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Full Ride for America’s Veterans

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GI Jobs

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EDUCATION ISSUE

NURSING CAREERS FOR MEDICS

REGardless of your MOS, new legislation allows nursing schools to fast-track you to getting credentialed.

ALL VETS

GET PAID TO LEARN A TRADE!

TRUCKING COMPANIES NEED DRIVERS, MECHANICS & MANAGERS
FULL RIDE FOR AMERICA’S VETERANS

The American College offers full scholarships and virtual classrooms to veterans interested in finance careers.

BY CECIL GUY

There’s a college in Bryn Mawr, Pa., churning out leaders in the financial industry, and if you’re a veteran the least bit interested in financial services there are two reasons you cannot turn this offer down: full scholarships and virtual classrooms. You may never step foot on campus and never pay one dime for tuition – I’m not a Certified Financial Planner, but that’s a great investment! What is this gold mine of an opportunity? The Penn Mutual Center for Veterans Affairs at The American College.

I asked Ted Digges, the executive director of the Veteran Affairs Office at The American College, to tell me a little about this dream investment.

“The American College is a nonprofit educational institution with the highest level of academic accreditation, dedicated to leadership in innovative training and development for financial services professionals,” he says.

Digges, a retired Navy captain with 27 years of service, is enthusiastic about the direction The American College is headed. At one point in the interview, I’m pretty sure he tried to recruit me. He continued, “The college is distinguished by resources of the highest quality, cutting-edge program design and delivery, and results that create a sustainable advantage for our students, their organizations and their clients.”

The college is “the 800 pound gorilla in the financial industry.” Everyone in the financial market, insurance industry, and those interested in advising, planning, or managing financial strategies knows about The American College.

About not stepping on campus: The American College is a distance learning institution, but the master’s and Ph.D programs both have residency requirements. Digges told me there are active duty service members who take leave (one week in the beginning and •
one at the end of the program) to fulfill their residency requirements. I don’t know of another graduate program that offers so much return for what’s physically expected. Typically, students are not full-time students – most are professionals or military members making the transition to the civilian sector.

Later in the afternoon Digges was interviewing a Marine for a full scholarship. The Marine will be transitioning in 2016 back to civilian life and has recognized his interest in life insurance. His plan is to have most of his coursework complete before he gets off active duty so his transition to the workforce will be smooth. He has about a year and a half before he enters into an industry as the hottest commodity: hard-working veteran with an appreciation for compliance, and one of the best financial educations in America. Moreover, Digges offers graduates a network of sources to help find a career.

Each year there are approximately 35,000 registrations processed at The American College, a small fraction of which are vets, but that segment is growing fast with the full-time scholarship opportunity. Through the Penn Mutual Center for Veterans Affairs at The American College, active duty service members, recently transitioned veterans, retired veterans, disabled vets, and their spouses are all eligible to apply for consideration for a full scholarship to all of their designation and master’s degree programs. Students not eligible for the scholarship can receive a 25 percent discount on tuition.

Donors and sponsors are excited about veterans attending The American College. They know veterans and active service members work hard and have great integrity. Veterans are comfortable with attention to detail and have many soft skills that translate very nicely to an industry that demands it.

When asked why veterans should consider The American College Digges said, “because of the natural fit for veterans in this industry, potential students have the ability to gain a valuable, fully-accredited education that will set them up for success in the next phase of their careers.”

Diggs also told me the current demographic for the financial market is aging – veterans have the skills to renew and reinforce this industry.

The tip of the spear in the financial industry is a recent veteran graduate from The American College. Where do you want to be?

Veterans and active duty members who are interested in this opportunity should visit The Penn Mutual Center for Veterans Affairs’ new website at veterans.theamericancollege.edu.