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HACC Part of VetSuccess

Provides On-Campus Support to Veterans Transitioning to Student Life

LEBANON – August 30, 2013

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced yesterday it is expanding the availability of services through the VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) program to an additional 62 new locations this fall – including Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC).

“VetSuccess on Campus is an innovative approach to help Veterans in the often difficult transition from military service to academic life,” said Allison A. Hickey, VA’s Under Secretary for Benefits. “Placing experienced VA counselors directly on college campuses strengthens VA’s partnership with institutions of higher learning and creates myriad opportunities to help Veterans succeed.” HACC currently has more than 900 Veterans attending classes.

This expansion triples the number of on-campus VA vocational rehabilitation counselors available to help ease Veterans’ transition to student life and assist them in achieving their educational and career goals through VA’s Post-9/11 GI Bill and other education benefit programs. HACC provides counselors at its Gettysburg, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York campuses.

The counselors at HACC maintain close relationships with the Lebanon VA Medical Center, referring Veterans as needed for counseling or medical services and providing assistance enrolling in and applying for VA medical and nonmedical benefits. Partner schools provide on-campus office space for the VA counselors. “We are grateful for the partnership we have with HACC,” says Marine Veteran turned Outreach Specialist C.J. Quick at the Lebanon VA Medical Center, “but even more, I am grateful for what the school does for my brothers and sisters who selflessly served the Nation.”

Since the inception of the Post-9/11 GI Bill four years ago, VA has issued about \$30 billion in payments to help nearly 1 million Service members, Veterans and family members pursue their education.

Partner schools are selected for the size of their student Veteran population and proximity to a VA Regional Office, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service office, Vet Center or VA medical center, among other factors.

For more information please contact the HACC Military and Veterans Affairs Office at 717-736-4149 or 717-736-4148. Additional information about the VetSuccess program can be found at <http://www.vetsuccess.gov>.

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