FSU has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense, which allows our institution the opportunity to further our commitment to excellence in educating military students.

Students who are interested in using Tuition Assistance (TA) need to proceed to the appropriate website below to begin:

Army Navy Marine Corps Air Force

Coast Guard

If you do not see your academic program at FSU listed in the Tuition Assistance portal for your service or you need a template for a degree plan, please email <u>military@uncfsu.edu</u> By following the guidance of the DOD, we can ensure that all military members have access to what they need to make informed decisions about where to attend school and about how their tuition assistance benefits will interact with their chosen educational programs. For concerns about compliance with the DOD Memorandum of Understanding, please email the

Director of Military Affiliated Services.

Marketing, Recruiting, and Advertising

FSU maintains policies that reflect program integrity requirements consistent with regulations issued by the Department of Education (34 C.F.R 668.71-668.75 and 668.14) related to restrictions on misrepresentation, recruitment, and payment of incentive compensation. This applies to FSU itself and its agents, including third-party lead generators, marketing firms, or companies that own or operate the educational institution.

As part of efforts to eliminate unfair, deceptive, and abusive marketing aimed at Service members, FSU will:

- Ban inducements, including any gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, transportation, lodging, meals, or other item having a monetary value of more than a de minimis [defined as "an insignificant amount"] to any individual or entity, or its agents including third-party lead generators or marketing firms other than salaries paid to employees or fees paid to contractors in conformity with all applicable laws for the purpose of securing enrollments of Service members or obtaining access to TA funds. Educational institutions sponsored scholarships or grants and tuition reductions available to military students are permissible.
- Refrain from providing any commission, bonus, or other incentive payment based directly or indirectly on securing enrollments or federal financial aid (including TA funds) to any persons or entities engaged in any student recruiting, admission activities, or making decisions regarding the award of student financial assistance.
- Refrain from high-pressure recruitment tactics such as making multiple unsolicited contacts (3 or more), including contacts by phone, email, or in-person, and engaging in same-day recruitment and registration for the purpose of securing Service member enrollments.
- 4. For more information, please review the FSU policy regarding marketing, recruiting, and advertising our school to prospective students who are military service members.
- FSU recruiting strategies utilize self-reported contact information; if a student is contacted by FSU and they wish to unsubscribe from future communications, they can unsubscribe from their own accounts.
- 6. Additionally, eligible Service members are directed to speak with their Educational Services Officer (ESO) or counselor within their Military Service prior to being enrolled at FSU. This is to ensure that Service members understand their own eligibility for Tuition Assistance and their potential financial responsibility toward the school.

- 7. If an eligible Service member decides to use TA, educational institutions will enroll him or her only after the TA is approved by the individual's Service. Service members will be solely responsible for all tuition costs without prior approval. This requirement does not prohibit FSU from pre-registering a Service member in a course to secure a slot in the course.
- 8. If a school enrolls the Service member before the appropriate Service approves Military TA, then the Service member could be responsible for the tuition. All Military TA must be requested and approved prior to the start date of the course. The Military TA is approved on a course-by-course basis and only for the specific course(s) and class dates that a Service member requests.
- If a military student "self-identifies" their eligibility and the Service has not approved the funding, then the Service member will be solely responsible for all tuition costs, not the Service.

Scholarships

All military-affiliated students, including those who are using Veteran Affairs benefits or military tuition assistance programs, may apply for scholarships to assist with the cost of attendance or living expenses.

Military Leave of Absence and Readmission Policy

If a student is called to active duty or deployed during a semester, they are eligible to receive a <u>Leave of Absence due to military obligation</u> for that service period per FSU policy. Should you need this, complete a <u>Retroactive Withdrawal Request</u> form explaining your situation and provide a copy of your orders unless you are prohibited from doing so.

Leave of absence may extend for as long as three years after the completion of the service period. During the leave of absence, you will not be made an inactive student at FSU. If you are in good academic standing and return within the three-year window following your service period, you must submit a re-admit application, you do not have to submit transcripts However, if you leave while on academic probation or suspension or exceed the three-year window, then you will need to apply for readmission through the Office of Admissions. When you can return to FSU, email the Registrar's Office with your intention. You will be asked to complete an online returning student questionnaire and then reactivated to be able to register. After that, you can contact your academic advisor to plan out the next steps. Direct any questions about how this leave will affect your account balance and financial aid to <u>Student</u>

Accounts or Financial Aid.

