I. PURPOSE & INTENT

To provide specialized services to veterans, eligible dependents, active duty servicepersons, and members of the Selected Reserve; to assist students in initiating or continuing their education, and to assist students in using their Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) educational benefits. USF System member institutions have veterans’ service centers and administrative offices coordinating VA education benefits and other VA related services. Students, faculty and staff must check with their individual campuses and apply policies in conjunction and consistent with the specific characteristics and guidelines applicable to those campuses.

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

Services for student veterans may include on-campus liaison with the VA and other USF departments, guidance regarding educational benefits eligibility, enrollment in VA Health Care assistance with forms and forwarding of documentation to the VA, and specialized academic guidance services and support programs support services for veterans suffering from war related trauma, and other support programs. The Office of Veterans Services will also provide individualize services for veterans struggling to integrate into college life. To learn more about the services available, link to http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/veterans or contact the appropriate student VA office of the USF System.
III. ACADEMIC CREDITS FOR MILITARY TRAINING & EDUCATION

Students who are or were eligible members of the United States Armed Forces may earn appropriate academic college credit for college-level training and education acquired in the military. College credit will be granted to students with military training or coursework that is recognized by the American Council on Education (ACE) subject to institution transfer practices and limitations on amount, level, etc., of transfer credit. Military training or coursework will be subject to the same treatment as any other transfer credit evaluated, with utilization of the ACE Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services for determining equivalency and alignment of military coursework with appropriate university courses. If the coursework fulfills a general education or major course or degree requirement, the credit will be granted for meeting that requirement towards graduation. Appropriate course credit may include free elective course credit toward the degree.

Credit that was previously evaluated and awarded by another college-degree-granting institution and that is appropriate to the transfer student's major will be accepted subject to institution transfer limitations. Credit awarded for military education and training will be noted on the transcript and documentation of the credit equivalency evaluation will be maintained. Credit awarded for military education and training will not count in the excess hours fee per Regulation 7.003. Priority course registration will be provided for each veteran of the United States Armed Forces who is receiving (from the) GI bill.

Additional internal and operating procedures may be established by each member institution and academic unit to facilitate this process.

*Current Responsible Office: Student Affairs

*Refer to the appropriate Responsible Office website for a current name of the Vice President or other Responsible Officer.