

ANNUAL UPDATE QUESTIONS

I - MAIN

Overview

Academic Year: **2025-2026**

Originator : Dewitt Stuckey

Division: Division Student Support Programs

Department: Veterans Resource Center

II - CO-CONTRIBUTORS

- 1) Katrina Guzman
- 2) Carina Cisneros
- 3) Click or tap here to enter text.
- 4) Click or tap here to enter text.
- 5) Click or tap here to enter text.

III - ANNUAL UPDATE

On the [PIPR website](#), locate and review your previous program plan and subsequent annual updates. After reviewing, enter your previous goals below and provide and update.

Previous Goals: 100% of Student Veterans using GI Bill Benefits will obtain information regarding GI Bill benefits within their first semester.

End of Year Goal Status: Complete

Please describe your status (No more than 200 words). The Veterans Counselor and School Certifying Official are the parties responsible in ensuring all new student-veterans receive accurate information regarding GI Bill benefits.

Did you request the same resources the previous year? If so, what was the result? Has there been a significant change since your request? The Veterans Resource Center request from last year included funding to support a full-time SCO/Coordinator for the Veterans Resource Center as well as a back-up SCO (School Certifying Official). Since the last request, the Veteran Resource Center has successfully hired a full-time School Certifying Official. The VRC has also received support in identifying a back-up SCO from within the A&R department staff. This back-up SCO has received the necessary 8hour training for School Certifying Officials and is able to support certification requests, as needed.

Copy and paste to Enter more than one Goal

New Goal (Optional)

- **Goal (One Sentence Limit):** Provide information to all veterans of their GI bill benefits to support them in maximizing their benefits and understand veterans-

- specific benefits and supports.
- Alignment to Strategic Goal **Goal 1: Student Success, Completion, and Transfer - To provide a structured and supportive pathway for students to successfully complete their academic and career goals.**
 - Alignment to SLO or SAO (*Enter Department SLO or SAO that aligns to this goal*): **Student veterans who use the VRC services will attain successful completion of educational goals within their approved timeline to use GI Bill benefits.**
 - Describe the connection of Goal to Mission Statement, Strategic Plan and SLO/SAO Results: Supporting student veterans with understanding how to maximize their GI Bill benefits connects to Strategic Plan Goal 1: Student Success, Completion and Transfer by ensuring early connection with Counselor for educational planning.
 - Proposed Activity to Achieve Goal: Develop a Veteran- specific orientation in iLearn and implement the new veteran orientation as an assignment for all new student veterans.
 - Responsible Party (One Sentence limit): VRC Counselor and School Certifying Official with support from Dean of Student Support
 - Timeline to Completion: Semester/Year: Fall 2026
 - How Will You Evaluate Whether You Achieved Your Goal (Two sentence Limit): Development and implementation of veteran-specific orientation module in iLearn as an assignment for all new student veterans in Fall 2026.

Additional Comments:

Click or tap here to enter text.

IV - RESOURCE REQUESTS

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1. Request Name (short title): Operational funding for VRC student support activities
2. Request amount: \$12,000
3. Type of Request: Non-Personnel
4. Alignment to Goal(s) in section XIII (*enter goal from above*)*The VRC provides a space for students to have community and connection. The VRC budget has been the same since 2016 and we are requesting operating funds to support personnel travel to annual VRC summit/conference and Veterans Day recognition event.*
5. Is this a one-time or ongoing expense? Ongoing
6. Category of Request

If Personnel is Selected in question 3, select from the following all that applies

- Full-Time Faculty ☐
- Part-Time Faculty ☐
- Faculty Special Assignment or Reassigned Time ☐
- Full-Time Classified Professional ☐

- Part-Time Classified Professional or Student Worker ☐
- Full-Time Manager, Supervisor, Confidential ☐
- Part-Time Manager, Supervisor, Confidential ☐
- Professional Experts ☐

If Non-Personnel is Selected in question 3 select from the following all that applies;

- Instructional Equipment ☐
- Instructional Software ☐
- Instructional Supplies, Materials and Textbooks ☐
- Non-Instructional Equipment ☐
- Non-Instructional Software ☐
- Non-Instructional Supplies and Materials ☒
- Professional Development ☒
- Travel and Conference ☒
- Professional or Contracted Services ☐
- Repairs and Maintenance ☐
- Other ☐

7. *The committee will separate goals with resource requests. Requests will be categorized into two groups: those to be ranked and those not ranked. The requests not ranked include Safety, Compliance, Personnel, and Position.*

Which of the following best describes your requests?

Choose an item.

8. Provide a complete description, justification, or rationale for the requested amount. Describe how it aligns to the selected goal(s) and your responses to the above questions. (300 words)
- Since the VRC was approved to hire a full-time School certifying Official and subsequently approved COLA increases, we no longer have funds for an operational budget. We are requesting an operational budget to support activities such as: Veterans Day recognition (\$3,000), non-instructional supplies (\$2,000), Conference travel funds to attend the annual Veterans summit (\$7,000) for professional development for School Certifying Official, Veteran Counselor and Dean.

V - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Please provide a brief executive summary regarding program trends and highlights that surfaced in the writing of this report. Summarize, using narrative, your program goals for this year. Your audience will be your Peer Review Team, the program review Committee, President's Cabinet, Dean's Council, ASGC, Academic Senate, Budget Committee and

Board of Trustees (300 words or less).

The Veterans Resource Center provides one-to-one support to veterans in certifying VA educational benefit requests and providing veteran-specific counseling services that support veterans and military dependents in fully utilizing their benefits and maximizing their resources and support. The work of the VRC has historically been limited by part-time staffing and recently received support for a full-time School Certifying official as well as increased time and effort from the Veteran counselor (increased from 20% to 50% in AY 25-26). These changes are helping to provide more timely support to veterans.

The Credit for Prior Learning efforts statewide are gaining more traction and veterans (among others) are a focus population for this initiative. At Gavilan, we have not made much progress in growing credit for prior learning opportunities, and this is an area of focus as we move into AY2025-26. The Credit for Prior Learning initiative requires a District-wide commitment as it impacts all constituents, faculty, staff, students and may have a considerable impact on workload for Admissions and Records Department. Advancing opportunities for credit for prior learning has the potential for tremendous impact on the veteran student population and their ability to achieve their educational goals and enter the workforce at a faster rate.

Student Course Success rates for Veterans attached; disaggregated by gender and ethnicity.

The data on student success for veterans indicates veterans outperform the general student population, but there is a disproportionate gap in success rates for female veterans, Native Americans and part-time students.

VI - ATTACH FILES (optional)

If there is any additional information regarding your program that you will like to have uploaded, please attach it here.