Return of Tuition Funds

Once a military student reaches out to the Registrar's Office regarding a call to duty and their withdrawal due to that circumstance (see <u>Withdrawal for Extenuating circumstances</u>), FSU policy is to backdate the withdrawal to process 100% removal of the tuition. Official withdrawal procedures begin with your <u>advisors</u>, or <u>Director for Military Affiliated</u> <u>Services</u>

The refund schedule provides the percentages associated with those dates, as follows:

1st Week of Class	100%
2nd Week of Class	90%
3rd Week of Class	75%
4th Week of Class	50%
5th Week of Class	25%
6th Week of Class	0%

Degree Requirements

All undergraduate students at FSU must meet with their academic <u>advisors</u> prior to course selection. Undergraduate students may find the applicable <u>major</u> to assist them with developing their Degree Plan, which may also be completed using <u>Degree Works</u>. located in Banner Login Students under Academic Resources.

All students, including graduate students, may peruse the <u>Academic Catalogue</u> for the degree requirements and timelines for degree programs.

Students at FSU utilize our degree audit system (<u>Degree Works by Ellucian</u>) to review degree requirements including specific courses needed, hours needed, and GPA minimums. The audit is available online to students from the point of matriculation.

Requirements are determined by the student's catalog year and are unchanging unless the student makes a change to his or her catalog year or degree program. The degree audit shows both FSU-earned credits as well as those accepted for transfer, including credit earned through military training.

Degree requirements in effect at the time of each service member's enrollment will remain in effect for a period of at least 1 year beyond the program's standard length, provided the Service member is in good academic standing and has been continuously enrolled or received an approved academic leave of absence.

Adjustments to degree requirements may be made because of formal changes to academic policy pursuant to institutional or departmental determination, provided that:

• They go into effect at least 2 years after affected students have been notified; or

• In instances when courses or programs are no longer available or changes have been mandated by a State or accrediting body, the educational institution will identify low or no cost solutions, working with affected Service members to identify substitutions that would not hinder the student from graduating in a timely manner.

Transfer Credits

Any undergraduate student <u>transferring to FSU</u> may use up to 90 semester hours of external academic credit toward their FSU degree. These credits must be from regionally accredited institutions attended. Of those 90 hours, no more than 64 semester hours can be accepted from two-year institutions.

For military students, credits earned for military training and experience are accepted for transfer and are counted as academic core requirements and upper-level courses, four-year institution credits toward the 90-hour limit.

You will need to provide your Joint Services Transcript (JST) to the university for evaluation of your credit (or CCAF transcript if Air Force). You can look up how FSU equates military credits using our <u>transfer articulation tool</u>.

You will qualify to have the requirement for HEED 112 and PEDU 140 Physical Activity and Wellness waived upon verification of Basic or Recruit Training from your military transcript or submission of your DD214 showing good standing at your separation.

Evaluation of credits earned from non-military sources (including other colleges and universities and testing programs such as <u>AP, CLEP</u>, and IB) follows the same process used for other undergraduate students.

You will need to submit an official transcript or report from each source directly to FSU. When we receive those, your credits will be evaluated for acceptability. Registrar staff will add your credits to your FSU record while observing the 64-hour/90-hour limits.

If you have credits beyond those totals, our staff will select those credits that seem most suitable to your academic program. You can work with your academic advisor later if you believe some used credits need to be swapped out for unused credits that would be more beneficial for you. The UNC System is currently developing a database of uniform course equivalents for military credits to be used at all UNC System schools. When launched, this database will replace the FSU database currently in use.

The development of this project is expected to change how credits are worked with at FSU. Additional details on this project will be posted to this website as they are shared with us. Once you start at FSU, you may be able to transfer additional courses you want to take. You would follow the same rules as other undergraduate students as found in the University Catalogue and planning for taking non-FSU credits starts with your academic advisor. FSU accepts after admission to the university, all students receive a degree audit report prior to deciding on enrollment. The degree audit report shows how credit transfers and counts within their program of choice.

The <u>Transfer Credit Equivalency Tool</u> is another resource that can be used to ascertain how credits will be articulated. Prospective students can use this tool from our website at any time, even prior to applying.

Career Counseling

All FSU students and alumni are encouraged to use <u>Career Services</u> resources to assist them with transitioning into a meaningful career post-graduation. In particular, the university's <u>Handshake</u> helps students find jobs and internships, while <u>What Can I Do with this Major</u> features 100 major profiles with information on common career paths, types of employers that hire in the field, and strategies to maximize opportunities.