Improving College Opportunities For Veterans

Increasing the number of student veterans at America’s high-graduation-rate colleges and universities will benefit veterans, the institutions in which they enroll, and the country as a whole. Working together, the higher education and veterans-serving communities can overcome the barriers to improving college opportunity.

Many veterans can excel at high-graduation-rate colleges and universities, but most don’t enroll.¹

Only 1 in 10 veterans using GI Bill benefits enrolls in institutions with grad rates >70%.

Approximately 1 in 3 veterans using GI Bill benefits attends a for-profit institution.

Veterans have the potential to succeed at high-graduation-rate institutions.²

3.34
Average GPA of student veterans compared to 2.94 GPA of average traditional students.

1.4x
Student veterans are 1.4 times more likely to earn a certificate or degree than adult learners overall.

The barriers that limit veterans’ access and success are on both the supply and demand side.

Limited information and support impede talented veterans from applying to top institutions.

Traditional outreach and enrollment processes inhibit institutions from recruiting and enrolling veterans.

For more info: sr.ithaka.org/veterans

Sources:¹ Data from US Department of Veterans Affairs and IPEDS; ² Institute for Veterans and Military Families and Student Veterans of America, “Student Veterans: A Valuable Asset to Higher Education.”