



The Husky Vet Gazette

~ Underway since 2012 ~

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At a Glance . . .

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Veteran Student Life Award Application/Nomination Deadline: February 23rd

Nominations for UConn's **Willis N. Hawley Service and Leadership Award** are now available! The deadline for nominations/applications will be February 23rd. **\$1,000** will be given to a UConn student (from any campus - undergraduate or graduate). This award recognizes a student veteran who has made significant contributions to the University community through leadership and service during their tenure as a student. More information is available online at <http://sla.uconn.edu/award-descriptions/> along with the online nomination form.

The Student Life Awards are designed to recognize student and organizations for outstanding contributions to the leadership of the University community and beyond. Students may be nominated for a variety of awards recognizing scholarship, community service, outstanding programming, leadership, school pride and more. There are also awards recognizing outstanding advisement and support of students and student organizations by faculty and

Veteran ID Cards Available at VA Website

Veterans can once again apply for identification cards through the Department of Veterans Affairs website, which had problems last month due to high volume when the application process began.

The cards are available at www.vets.gov/veteran-id-card/ ([link is external](#)).

The purpose of the cards is to provide veterans with proof of their military service. They make it easier for veterans to receive discounts at restaurants and retail stores, for example. They are more convenient than carrying around the DD-214 certificates, which contain personal information, according to *Stars & Stripes*. They do not replace VA medical cards or defense retiree cards, the newspaper reported this week.



**UConn's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides
free personalized tax counseling and preparation for the UConn Community!
Check us out at accounting.business.uconn.edu/VITA!**

We proudly serve:

- ☐ The **International** Community (Resident and Non-Resident Aliens)
- ☐ The **Military** Community (all veterans and active duty military personnel and their families, regardless of income level)
- ☐ All taxpayers who generally make \$54,000 or less
- ☐ All other taxpayers (with returns within the scope* of our program) through our Facilitated Self Assistance option (must bring personal laptop)

Our volunteers are Junior and Senior Accounting majors, certified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to prepare simple* Federal and Connecticut state income tax returns. We are trained to provide the highest quality service and to be sensitive to the needs of our constituents.

The School of Business Accounting Department, Beta Alpha Psi, International Student & Scholar Services, Payroll and Accounts Payable are the sponsors of this program. We work closely together to ensure the best possible service to our UConn community.

New \$5,000 Scholarship for Veterans & Their Families

The \$5,000 scholarship is sponsored by drugrehab.org specifically for veterans, active duty, and direct family members. Below are the details about the scholarship:

Here are the basic details:

- Looking for **essays** that describe some of the mental health and substance abuse issues that today's veterans may suffer.
- **No fee charged for applying**
- Awarded Every Year in June
- Awarded scholarship funds can only be used toward education related expenses including tuition, books, housing, and other study materials.

Eligible to enter are:

- 18 Years of Age
- Any Veteran or Active Member of the United States Armed Forces
- Any Direct Family Member of a Veteran or Active Member of the United States Armed Forces
- Available to Graduate and Undergraduate Students
- Available to High School Students soon to be enrolled in a post-secondary institution in the U.S.

For more information/to apply go to:

<http://www.drugrehab.org/veterans-scholarship/>



Survey by a Veteran Student for Veteran Students

Mathew A. Tkachuck is a Marine Corps Veteran and PhD student in the clinical psychology program at The University of Mississippi. Matt is currently working on a research project to better understand how differences between military and civilian culture affect interactions between student veterans and those who have not served. By better understanding what role culture plays in veteran readjustment, we can tailor transition programs, interventions, and educate providers accordingly to improve their effectiveness as opposed to having the full burden of change be on us. By completing a brief 10-minute questionnaire, you will be assisting Matt in his attempt to improve the lives of veterans and service members as they navigate the transition out of the military.

At the end of the questionnaire, you will be given the option to enter your email address into a raffle for a chance to win one of six **\$50 Visa gift cards**. The raffle is optional. If you do participate, your questionnaire responses will be kept anonymous and not linked in any way to the contact information you provide.

Below is the link. Your honest and thoughtful responses are extremely important.

Thank you for your time!

http://uofmississippi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Dob1zXVXf4c3hX

Veterans Housing Community

Come live with us!

If you're currently living on-campus and wish to return to on-campus housing next year, don't forget to submit your 2018-2019 On-Campus Housing Application online by **January 22nd!**

For those students interested in living in the Veterans Community on-campus, please send an email by **February 23rd** to Nikki.cole@uconn.edu with your full name, student ID number (PeopleSoft), and indicate the full name of the person you want as a roommate (assuming they will also be sending a mutual request).

The Veterans Community will be located in South Suites for 2018-2019. Questions? Contact Nikki Cole at Nikki.cole@uconn.edu about this living option.

Tough Mudder - get your discount!



Bill Felmer, a fellow UConn Veteran, is sharing his Tough Mudder discount code:
BRAND226

This discount will only work for first timers as that is the primary purpose of the ambassador program: To recruit new people.

All you have to do is choose a Full or Half Mudder at any Venue in 2018.

Please note: It does not apply to Tougher, Toughest or Worlds Toughest Mudder.

As you proceed to the checkout you will find an option to put in a discount code. Make sure you do not submit your payment until you have entered the code. The code should be entered in before credit numbers.

Questions? Contact [Bill Felmer](#)

Job Resources for Student Veterans

Paid Internship - U.S. Department of Commerce

The Middletown U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center has a Trade Assistant (**Contractor Position 1099**) to offer military/veteran (Post-9/11) undergraduate or graduate students considering careers in business. Trade Assistants conduct a host of duties that range from responding to telephone inquiries concerning international trade to international market research. The value of this position is centered on the research that the student will perform for the Middletown office staff. Trade Assistants will research manufacturing and service companies to determine the extent of their international activities, assist companies in locating foreign agents and distributors for their products and services, pursue foreign sales leads provided by commercial officers and attend congressional events.

