



Saddleback College
Veterans Education and Transition Services
(VETS)

Presented to Board of Trustees
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VETS Students

Veterans, active military personnel, and their family members

Approx. 700+ students

VA benefit recipients:

Fall 2007 - 201

Fall 2008 - 192

Fall 2009 – 260 (35% increase)

2nd largest Veterans population among
Orange County community colleges!



VETS Students

OIF/OEF Combat Veteran Profile:

- Branch affiliation
- All are different individuals
- Maturity level/ Mission driven
- Combat PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, depression, and other service-related disabilities
- Readjustment and re-entry challenges





VETS

Mission

Provide current and prospective Saddleback students who are United States military Veterans, active military, and their families access to educational opportunities and the necessary support services to reach academic success, career goals, and transition back into civilian life.

Vision

Become the model Veterans program in post secondary education.

College Services

- Veterans Outreach
- VETS Center/ Internal VETS Services
- On and Off Campus Partners
- Student Payment/ Veterans Services Office





Veterans Outreach

- Veterans Outreach Aide/Mentor
- Events and Fairs
- Brochures and other Outreach materials
- VETS Virtual One Stop Website
- vetsoutreach@saddleback.edu
- Facebook/ MySpace



Veterans Outreach

Saddleback College Veterans Memorial





VETS Center

- VETS Advisory Committee
- Veterans Counselor
- “Boots to Books” transitions course
- Student Veterans and volunteers
- Ownership of space-Veterans community building
- Student Veterans Club
- Female Veterans Unity Group
- Distribution of information- listserve
- Bridge to resources



Partners

Internal

- General Counseling
- Disabled Student Programs & Services
- Foundation
- Center for Career & Life Development
- Re-Entry Center
- Transfer Center
- Admission and Records
- Health Center
- Extended Opportunities Programs & Services
- Financial Aid



Partners

External

- Camp Pendleton
- Laguna Hills VA Satellite Clinic
- OC VET Center- Counseling Therapy
- AMVETS- Service Officer
- American Legion Post 862- 1st donor
- Vets4Vets
- MilSpeak
- Veterans Affairs
- Non-profit Veterans organizations
- Four Year Universities and Colleges



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FREE PEER SUPPORT FOR IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN-ERA VETS



Student Payment/ Veterans Services Office

Vital step in reintegration and college attendance

Office Purpose

- Intake, guide, process and invoice VA educational benefits
- Post 911 GI Bill education
- Fee deferrals

Staffed by military Veterans





Intra-District Partnership

- Region 8 Community College Veterans Program Directors Consortium
- New OC Student Veterans Resource Hub Facebook site/networking group
- SC/IVC Staff Meetings





VETS Future Goals

- Establish Vet to Vet mentorship program
- Increase Veterans attending Saddleback College
- Faculty training
- Increase partnerships
- Private donors
- Upward Bound and other grant options
- Increase Veterans counseling
- Promote successes
- Advocate state-wide support for Veterans programs



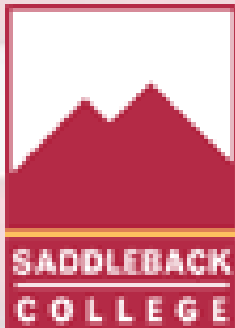
“Serving those who have served us!”



Thank you for your support!

VETERANS PROGRAM

IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE



IVC Veterans Affairs

- **Number of veterans at IVC**
 - 07/08 = 137 Veterans
 - 08/09 = 171 Veterans
 - 09/10 = 202 Veterans
- **Growth over past 3 years**
 - 47% increase



Our Response

- **Established a “One-Stop” Veterans Webpage**
- **Created a Veteran Recruitment Brochure**
- **Established the Veterans Advisory Forum**
- **Sponsored training on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder**
- **Established a Veterans Outreach Support Team**
- **Sponsored a Veterans Club on Campus**
- **Established IVC Memorial Clock Tower Project**

Direct Assistance

- **Education affords the returning veteran a powerful re-focus on advancing their civilian career. IVC provides direct assistance through:**
- **Priority registration**
- **Specialized educational counseling**
- **Assistance with completing forms**
- **VA student support groups**
- **Meetings with faculty to explore program options**

Veteran Outreach Project

Role of the *Joint Forces Training Base*:

- **Initial counseling and referral to SOCCCD**
- **Volunteer counselors at JFTB**
- **Distribution of Irvine Valley College educational materials**
- **Encourage/facilitate visits from IVC counselors and veterans staff**
- **Website links to Irvine Valley College**
- **Explore busses/vans for troops to visit Irvine Valley College**
- **Allow IVC to connect with veterans before they arrive home via electronic media**
- **AMVETS has provided two service officers and administrative support**

Five-year Plan for Veterans

IVC Veteran Affairs has set the following goals:

- Identify state or federal funding sources to fund campus programs**
- Train counseling staff to assist students with Post-Traumatic stress Disorder (PTSD), brain injuries, and other health issues related to combat duty**
- Increase budget and staffing for veterans services and programs**
- Establish a Veterans department**

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Thanks!