UMiami Veteran Student Welcome Guide

Your Journey At The U Starts Here!
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Welcome to the U!

I am so delighted that you have chosen the University of Miami as the place to pursue your academic journey. Wherever stage you are at on your journey, The U is a great place to be. This handbook was created to highlight some of the resources that are available to you. The U is a family culture, much like a military unit, with shared values and traditions. You are joining the Hurricane family which rallies around one another, striving to see each of its members realize their greatest potential. I encourage you to fully embrace this culture and all that The U has to offer. I also ask that you in turn share your unique life experiences and knowledge with The U community. The University of Miami and the military have a legacy that is rich and intertwined dating back to World War II and you are now an extension of that history! Welcome and best of luck. I hope you will consider joining our on-campus Veteran Students Organization; we would love to have you.

Sincerely,

Geminys "Gem" Galvez-Texeira

CURRENT VETERAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT
EMAIL: VSO.STUDORG@MIAMI.EDU
At the University of Miami, students who are entitled to their V.A. educational benefits are able to seek support and guidance from our experienced VA Certifying Officials located in the Office of the Registrar.

For last names beginning with:

A-L

Please reach out to:
Esther Molina
Phone (305) 284-8682
Email: veterans@miami.edu

M-Z

Gregory Bellamy
Phone (305) 284-8682
Email: veterans@miami.edu

For more information and FAQ's please visit UM's Veteran Affairs website [here](#).

VA Educational Hotline toll free number: 1-888-442-4551
Students eligible for Chapter 33 benefits are encouraged to apply for the Yellow Ribbon Grant through the University of Miami. This grant covers additional charges associated with attending a private or out-of-state university. Yellow Ribbon Grant applications can be requested from UMiami's VA Certifying officials via email at veterans@miami.edu. Learn more about your eligibility [here](#).

**APPLY TO BE A TILLMAN MILITARY SCHOLAR**

One of the top private academic scholarships for military service members and their spouses, the Tillman Scholar program through the Pat Tillman Foundation offers financial support alongside access to a network of peers & industry leaders. Find out more about the scholarship and the 2021 application cycle [here](#).

**ADDITIONAL PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Click on the "U" to learn more

- Lint Center Scholarships
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Help A Hero Scholarship
- Imagine America Foundation Scholarship
- Army Women's Foundation Scholarship
STUDENT AFFAIRS
COUNSELING CENTER

OUR MISSION:
The University of Miami’s Counseling Center is dedicated to supporting students’ mental health as they progress along their college journey. From individual sessions to group therapy, psychiatric services, outreach to student groups, and after-hour support, the resources offered by the Counseling center reflect its mission and eagerness to serve students from all backgrounds. Any UM student who has paid their Health Center and Counseling Center fee is eligible to schedule an assessment. Appointments can be made either by calling the office at 305-284-5511. Daily hours of operation and more information on services offered can be found here. Information about our telemental health services can be found here.

QUESTIONS?
For more information about staff training and veteran-specific support, please reach out to Dr. Audrey Cleary:

(305) 284-5511
A.Cleary@miami.edu

GREEN ZONE

Every member of our staff has been trained in Green Zone and practices trauma-informed care.
A Message from Toppel:

The Toppel Career Center is thankful for your service and commitment to our country, and our dedicated staff is here to serve you! Allow us to assist you in your transition to civilian life through one-on-one advising, career education programs, and employer engagement/recruiting events. UM offers a variety of resources for veterans, including recruitment resources and organizations that specifically support veterans.

Resources

To explore opportunities in your desired industry or to connect with UM alumni for mentorship, click on the "U" next to each resource:

Handshake:
Cane 2 Cane:
Hiring America:
Grow with Google:
THE GENERAL PROCESS

All students seeking to apply for a parking permit may do so by clicking here. Navigate to the image of the U and click on "Access Your Parking Account". Next, click on "Login" at the top right-hand corner. After logging in with your UM credentials, you will be led to the application where you can select from available color zones.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:
> Head-in parking only
> Parking strictly enforced Mon-Sun 8a.m.-11p.m.
> Parking is based on color zones; park only in the zone associated with your permit

More information about parking permits, as well as other forms of campus transportation can be found here on the Department of Parking & Transportation’s website.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT:

To our UM veteran student population:

Welcome to the University of Miami family! On behalf of the Parking and Transportation staff, we thank you for your service and commitment to our country. We are committed to making sure your transportation and parking needs are addressed.

