

# Criminology & Criminal Justice Online

## Military FAQs

*Does the CCJ Online Program accept Veteran Administration (VA) and Tuition Assistance (TA) Education Benefits as a payment option?*

Yes, CCJ Online program proudly accepts Veterans, active duty service members, and dependents to utilize their military affiliated education benefits at PSU.

*As a CCJ Online student, are there ways for me to get in touch with the Military connected community at PSU?*

Absolutely! PSU was founded as a college for Veterans and has an active community of military-connected students. This community is served by PSU's Veterans Resource Center (VRC) that offers educational and resource support both online and on campus. The VRC also hosts a variety of free, fun events for military-connected students throughout the year, including hikes, camping trips, and other activities.

### Veterans Assistance Benefits

*Am I able to receive the full Basic Housing Allowance (BAH) rating using my VA benefits taking online courses through CCJ Online?*

Yes, but the VA requires students to take one on campus course per term. The VA does not approve full 100% BAH rating for Veterans registered for only online courses. It also rates BAH based on the location of your on campus course. This means the course must be taken through PSU or one of the officially recognized PSU co-enrollment community colleges. To receive full BAH rating, you can register for one required general education or CCJ course on campus per term to complete your degree. Your CCJO Enrollment Advisor can assist you with course selection and registration.

*How many credits per term do I need to be registered for to be considered a full-time student with the VA?*

You must complete a minimum of 12 quarter credits per term as an undergraduate student.



### CCJ Online Enrollment Advisor

Chelsey Huff is the enrollment advisor for students interested in enrolling to the Criminology & Criminal Justice fully online program. Chelsey is passionate about helping military connected students achieve their educational and career goals. She is a spouse to a United States Marine Corps Veteran and comes from a military family who have served through the generations.

Chelsey has extensive background during her time in higher education working with active duty service members, veterans, military spouses, and military connected prospective and active students. Chelsey is your one-stop shop for answers to all of your questions about CCJ Online, PSU admissions, and the VA Educational Benefits process. Chelsey will also serve as your liaison to all of the military-connected resources at PSU.

**Chelsey Huff**

503-725-9296

chuf2@pdx.edu

[go.pdx.edu/ccjo](https://go.pdx.edu/ccjo)

### ***Am I able to use my VA Education Benefits to cover the cost of a CCJ Online Certificate?***

Yes, if you are pursuing a post baccalaureate certificate or if you are adding a CCJO Certificate of Completion to complement your bachelor's degree. VA Education Benefits will not cover the cost of a Certificate of Completion alone. Students using their VA Education Benefits must be degree-seeking at Institutions of Higher Learning.

### ***How do I apply for VA Education Benefits?***

The first step is to complete the Veterans Online Application (VONAPP) at [vets.gov/education/apply/](https://vets.gov/education/apply/). Be sure to talk with your CCJO Enrollment Advisor about your next steps to use or transfer your benefits to PSU.

### ***When should I start the process of applying for or transferring VA Education Benefits?***

You should begin the process at least two months prior to the term you'd like to start at PSU.

## **Tuition Assistance Benefits**

### ***How do I know if I am eligible for TA Education Benefits?***

The Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and the U.S. Coast Guard offer Tuition Assistance for voluntary, off-duty education programs in support of service members' personal and professional goals. In addition, members of the National Guard and Reserve Components may be eligible for TA based on their service eligibility. To be eligible for TA, an enlisted service member must have enough time remaining in their service to complete the course for which he or she has applied to use Tuition Assistance for. If you are still unsure if you are eligible to use Tuition Assistance service members should check with an education counselor by visiting their local installation education office.

### ***How do I apply for TA Education Benefits?***

Each military branch has their own application form and procedures to request Tuition Assistance (TA). To find out what process is applicable to you, please visit your local installations' education center. Below is additional information about the application process to request TA for each service branch:

[Army](#) | [Air Force](#) | [Coast Guard](#) | [Marine Corps](#) | [Navy](#)

Before you register for a course, you may be required to develop an education plan or complete a Tuition Assistance orientation at your local installation. Each command center and service branch may have different requirements to get TA approved. If you have questions about this, please contact your local installations' education office. Your education center must approve your military tuition assistance before you register for a course.

Learn more about the [Tuition Assistance Program](#) and eligibility requirements.

### ***Am I able to use my Tuition Assistance to cover the cost of a CCJ Online Certificate?***

To check the specifics on what types of programs your Tuition Assistance (TA) will cover, service members should check with an education counselor by visiting their local installation education office.

## Additional Questions

*I'm interested in CCJ Online but I still have questions. Who should I contact?*

Your CCJO Enrollment Advisor, Chelsey Huff, is your one-stop shop for answers to all of your questions about CCJ Online, PSU admissions, and the VA/TA Educational Benefits process. Chelsey will also serve as your liaison to all of the military-connected resources at PSU.

### PSU Contacts

#### PSU Veteran's Certification Office

Mindy Hendley  
Veterans Certification Officer  
503-725-8380  
1-800-547-8887, ext. 58380  
vetcert@pdx.edu  
www.pdx.edu/veterans

#### Physical Address

1914 SW Park Avenue  
Western Hemlock 21  
Portland, OR 97201

#### Mailing Address

Portland State University  
ATTN: RO/Veterans Certification  
PO Box 751  
Portland, OR 97207-0751

#### Tuition Assistance Billing

Alexander Hayes  
Third Party Billing Administrator,  
Student Financial Services,  
A/R University Financial Service  
503-725-5333  
alexander.p.hayes@pdx.edu

#### Physical Address

1914 SW Park Avenue  
Western Hemlock Trailer Pod  
Portland, OR 97201

#### Mailing Address

Portland State University  
ATTN: Student Financial Services,  
A/R-University Financial Services  
(SFS-AR)  
PO Box 751  
Portland, OR 97207-0751

### General VA Contacts

#### US Department of Veterans Affairs Education & Training

[benefits.va.gov/gibill/contact\\_us.asp](https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/contact_us.asp)

#### Toll-Free

888-GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551)  
7 a.m.-6 p.m. CST  
Monday-Friday

#### Overseas

001-918-781-5678\*  
7 a.m. - 6 p.m. CST  
Monday-Friday

\*This is not a toll-free number, the caller will be routed to the next available customer service representative. For overseas customers only.