

VUB Participant Costs

The Veterans Upward Bound Program is a U.S. Department of Education program (TRIO) provided to increase the access, preparation, and placement of low-income and first generation persons into post-secondary education and training.

There is **NO COST for instruction, texts, or materials.**

Program Eligibility

- ◆ Must be a U.S. Veteran having served at least 180 days of active duty in U.S. military service and having **(a)** an honorable or **(b)** medical discharge; veteran cannot be dishonorably discharged.
- ◆ Must be a member of Reserve component who was **(a)** called to active duty for more than 30 days or **(b)** who served active duty on or after 9-11-01.
- ◆ Must meet low-income and/or first generation college student requirements.
- ◆ Must demonstrate an academic need and desire to enter post-secondary education or training program.

Note: Serving Montana veterans since 1992
This TRIO program is funded in full by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.



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Montana Veterans' Upward Bound



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What is Veterans Upward Bound?

Veterans' Upward Bound (VUB) is a federally funded grant from the U.S. Department of Education intended to encourage and assist low income and first-generation veterans to pursue post-secondary education and training. In addition to offering classes, we also provide veterans with educational and career assessment and planning, tutoring, and college success skills such as test and note taking. We pride ourselves on providing you with educational services based on your personal needs.

With the exception of parking, all services are provided free of charge.

College Transition Assistance Program

The College Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) provides instruction for veterans beginning or returning to college-level work who reside in the Billings area. College preparatory instruction is offered fall and spring semesters on the MSU-Billings campus. All courses are non-credit and may vary each semester. Veterans educational benefits, such as the GI Bill or Voc-Rehab, can be used while attending this program.

Course offerings may vary each semester but will include any, or all, of the following:

- * Math
- * Algebra
- * Computer Skills
- * Writing
- * History/Political Science
- * Literature
- * Foreign Language
- * Grammar..
- * College Success Strategies/Advising

Other services provided are:

- * Reading, writing, math skills pre-assessment
- * Career assessment and planning
- * Academic advising and individual counseling
- * Financial aid, veterans' benefits application
- * Applying for admission & assessment of prior college credits
- * Tutoring and use of program facilities
- * Referral to local, state, & federal veterans' services

Cohort Program

The Cohort Program provides college preparatory instruction to veterans who do not have access to our Billings program and who desire in-class instruction. Evening classes are offered during fall and spring sessions. The fall session begins the end of September and the spring session begins in February.

Classes are offered in Butte, Great Falls, Hamilton, Helena, Kalispell, Libby, and Missoula.

The following courses are available providing the minimum enrollment of 5 students per class is met:

- * Basic and/or Intermediate Computer Skills
- * Introduction to College Math
- * Introduction to College Writing
- * Personal Finance

Assistance with financial aid, college admissions, career planning, degree exploration, and other services to help participants get ready for college are also available.

Tribal College Academic Bridge Program

The Tribal College Academic Bridge Program (TCAB) is approved to pay up to \$360.00 in tuition assistance fees directly to the tribal college you attend. This unique program is open to **all** veterans living on or near any of the state's seven reservations. These fees are paid upon receipt of invoice, class schedule, and **all** required program documentation. Tuition assistance is available for the first semester/quarter you are enrolled in the VUB program. You may be eligible for one additional year following your initial entry provided a GPA of 2.5 or better is maintained and you are completing courses required for your degree.

The Tribal colleges participating in this program are:

Blackfeet Community College, Chief Dull Knife College, Ft. Belknap College, Ft. Peck Community College, Little Big Horn College, Salish-Kootenai College, and Stone Child College

Distance Learning Program

Our Distance Learning Program provides free on-line instruction to veterans who cannot access our in-class instruction programs or who prefer the flexibility of Internet based instruction. Classes are eight week sessions and are offered Fall and Spring semesters. The following courses are available:

- * [Introduction to College Mathematics](#)
- * [Introduction to College Writing and Grammar](#)
- * [Introduction to Microsoft Office Skills](#)

Tutorial Services are available to students who desire self-paced tutorial instruction. Classes are offered in eight week sessions; participants may re-enroll as many times as they wish providing they have been active participants. The following courses are available for self-paced tutorial instruction:

- * [Mathematics](#)
- * [Reading](#)
- * [Writing](#)

Students enrolled in the Distance Learning Program may complete the CAI (Career Assessment Inventory) and/or PEP Talk to assist them in making career decisions based on their interests.

Reserve Program

Reservists and National Guard members who have been activated for at least 180 days are eligible to participate in any of the programs described.

VUB, in partnership with various units throughout the state, are providing instruction and services to their members.

Check with your unit to see if they are participating or would be willing to participate.

Complete course information and current schedules are available on our web page.