WHY CARE ABOUT VA HEALTH SERVICES?

As a Veteran/National Guard member, you might be eligible for NO COST combat-related VA Medical Care.

Body armor, sand storms, miles in a vehicle—it can take a toll. Even if you feel fit, you should schedule an appointment with a VA Health Care provider to ensure that your deployment will not have an adverse effect on your long-term health.

If you are having difficulty with memory, concentration, irritability, or the feeling that something has changed since your service, this can sometimes can get in the way of your educational goals. We can talk about ways the VA can help.

THINKING OF ENROLLING IN VA HEALTH CARE?

Stop by during office hours and we can fill out enrollment paperwork together.
VETERANS INTEGRATION TO ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP:
HELP FOR VETERANS IN COLLEGE

Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) is a VA-funded program providing a link between local colleges and universities and the VA Health Care System to support student Veterans’ academic pursuits.

BRIDGING THE GAP

Veterans are successfully enrolling in colleges and universities across the nation, but unfortunately are not enrolling in the VA programs and services they have earned through their service to their country. As a result, many student Veterans are missing out on a variety of opportunities that could support their educational and career pursuits. The VA VITAL Initiative aims to remove some of the barriers faced by student Veterans and emphasizes the unique leadership abilities that student Veterans bring to their campus communities.

SERVICES OFFERED

- **Outreach**: Full-time VA staffing at partner schools. VA staff attend campus events to identify student Veterans and increase access to and enrollment in VA Health Care.

- **Education**: VITAL provides consultation and liaison services to the campus community with the purpose of educating faculty, staff, and students about the unique strengths and challenges facing student Veterans. These events also streamline services in a manner that enhances student Veterans academic pursuits.

- **Direct Services**: VITAL staff are available on campus to assist Student Veterans with:
  - Training faculty on military culture
  - Assisting campuses to create of Student Veteran support programs
  - Providing onsite mental health services, including: Intake, assessment, evidence-based psychotherapy, family and couples counseling
  - Case Management and enrollment into VA programs
  - Connecting Veterans with campus, community and state-based resources
  - Advising and supporting student Veteran organizations on campus

FIND OUT MORE

If you would like to learn more about the VITAL Initiative on your campus please call me at 618-528-4192 or e-mail me at Brenda.Carter4@va.gov.

For more information about VA health care, visit www.marion.va.gov