You will find various veteran-specific transportation resources on our website offered through our department and in coordination with Miami-Dade County Transit. Should you have an inquiry that is not addressed on this page, we encourage you to contact us at (305)-284-3096 option 2 or via email at parking.gables@miami.edu. Again, we thank you and wish you the best on your journey here at the U! Go Canes!

VETERAN-SPECIFIC PLATES

Any UM student with a Disabled Veteran or Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veteran license plate is permitted to park at any non-reserved parking spot on campus for free.

![Disabled Veteran License Plate](image1)
![Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veteran License Plate](image2)
Additional Resources

FREE METRORAIL MONTHLY PASS FOR VETERANS
THROUGH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PARTNER:

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR VETERANS
THROUGH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PARTNER:

UM DEPARTMENT OF PARKING & TRANSPORTATION
POLICIES & PROCEDURES:

For more info...
click on the U!
Map of ADA Spaces on Campus
ACCOMMODATIONS

The University of Miami is committed to creating a learning environment that champions equal academic opportunities for every student, thus academic accommodations are available for students with disabilities. From extended exam time allotments to auxiliary aids, there is a wide range of options available through the Office of Disability Services. To check your eligibility and find out more, click here.

LEARNING SPECIALIST

A trained learning specialist is available to work with you one-on-one should you find the academic transition to university-level courses difficult. Skills like note-taking, textbook breakdown, time management, and organization can be sharpened during these sessions. We recognize that online learning brings its own host of challenges, and our learning specialist is eager and ready to help you work through any issues you may be facing academically. Request a virtual appointment here.
The Office of Academic Enhancement

Our Mission:

The Office of Academic Enhancement (OAE) fosters a community of support for students that emphasizes academic excellence, campus engagement, and professional development with a core focus on serving underrepresented and first-generation populations. Through mentoring, the OAE connects students to opportunities and resources that maximize their experience at the University of Miami and beyond.

Dear Veteran Students,

We are so excited to welcome you to the University of Miami! Empower Me First and our department, the Office of Academic Enhancement welcome you to engage with us throughout your UM experience. We are here to support, empower and encourage you in your journey. We thank each of you for your service, and we are excited to now serve you! Welcome to The U!

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Director of Empower Me First:
Dr. Whitley Johnson
(305) 284-3357
wmj13@miami.edu

Our “Empower Me First” Program

The mission of Empower Me First is to assist first-generation students in their transition to college life and their pursuit of educational and career goals by providing academic advocacy, general advising, resource referral and academic support. The University of Miami is recognized by NASPA and The Suder Foundation as a First-Gen Forward Institution, a designation awarded to institutions who demonstrate commitment to the support and success of first-generation students.
Click on the "U" to be re-directed to the corresponding website

**ON-CAMPUS**

Veteran Students Organization (VSO) - Whitten University Center, room 2300M

**GREATER MIAMI-DADE**

Miami Vet Center – Mental Health/Benefits Support/Transition Assistance –
Website: [U]
Call: (305) 718-3712

Miami-Dade Veteran Services Program – Benefits Support –
Website: [U]

United Way of Miami-Dade, Mission United – Transition Assistance –
Website: [U]
Call: (305)-646-7130

Miami-Dade Parks’ Veterans Adapted Sports Program - Recreation -
Call Jody Cox: (305) 243-1673
Email: jody.cox@miamidade.gov
Click on the "U" to be re-directed to the corresponding website

**GREATER MIAMI-DADE cont.**

The Mission Continues – Volunteering/Community Engagement –
Website: [U]

**FLORIDA**

Florida Department of Veterans Affairs
Add body text Website: [U]

**NATIONAL**

Wounded Warrior Project – Mental Health/Benefits Support –
Website: [U]
Email: resourcecenter@woundedwarriorproject.org
Call: 1-888-997-2586

The Veterans Trust – Race Experience –
Website: [U]

Student Veterans of America
Website: [U]

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Website: [U]
Any questions/concerns not answered in this guide can be sent via email to veterans@miami.edu.

P.S. - UMIami's bookstore offers a 10% discount on swag items for veterans. See store attendants for details. Go 'Canes!