

Webinar

Organized by the Australasian Services Care Network

Moderator: Robert Lippiatt

Speakers:
Darryl Cathcart (doctoral student)

Stay tuned! Follow us on social media (respectcanada) and visit our website: respectcanada.org



RESPECT

Military-Connected Students in Canada: A Conceptual Framework

In this presentation Darryl Cathcart, a Doctoral Student from Western University shares insights from his research on military-connected student higher education in Canada along with a conceptual framework which aims to harmonize academic and social support for this group of underrepresented students. He provides overview on the current state of military-connected students in Canada, the benefits of Education, the taxonomy of military-connected students, the academic and social support framework including a Current project in this area.

To (re)-see this webinar:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eN4Mz6YclfU&ab_channel=VeteranTransitionandWellbeingWebinarSeries

Military-connected student support in Canada is in its early days after decades of dormancy. In supporting military-connected students in higher education, we are contributing to recapturing of that individual sense of purpose and better enabling transition.

Context

In Canada, military connected learners are an understudied group of students in higher education where there has been limited research over the last few decades. Study of Canadian military connected students really matches the mass demobilization periods of the 20th century. Recent military operations in the 21st century and the introduction of a federally sponsored education and training benefit has reinvigorated interest in this subject area with several institutions taking note. The VAC education and training benefit signifies a key element within a national reinvestment in a veteran transition strategy. The desired outcomes of education and training is to provide veterans with a renewed sense of purpose, autonomy, and increased employment competitiveness upon a return to the civilian workforce.

Education and Training Benefits

- Released on/after 1 April 2006
 - ≥ 6 years up to \$42,155
 - ≥ 12 years up to \$84,311
 - \$5000 for professional development
 - Application upon retirement
 - Taxable benefit
 - Veteran-students may not be caseload managed
 - Payments made to Veteran and not institution
 - Completion bonus - \$1000
- ETB Stats 2018-2020
 - 7083 applicants
 - 1525 denied
 - 4171 enrolled in college/university/flight school



Military-Connected Campus Framework

A real framework should be explored to create the most effective and efficient academic and social support model. In doing so, potential military-connected students will be immersed in an inclusive environment which positively contribute to their learning. Inherent to this framework is the ability to scale and tailor efforts to match the student needs with the local community situation.

Next Steps

Ultimately, a balanced and deliberate approach is required to create a sustainable military-connected student academic and social support model. Considering some next steps, we should look to increasing awareness across post-secondary institutions and their supporting elements; Encourage collaboration between institutions, researchers, and practitioners; Generate and create momentum surrounding military-connected students.