day before a session starts. The payment policy has not changed. If you register at the last minute the day before a session starts, you still have until 5:00pm on the next business day to pay tuition. In other words, tuition DOES NOT need to be paid by the 11:59pm deadline the day before the session begins. As always, make sure you pay by 5:00pm on the next business day or your classes will be dropped for non-payment.

You may still drop a course, but if registration has closed, you will not be able to add a new class during the same session; you will have to wait until the next session. The same is true for swaps. If you want to swap a course, you will need to select a course in a future session.

Schedule adjustments will be allowed during the first week of classes ONLY if you have documented mitigating circumstances. If you find yourself in this situation, talk to the appropriate academic division dean because that is the only person who can grant permission for schedule adjustments.

Are you aware that you can register for Fall-2014 classes starting now and not have to pay until July 28th 2014? Register early so you can get the classes you need. This policy change affects all students! START STRONG!!!

Academic Calendar Reminders

- **16-Week Session (SP-14):**
  - Last week of classes May—9 May 2014
- **Second 8-Week Session (SP-14):**
  - Classes and examinations end: 10 May 2014
- **16 Week Session (SM-14):**
  - Classes Begin for 12-Wk: 19 May 2014
  - Schedule Adjustments: 19-26 May 2014
  - Census Date for Tuition Refund: 31 May 2014
- **First 6 Week Session (SM-14):**
  - Classes Begin: 19 May 2014
  - Schedule Adjustments: 19-26 May 2014
  - Census Date for Tuition refund: 27 May 2014

Adding or Dropping a Class?

If you add or drop a class from your schedule, it is imperative that you notify your Veteran’s Advisor by submitting the Adjustment form as soon as possible. These changes may affect your benefits and could potentially cause an increase or decrease of any housing stipend that you may be entitled to. Remember that it is the student’s responsibility to promptly notify the Veteran’s Advisor of any changes to your schedule.

Summer-14 BAH Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Total # of Credits</th>
<th>BAH Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-Week Session</td>
<td>8 Credits</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-Week Session</td>
<td>4 Credits or more</td>
<td>Pro-rated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-Week Session</td>
<td>3 Credits or less</td>
<td>NO BAH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-Week Session</td>
<td>4 Credits</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-Week Session</td>
<td>3 Credits or less</td>
<td>NO BAH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seeking VA Work-Study Applicants

The Veterans & Military Student Office is seeking applicants and are currently accepting résumés for a Student Veteran Work-Study position for Summer 2014. In order to be eligible, you must be at least a 3/4 time student and be receiving VA Education Benefits. The Student Veterans Peer Mentoring Program Assistant will provide administrative support for the development and implementation of a peer mentoring program for student veterans.

Administrative duties may include, but not be limited to: assisting in developing program guidelines; marketing the program; recruiting peer mentors; arranging meetings; creating & maintaining a database of mentors and mentees; and assisting with the coordination of VMSRO campus events. Peer mentors will help fellow student veterans on campus get connected with resources and services appropriate to their needs and provide them with support throughout their transition to college.

Required Skills and Experience:

- Demonstrated strong written/oral communication skills and highly developed organizational skills
- Be comfortable providing both public speaking and individual mentoring sessions
- Have completed at least one semester at NOVA and have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Be willing to work in a team environment
- Commit to the program for six months
- Ability to commit to work at least 15 hours per week as a program assistant
- Proficient in MS Office Suite, as well as internet applications
- Knowledge of VA guidelines and benefits

If you are interested in applying for this VA Work-Study position please submit a copy of your résumé and cover letter describing your interest via email to vderadriguz@nvcc.edu. You will be contacted for an interview with the Coordinator.
**PLACE Program**
The Prior Learning Activity for Credit Evaluation (PLACE) is NO-VA’s experimental learning portfolio program. The PLACE program is for adults who have gained college-level learning through work, volunteer activities, civic and community assignments, travel, independent study, and similar life experiences.

A student may be awarded up to 15 credits toward an Associates Degree and up to 10 credits toward a Certificate of Career Studies Certificate. The PLACE Program and Portfolio Development Course (SDV-298) are offered at the Alexandria campus and at the Annandale Campus.

For more information about this program, please contact Larry Schaefer at email lschaefer@nvcc.edu or click here: NOVA PLACE Program

**Adult Career Pathways Program**
**Veterans Advisor on Alexandria Campus**

Are you part of the MILITARY COMMUNITY and looking for personalized Academic Advisement? Adult Career Pathways Program Veteran’s Advisor, Valerie Palmer, will be on the Alexandria campus weekly on Wednesdays in Bisdorf, Rm AA193B, between 1:30pm – 4:30pm.

Adult Career Pathways helps with:

⇒ Flexible Advising to Fast-Track your Education
⇒ Getting College Credit for your Prior Learning & Military Experience
⇒ Applying for Military Education Benefits
⇒ Financial Aid, Grants, Scholarships, & MyCAA Benefits for Military Spouses
⇒ Internships and Job Seeking Services for Veterans

If you would like to speak with Ms. Palmer, you may stop by for a brief session on Wednesday afternoon, or you may contact her via email for an appointment, vpalmer@nvcc.edu

**Student Veterans “FALL IN!”**

During the Summer 2014 semester, the Student Veterans Group meeting will meet on a monthly basis starting on 11 June, then subsequently 9 July and 13 August. These meetings will take place in room AA127A, Bisdorf Building from 1:45–2:45pm and will include current SITREPs on All Student Veteran’s activities and upcoming events.

We have several social activities planned for the Summer 2014 semester in order for Veterans to network with each other for social, professional, and educational reason. Information for these events will be posted on the Veteran’s and Military Student blog. Dates and information are TBD at this time.

Please click HERE to access the blog, or follow: http://blogs.nvcc.edu/al-vmsro/

**Upcoming Events**

- **May 5th–8th:** Finals Stress Relief Week 2014
- **May 6th:** NOVAConnect Registration Open to All Students for Fall 2014 Semester Sessions
- **May 9th:** “Close to Home” Concert
- **May 10th:** Classes and examinations end for the 16-Week and Second 8-Week sessions for Spring 2014

**Registering for Classes and VA Paperwork**

All Veterans students using the Post 9/11 GI Bill must remember that the most recent copy of your Certificate of Eligibility (COE) must be turned in with the Memorandum of Understanding and Veterans Enrollment Reporting Form worksheets. This verifies how much time you have left and will help the Veterans Office here at NOVA Alexandria process your paperwork more efficiently. Students using the Vocational Rehabilitation option need only to turn in a copy of the Veterans Enrollment Reporting Form and must check in with their Vocational Rehabilitation Case Manager to ensure they meet all requirements for their benefits program.