

Veteran Students Orientation

New & Returning Students

Hello, welcome to Minnesota West Community & Technical College. You indicated on your Minnesota West application that you are Military/Veteran. If you plan to use your Veterans benefits, we would like to invite to one of the following Orientation Days to insure your Veterans benefits will be received in a timely manner. We will have computers available for your VA application and your registration.

Veterans Orientation for the Northern campuses, Canby, Granite Falls & Pipestone, will be held at the Veterans Center at Southwest State University in Marshall, MN on Monday, August 1st at 1:00 p.m.

We will be hosting/ the Veterans Orientation for the Southern campuses, Worthington, Jackson and Luverne in the Veterans Center on the Worthington Campus on Tuesday, August 2nd at 2:00 p.m.

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP to one of the orientation events.

During Orientation, if you need assistance with classes, we will have Advisors ready via Zoom to assist you with your classes. I will also be there to register you for your classes.

Justin Guggisberg, from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, will be there to assist you with applying for all GI Bill Benefits, including Federal and State benefits.

If you are a returning student, you are welcome to attend either day for assistance with your VA application. If you don't attend, please make sure to complete the form below to let me know you will be using your GI Bill Benefits.

If you plan to use your Veterans Benefits for Summer or Fall 2022, please complete the [Veterans Military & VA Benefits Request Form](#) on our website at:

<https://www.mnwest.edu/future-students/veterans-services?highlight=WyJ2ZXRIcmFucylsInNlcnZpY2VzliwidmV0ZXJhbnMgc2VydmljZX>

You will NOT be certified for your Veterans Benefits until we receive the form. This is now a VA requirement. Once the form is submitted, I will certify your credits. You will receive an email from the VA letting you know your certification has been completed.

In the first month of your semester, you **WILL** receive a **Certificate of Eligibility** in the mail from the VA. The letter specifies to give a copy to your School Certifying Official. Please send me a copy as soon as you receive it. I will share the payment information with the Business Office on when we can expect payment from the VA.

Certifying Official

Veterans Certifying Official, Barb Staples – barb.staples@mnwest.edu - Office 507 372 3470. Veterans Office is located on the Worthington Campus. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs – Justin Guggisberg – justin.guggisberg@state.mn.us - Office: 507 401 0104 – Justin is available by phone, email, or will meet VA students on any of our Minnesota West campus locations.