Date: October 14, 2013
To: Selected Students
From: OHIO Registrar – Veterans Affairs
Subject: Helpful Information

Dear Student Veteran/VA education benefit-eligible student:

Due to the prolonged government shutdown, we are sharing some important information and reminders with our VA students.

Who to contact at the VA: Under normal circumstances if you had questions regarding your GI Bill benefits/payments we would refer you to the 1-888-442-4551 number. However, with the shutdown, this number is not operational. You can register on the eBenefits site (https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal), which may help answer some of your questions. For updates from the VA related to the shutdown, please visit this site: http://www.va.gov/opa/appropriations_lapse_plan.asp as it will provide the latest information on what is and what is not affected at VA by the shutdown.

Verification of Attendance: If you are required to verify your attendance for your GI Bill benefit, then you may visit this site http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/verify_attendance/ or telephone 1-877-823-2378.

Financial Impact: This shutdown may have a financial impact if it is prolonged and the Registrar’s Office will be working closely with the Bursar’s Office (http://www.ohio.edu/finance/bursar/) and the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://www.ohio.edu/financialaid/) to provide as much assistance as we can to help you.

On Campus Resources: The staff in the Office of the University Registrar can assist you if you have questions about processing your educational benefit forms. Visit this site for more details: http://www.ohio.edu/registrar/veteran_services.cfm. The Office of Military and Veterans Resources can assist you with other services on- and off-campus. Visit this site for details: http://www.ohio.edu/military/.

**Please keep in mind that while the Registrar’s Office staff members do everything they can to assist you with your GI Bill issues/concerns, school certifying officials are employed by Ohio University and not the Veterans Administration. Ohio University is required to submit your enrollment information and any adjustments made to your enrollment to the VA for processing. All claims processing and payments associated with compensation, pension, education, and vocational rehabilitation programs are done through the VA.

Thank you for your attention to this.
Sincerely,

Office of the University Registrar
veteransaffairs@ohio.edu