## **Project Collaborator**

★ Hunter Holmes McGuire Veterans Affairs Medical Center

# **Advisory Committee Affiliations**

- ★ J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College Office of Student Accommodations
- ★ Paralyzed Veterans of America
- ★ Resources for Independent Living
- ★ VCU Disability Support Services
- ★ Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services
- Virginia Wounded Warrior Program

Virginia Commonwealth University, RRTC, a grantee of the CNI Trust Fund, is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability. These materials were developed through a grant funded by the Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative(CNI) Trust Fund (#10-176), administered by VA Department of Rehabilitative Services.

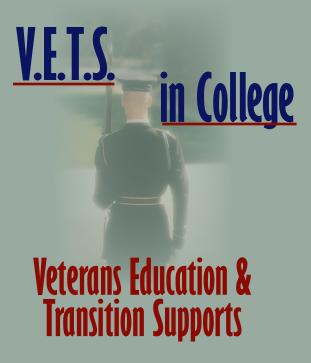
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A Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative (CNI) Trust Fund Award to Virginia Commonwealth University RRTC





Preparing Veterans
with Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)
and/or Traumatic Brain Injury
(TBI) for Post-Secondary
Education

Components of the Veterans Education and Transition Support (V.E.T.S.) in College Program

V.E.T.S. in College is a supported education program for service members or veterans with Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). It is a flexible, individualized approach to achieving academic and career goals. Our experienced and diverse group of education coaches can help veterans:

- ★ Explore post-secondary options
- ★ Determine career interests, strengths and learning style
- ★ Locate useful community and campus resources
- ★ Assist in the process to obtain classroom accommodations
- ★ Acquire new study, organizational, and time management strategies to meet academic challenges
- ★ Learn how technology can assist in areas such as reading and writing

There is NO cost to participate in this program!



- ★ 18 years of age or older
- ★ Interested in going to college or other postsecondary training OR are currently enrolled
- ★ Residing in Virginia
- ★ Able to understand the project and provide consent to participate

Service members and veterans may have other conditions in addition to SCI and/or TBI (such as PTSD, visual or hearing impairment, orthopedic injury, etc.)

#### **What Services are Available?**

#### **EDUCATIONAL PLANNING consisting of but not limited to:**

- ★ Exploring career options
- ★ Determining academic and career goals
- ★ Identifying strengths, interests, and challenges with learning
- ★ Locating benefits and financial assistance to pay for college

### **DIRECT COACHING** including but not limited to:

- ★ Developing self advocacy skills
- ★ Requesting accommodations
- ★ Using technology to assist with learning
- ★ Establishing an academic and career action plan

## **EDUCATIONAL MONITORING** including but not limited to:

- Evaluating progress with achieving academic and career goals
- ★ Adjusting strategies when necessary
- ★ Assisting student veterans and potential student veterans only when they need/request services.



Education coaches meet with veterans to develop strategies for achieving their academic and career goals. Education coaches have years of experience in higher education and can help veterans navigate the new, sometimes confusing world of college and/or postsecondary training. The veteran controls how much assistance he receives as well as the direction of his education plan.