



California University of Pennsylvania

POLICY: Course Scheduling Preference for Veteran Students

A. Purpose & Scope:

To comply with Pennsylvania Act 46 of 2014, the “Higher Education Course Scheduling Preference for Veteran Students Act,” to establish and implement a policy under which veteran students are provided with preference in course scheduling.

B. Definition(s):

Public Institution of Higher Education: Per Act 46 of 2014 (Act of May 14, 2014, P.L. 667, No. 46), the term “public institution of higher education” pertains to one of the following:

- a) A community college under Article XIX-A of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L. 30, No. 14), known as the Public School Code of 1949.
- b) A state-related institution, to include The Pennsylvania State University, the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, and Lincoln University, and their branch campuses.
- c) A member institution of the State System of Higher Education under

Veteran: Per Act 46 of 2014 (Act of May 14, 2014, P.O. 667, No. 46), the term “veteran” refers to an individual who:

- a) has served in the United States Armed Forces, including a reserve component and National Guard; and
- b) was discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable.

Veteran Student: Per Act 46 of 2014 (Act of May 14, 2014, P.L. 667, No. 46), the term “veteran student” refers to an individual who:

- a) is a veteran;
- b) has been admitted to a public institution of higher education; and
- c) resides in Pennsylvania while enrolled in the public institution of higher education.

Course Scheduling Preference: The term “course scheduling preference” means veteran students are able to start registering for courses sooner than students with the same class standing. If a veteran student is enrolled in a competitive program, the veteran student should receive preference provided all other eligibility criteria are equal (i.e., GPA, class standing, etc.).

In accordance with the Pennsylvania “Higher Education Course Scheduling Preference for Veteran Student Act,” California University of Pennsylvania defines “veteran student” to include the following students:

1. Any student enrolled at California University of Pennsylvania and “has served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, to include Service members of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve, and received a character of discharge under conditions other than *dishonorable*.”
2. Any student enrolled at California University of Pennsylvania serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, to include members of the National Guard and Reserve.
3. Any student enrolled as a “transferee” or “dependent” of a veteran under which Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits are entitled. (Chapter 33, Post-9/11 G.I. Bill Transfer of Entitlement Students OR Chapter 35, Dependents Education Assistance Program Students).

C. Policy:

California University of Pennsylvania shall have all “veteran students” register during the priority registration period of each respective semester. In accordance with Act 46, signed into law on May 14, 2014, by Governor Tom Corbett (Act of May 14, 2014, P.L. 667, No. 46), veteran students will receive course scheduling preference at California University of Pennsylvania. By increasing course access, veteran students will have a better chance of enrolling in

full course load and maximizing their education benefits before they expire. The institutional policy will appear on California University of Pennsylvania's Registrar and Office of Veterans Affairs websites and the University catalogs, and a hard copy will be placed on file in the Office of Veterans Affairs.

"Veteran students" who meet the requirements for course scheduling preference will be permitted to register during the first registration opportunity. Those students who are currently identified as "veteran students" will receive priority registration through the "Vulcan Information Portal." "Veteran students" who are eligible, but not identified by California University of Pennsylvania as "veteran students" must notify the Director of Veterans Affairs at least two weeks prior to priority registration at veterans@calu.edu or 724-938-4076. Veteran students may or may not be using veterans' educational benefits at the institution. Act 46 applies to veteran students admitted to all for-credit courses and programs offered at the institution.

The point of contact for all questions concerning course scheduling preference for veterans is: Mr. Robert Prah, Director of Veterans Affairs at prah@calu.edu or 724-938-4076, OR Ms. Heidi Williams, Registrar, at Williams_h@calu.edu or 724-938-5700.

Act 46 of 2014 requires public institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania to provide veteran students, as defined in the Act, with preference in course scheduling. Non-compliance may be reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Education by submitting the Higher Education Student Complaint form found at www.education.state.pa.us.

E. Effective date: October 31, 2014