Contractors are paid by the CT Economic Resource Center and assigned to the Middletown, Connecticut U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center.

The selected Trade Assistant will be paid approximately \$16 per hour, 20-35 hour week.

No benefits. This contractor position will begin with a three month contract and may be extended based on availability of funding.

Must meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must be enrolled in at least one class at an accredited college or university
- Applicants must be U.S. Citizens
- Applicants must be accustomed to working in a team environment
- Applicants must be able to follow orders and take direction well
- Applicants must be Post-9/11 Veteran

Please forward all resumes to Anthony.Sargis@trade.gov.



Questions? Contact: Anthony Sargis at 860-638-6954

American Corporate Partners (ACP) Chats Live with UConn!

February 27th at 5p.m. - 5:45p.m.

Facebook Live online at the [ACP Facebook Page](#)

****join in from the comfort of your own home, Oasis, etc.**

At any stage of pursuing your degree, a mentor can help you streamline the path to graduation and prepare for your future career. Join ACP representatives to learn how a one-year mentorship with an ACP Mentor can help you make the most of your time at the University of Connecticut!

During the video stream, please send us your questions via the comment section to answer in real time. Also, look for testimonials from your fellow UConn student veterans who are already in an ACP mentorship, and feel free to ask them your questions as well!



Veteran of the Month: February 2018

Jay Shaw

The Office of Veterans Affairs & Military Programs at UConn is pleased to honor Jay Shaw as our Veteran of the Month for February 2018. Jay Shaw served in the U.S. Navy for eight years in the Submarine Service. From the military, Jay says he learned the importance of working together as a unit. Going through that experience, he felt he became part of a family, “a brotherhood: you will go through hell with these people and they will go with you.” When Jay left the Navy in December 2016, Jay knew he wanted to go to college.

Jay enrolled right away at the UConn Hartford campus in January 2017 and he stayed in the New London area for the first half of the semester. Part-way through the semester, Jay moved to Hartford to be closer to the UConn Hartford campus. During that first semester, Jay shared that it helped him to “walk and talk my way through every class and learn from the experiences of other student Veterans on-campus.” In particular, he says Troy Norman really helped him keep his dream alive to keep pursuing his college education after leaving the Navy. During the Fall 2017 semester Jay was an integral part of the student Veterans who helped set-up the Oasis at the new location of the Hartford Campus. Currently, Jay is pursuing his Bachelor’s Degree in Nutritional Sciences. This semester, part of his classes are in Hartford, and part of them are at the Storrs campus. In addition to juggling classes between two different campuses at UConn, Jay will be working in the main Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs at UConn in Storrs this Spring 2018 semester.

Jay says that what he most appreciates about UConn is “the people, the diversity, different opinions, and teachers and staff; they have been the fuel that reminds me to carry on.”

If you would like to nominate a student, faculty, or staff member for “Veterans of the Month,” please contact Nikki Cole at Nikki.cole@uconn.edu with the name of the person and reasons for your nomination.



Carry On with these employers



It's time to get to work. One of the greatest benefits of completing your college education is securing employment that will aid you for the rest of your life. Each of these companies is veteran friendly—so what are you waiting for?



Company	Point of Contact	Email Address
Access Health CT	Peter VanLoon	peter.vanloon@ct.gov
Aetna	Mark Whalls	Whallsm@Aetna.com
AonHewitt Consulting Practice	Mike Walton	mike.walton@aonhewitt.com
Bank of America	Lisa McNulty	lisa.a.mcnulty@bankofamerica.com
Baystate Health	Dennis O'Brien	dennis.obrien@baystatehealth.org
Bravo Delta Consulting	Dawn McDaniel	dawn@bravodeltaconsulting.com
Cigna	Jim Wiggs	jimmie.wiggs@cigna.com
CT Public Broadcasting Network	Michael Komrosky	mkomrosky@cpbn.org
Disney/ESPN	Kevin Preston	kevin.preston@espn.com
EMC	Lou Candiello	lou.candiello@emc.com
Enterprise Holdings	Carrie Smith	carrie.l.smith@ehi.com
Frontier	Karlian Brown	karlian.brown@ftr.com
Johnson & Johnson	Derek Dalmalin	ddalmoli@its.jnj.com
Marymont	Steve Dumont	sdumont@marymont.com
MassMutual	Toby Proctor	tproctor@massmutual.com
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.	Douglas Yeager	douglas.yeager@ml.com
Pepsico	Marty Kanengiser	marty.kanengiser@pepsico.com
Pratt & Whitney	Stanley Wawrzonkiewicz	Stanley.Wawrzonkiewicz@pw.utc.com
PricewaterhouseCoopers	Corinne Santos	corinne.g.santos@pwc.com
Prudential Financial	Nadine Krause	nadine.krause@prudential.com
Raytheon	Jeff Lance	jlance@raytheon.com
Sikorsky	John Donovan	john.donovan@sikorsky.com
Stanley Black & Decker	Sally Bartas	Sally.Bartas@sbdinc.com
The Hartford	Brian Fresher	brian.fresher@thehartford.com
Travelers	Casey Neff	cneff@travelers.com
United Technologies	Dan Ward	daniel.ward@pw.utc.com
U. of Connecticut - Human Resources	Robin Lessard	robin.lessard@uconn.edu
US Trust	Doug O'Donnell	douglas.odonnell@ustrust.com
Verizon Wireless	Alissa Belcourt	alissa.belcourt@verizonwireless.com
Wal-Mart	Ron Ealey	ronald.ealey@wal-mart.com