
— Serving Those Who Served —

CUYAMACA VETERANS CENTER

Registering for Spring 2021

The Cuyamaca Veterans Center Special Highlight e-Newsletter

SPRING 2021 PRIORITY REGISTRATION:

November 16, 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE COUNSELING AND ASSESSMENT SUPERVISOR:

On behalf of the Veterans Center, we'd like to thank you for your service and for choosing Cuyamaca College to pursue your educational career. Through these uncertain times your perseverance has not gone unnoticed and we are proud of all you have accomplished. Here in the virtual Veterans Center, we promise to continue to find new and innovative ways to provide the services and support you deserve. We are grateful to be on this journey with you and are here for you every step of the way.

~Brianna Cuellar



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

Your VA Education MHA

The Cuyamaca Veterans Center is pleased to announce that the regulation that is safeguarding your Post 9/11 GI Bill housing allowance has been extended to December 21, 2021. The regulation, which can be found [here](#) states that "GI Bill students will continue to receive housing allowance payments at the resident training until 12/21/2021, or until the school resumes normal operations of resident training, for programs converted solely to online training."

Continuing the protections set forth for the Fall 2020 semester, Cuyamaca College is continuing the school policy for virtual campus by providing a way for you to distinguish 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.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/> for instructions on how to apply for VA Education benefits. For a list of required documents for Cuyamaca College, please log on to <https://www.cuyamaca.edu/student-support/additional-support-and-assistance-programs/veterans-center/new-veteran-students.php>. Please send all forms and documents to debra.ayers@gcccd.edu.

On the VA Education Website

Regulations of Senate Bill S.3505

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 an online format 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.

Special COVID rules extended to December 21, 2021.

We will be updating the content below to convey the extension.

From the beginning of this crisis, we have been working with Congress to preserve GI Bill benefits for those of you impacted by COVID-19 during this difficult time. On March 21st the The President signed into law [S.3503](#), giving VA temporary authority to continue GI Bill payments uninterrupted during an emergency.

- The new law allows VA to pay education benefits regardless of the fact that a program has been converted from resident training to online training, even if a online training hasn't been or approved or is not approvable.

GI Bill students will continue to receive housing allowance payments at the resident training until 12/21/20, or until the school resumes normal operations of resident training, for programs converted solely to online training.

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 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 have always been offered 100% online, and will continue to be offered 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

**photos taken from Fall 2020 are applicable to Spring 2021*

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) and 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	

**photos taken from Fall 2020 are applicable to Spring 2021*

Hybrid Course Indicator

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

Intermediate Accounting 9371

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	

**photos taken from Fall 2020 are applicable to Spring 2021*

Important Announcements for Spring 2021:

Veterans Center Textbook Vouchers

We are pleased to announce that veteran students, active duty students, and qualifying dependents will be able to spend up to \$400 at the Cuyamaca College Online Bookstore for textbooks or access codes (no swag, no food, and no school supplies) and pay nothing at check-out for the Spring 2021 semester! Please watch out for an email in December 2020 with instructions on how to use this program.

Veterans Center School Supply Vouchers

We are also pleased to announce that veteran students, active duty students, and qualifying dependents will be able to spend up to \$150 at the Cuyamaca College Online Bookstore for school supplies (no swag, no food, and textbooks/access codes) and pay nothing at check-out for the Spring 2021 semester! Please watch out for an email in December 2020 with instructions on how to use this program.

Have questions or concerns?

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

Monday - Friday: 8:00am - 5:00pm