Welcome to the UC Santa Barbara Veterans Resource Guide. UCSB has many resources available for Veterans, National Guard and Reserve members, active duty service members and military dependents. UCSB has become a recognized leader in its efforts to support student Veterans, and the university is proud to be included in G.I. Jobs Magazine’s Military Friendly Schools List. We encourage all Veterans interested in pursuing an education at UCSB to reach out and contact our Veterans Resource Team.

UCSB CAMPUS RESOURCES

VETERANS RESOURCE TEAM

The UCSB Veterans Resource Team is an interdisciplinary team of staff and administrators across campus who foster awareness of the student Veteran experience and ensure that student Veteran needs are being met. The team promotes a positive campus experience for student Veterans and their families, supports entry into civilian and university life and facilitates access to Veteran benefits, resources and mentors to enable degree completion.

www.sa.ucsb.edu/Veterans/Veterans-resource-team

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Veterans and military service members are an invaluable part of the UCSB campus community. To ensure a successful academic experience, Veterans must meet minimum eligibility requirements and be competitive for admission to UCSB. The Office of Admissions has dedicated Veterans Admissions Counselors who can assist with questions about eligibility, selectivity and course transferability.

www.admissionssa.ucsb.edu/applying | (805) 893-2881

VA EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS & FINANCIAL AID

The UCSB Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships is responsible for certifying VA educational benefits for Veterans, National Guard and Reserve members and dependents of Veterans. Information is also provided for students serving on active duty using the Military Tuition Assistance benefit. Veterans are encouraged to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the annual March 2 deadline to optimize their aid. Veterans are automatically treated as independent students for financial aid purposes, which can greatly increase the amount of aid. www.finaid.ucsb.edu/Veterans

HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Housing & Residential Services guarantees university housing and gives priority consideration for housing placement to Veterans and military service members. Exceptions are made to allow Veterans to live in upper division or graduate student housing for which they might otherwise be ineligible, and contract start and end dates can be flexible due to military obligations. Payment due dates are also deferred for Veterans and dependents to account for the normal delay in receiving the monthly Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH).

www.finaid.ucsb.edu/Veterans/housing

HOW TO APPLY TO UCSB

1. Review the admission requirements for freshman and transfer applicants at www.admissions.ucsb.edu/applying.

2. Use the personal statement to tell Admissions more about academic performance, achievements and special circumstances. For help, find the Personal Statement Guide at www.admissions.ucsb.edu/connect/publications-and-videos.

3. Start the UC application as early as August 1 online at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply.

4. Submit the UC application from November 1-30. A $70 application fee is required for each UC campus you apply to.

85% of undergraduate Veterans are transfer students

31 is the average age of UCSB student Veterans

50% of UCSB students conduct research with faculty
SUPPORTIVE ORGANIZATIONS & DEPARTMENTS

STUDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION (SVO)
The SVO aims to make the transition to college life as smooth as possible by offering support to new and continuing student Veterans as well as family members and active duty members. The SVO is a great way for students to get involved in social events, community service, campus leadership and UC policy creation. The organization also works to establish widespread networks of support for Veterans at UCSB and after graduation. www.facebook.com/groups/UCSBSVO

CAREER SERVICES
Career Services helps Veterans utilize their leadership skills, discipline, dedication, management skills and multicultural awareness. Career Services offers support in researching suitable careers and majors, preparing for graduate or professional school, connecting with employers and translating military experience into civilian terms on a résumé or cover letter. www.sa.ucsb.edu/Veterans/career-services

COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES
Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) provides individual sessions, a Group Therapy Program and Mental Health Peers in a supportive and confidential environment. CAPS also provides free massage chairs and workshops throughout the year to help with stress management. http://caps.sa.ucsb.edu/

FEMALE VETERANS
The Women’s Center offers a welcoming space for women service members and Veterans including an art gallery, library, relaxation station, computer stations, wireless internet and other support services. https://wgse.sa.ucsb.edu/

VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER (VRC)
The VRC provides a place for Veterans to study, relax and meet fellow Veterans on campus. The center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to student Veterans and provides free wireless internet, lounge space, snacks and study services including a printer, fax machine and scanner. The center also provides information on community resources, workshops, social events and Peer Support Specialists. In addition, students using VA benefits may be eligible for VA Work-Study to work as Peer Support Specialists in the VRC. www.sa.ucsb.edu/Veterans/Veteran-resource-center | (805) 893-4724

18,000+ students live within one mile of the UCSB campus
18:1 student-to-faculty ratio
73% of undergraduate classes have fewer than 30 students
VETERAN STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

TAMI THACKER
Psychology, Class of 2016, Age 40
WHY UCSB? After serving I really wanted to find a place that would allow me to plant my roots. I checked out the Psychology Department and found that I had already studied some of the professor’s work and research. I was sold!
BRANCH AND MOS: U.S. Navy. I was an Independent Duty Corpsman (Doc).
INVOLVEMENT AT UCSB: I am Vice President of the Student Veterans Organization (SVO), a student member of the Veterans Resource Center (VRC), I do Work-Study in the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships and I volunteer as a DJ for UCSB’s radio station, KCSB-FM.

ALEXANDRA SAARI
Physics, Class of 2017, Age 39
WHY UCSB? UCSB is one of the friendliest campuses that I visited, it had a Veterans outreach program that wasn’t available at other schools and it had a well-esteemed Physics Department.
BRANCH AND MOS: Army. I was a 38A Civil Affairs Specialist.
INVOLVEMENT AT UCSB: I am involved in the Student Veterans Organization (SVO), the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) and LGBT through the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (RCSGD).

RAFAEL BRAVO, JR.
Sociology, Class of 2016, Age 28
WHY UCSB? UCSB offers a great environment for my family and it is the number one sociology program in the U.S.
BRANCH AND MOS: Army. I was a Patriot Missile System Maintenance Technician for the 14 Tango.
INVOLVEMENT AT UCSB: I am involved in the Student Veterans Organization (SVO) and the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) on top of other organizations through school.

MIKE KNIGHT
Physics, Class of 2016, Age 27
WHY UCSB? UCSB offers great undergraduate prospects and internships. It offers a research-based physics program in a great location.
BRANCH AND MOS: Marines for 5.5 years. I performed F/A-18 aircraft repairs on radars and was a Swim Qualifying Instructor.
INVOLVEMENT AT UCSB: I participate in undergraduate research in the Materials Department, a top five materials research lab in the nation, and I regularly network with TAs and instructors.

VISIT UCSB OR CONNECT VIRTUALLY
For information on scheduling a campus tour, visit the Office of Admissions website at www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/tours. Can’t visit in person? Stay connected to UCSB with virtual college fairs, online advising opportunities and webinars. To learn more, visit www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/webinars.

SPRING INSIGHT OPEN HOUSE
Visit UCSB for Spring Insight, an open house for admitted students, future applicants and their families held annually in April. Meet with campus clubs and organizations, take a tour, attend lectures and hear about all the exciting opportunities available to UCSB students. Learn more at www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/open-house.

CONNECT WITH UCSB ADMISSIONS

UCSBadmissions
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UCSantaBarbara
UCSB4Me

www.youvisit.com/tour/ucsb
www.admissions.ucsb.edu/mailing-list