



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ CONSORTIUM *of* ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MICHIGAN VETERANS EDUCATORS



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The purpose of the Consortium of Michigan Veteran Educators is to serve all Michigan public community colleges and universities in their efforts to support student veterans, military service members and their family members. Further, to support by yearly meetings, informational outreach, sharing of best practices, and advocacy to outside organizations and agencies, the educational advancement of those who have served or who are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.



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Consortium's Primary Goal

To serve as a representation, outreach and educational resource to college and university staff that serves student veteran and military populations.



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Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS)

CAS Mission for Veterans and Military Programs & Services: *Provide, facilitate, or coordinate programs and services for student Veterans, military service members, and their family members. VMPS must identify student Veterans and military service members and establish a community that connects and supports this population.*



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Eight Keys to Student Success

On August 12, 2013:

President Obama introduced the *8 Keys to Success* that were created by content experts.

The Department of Education and Department of Veteran Affairs led the charge for creating the best practices and challenging the institutions to follow the *8 Keys to Success*.



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8 Keys to Student Success

1. Create a culture of trust and connectedness across the campus community to promote well-being and success for Veterans.
 - Offer Veteran associations—contact CMVE Student Support Committee (Steve Rellinger, CMU)
 - Utilize various methods of communications—UofM-Flint, CMU
 - Establish a point of contact or multiple points on contact to build more collaborative effort – GVSU, UofM-AA, OU
 - Continuously obtain input from students—GVSU, Mott CC, UofM-AA and UofM-Flint



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8 Keys to Student Success

2. Ensure consistent and sustained support from campus leadership.

- Establish a Veteran advisory group or success committees—KVCC, UofM-Dearborn, OU, WMU
- Offer one-on-one support
- Involve Board of Trustees and campus leadership in discussions from beginning



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8 Keys to Student Success

3. Implement an early alert system to ensure all Veterans receive academic, career, and financial advice before challenges become overwhelming.

- Preventative measures – Veteran “Orientation”
- Alert System – Reports generate Academic Adviser alerts for students who are struggling
- Offer support services such as Vet Net Ally Program-GVSU, learning communities—WSU, tutors—WSU, Veteran Peer Mentor Program – UofM-AA



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8 Keys to Student Success

4. Coordinate and centralize campus efforts for all Veterans, together with the creation of a designated space.

- Have one-on-one assistance (primary contact)
- Offer Veterans resource center – Mott CC, WSU, UofM-Flint



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5. Collaborate with local communities and organizations, including government agencies, to align and coordinate various services for Veterans.

- Michigan Assoc. of County Veteran Counselors
- Michigan Works Agency
- Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (**New**)
- Michigan College Access Network
- Local Veteran organizations, chambers of commerce



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6. Use a uniform set of data tools to collect and track information on Veterans, including demographics, retention and degree completion.

- CMVE is asking all institutions to use the following question on admissions application:

Are you: 1) a Veteran, 2) on Active Duty Military Service, 3) part of the National Guard or Reserve, 4) a spouse or military dependent or 5) Vocational Rehab.

- Track Veterans or above from point of application through graduation. Mott CC, Western Michigan U.
- Discrepancies between counts of “those using benefits” vs. those identified through admissions



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7. Provide comprehensive professional development for faculty and staff on issues and challenges unique to Veterans.

- Dealing with veteran issues in the classroom – OU, CMU - Cognito
- Veterans Affairs Agency providing training to Counseling staff – MottCC
- Student Panel – UofM-AA - Veteran's Day/Veteran's Week



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8. Develop systems that ensure sustainability of effective practices for Veterans.

- Become active in the CMVE
- Contribute success stories about beneficial programs to the CMVE Newsletter – Phil Larson, and to the next edition of the Guiding Practices
- Future – Adapt programs, emphasis, and trainings to peace-time veterans, slower in-flux



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<http://global.cmich.edu/CMVE>

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