The Post-9/11 GI Bill Shows Great Promise for PSM Degree Programs

Under the “Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008”, as of August 1, 2009, benefits will be available for veterans for tuition and fees up to the highest level of the tuition at the state’s public institutions of higher education. Importantly, the benefits cover both graduate and undergraduate education.

Programs must be approved for funding by the state agency designated to approve Veterans education programs. The Department of Veteran’s Affairs website for information on education and other benefits for Veterans is www.GIBILL.va.gov.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill Fact Sheet

When Can I Receive Benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill?
Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009.

Am I Eligible?
At a minimum, you must have served at least 30 days of continuous active duty service after September 10, 2001 and be discharged due to a service-connected disability, or served an aggregate of 90 days of active duty service after September 10, 2001, and--
- Be honorably discharged from Armed Forces; or
- Be released from Armed Forces with service characterized as honorable and placed on the retired list, temporary disability retired list, or transferred to the Fleet Reserve or the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; or
- Be released from the Armed Forces with service characterized as honorable for further service in a reserve component; or
- Be discharged or released from Armed Forces for:
  o EPTS (Existed Prior to Service)
  o HDSP (Hardship) or
  o CIWD (Condition Interfered with Duty); or
- Continue to be on active duty.

If I am eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill (chapter 30), Montgomery GI Bill- Selected Reserve (chapter 1606,)
or the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (chapter 1607), am I eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill?
You may elect to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill if, on August 1, 2009, you have met the requirements to qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and you are eligible for chapter 30, 1606, 1607, or are serving in the Armed Forces.

How many months of assistance can I receive?
Generally, you may receive up to 36 months of entitlement under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

How much will I receive?
You are entitled to a percentage, as determined by your length of active duty service, of the following:
- Amount of tuition and fees charged, not to exceed the most expensive in-State undergraduate tuition at a public institution of higher education (paid to school);
- Monthly housing allowance equal to the basic allowance for housing (BAH) amount payable to a military E-5 with dependents, in same zip code as school * (paid to you); and
- Yearly books and supplies stipend of up to $1000* per year (paid to you); and
- A one time payment of $500 may be payable to certain individuals relocating from highly rural areas. (paid to you)
Growing Talent: Meeting the Evolving Needs of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Industry

“More institutions should consider Professional Science Master’s (PSM) degree programs that integrate graduate study in life sciences with professional training in business and management, as Northeastern University, for example, has done.”

The Massachusetts Life Science Talent Initiative has released its report in collaboration with the recent signing of the Life Sciences Act which dedicates $1 billion over ten years to reinforce Massachusetts position in the life sciences industry.

The opening statement you see above comes from a section of the report entitled “New Strategies: Growing Talent Through Collaboration.” In fact, the PSM degree is the first recommended strategy that states its goal to “produce and retain more graduate students with interdisciplinary training.”

Worcester Polytechnic President Dennis Berkey was a member of the Life Science Talent Initiative advisory committee. President Berkey states, “We need to get the message out that there are very rewarding jobs in science that don’t require a PhD. Students need to know that science is something great and fun. To be interested in science doesn’t mean you aspire to be an MD, but to understand that it is an important part of the world.”

NPSMA Inaugural National Conference (INC) only Weeks Away

NPSMA’s Inaugural National Conference will be held on Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14, 2008 at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center in Atlanta.

INC Highlights:

* Two-part keynote on the Change Acceleration Process
* Plenary from IBM on inter-disciplinary education
* Panel discussion on the future of the PSM degree
* PSM Networking Social
* Peer-led workshops -
  * Industry connections
  * Program development & sustainability
  * Student & alumni relations
  * PSM communications & media relations
  * Entrepreneurship and innovation
Registration Information – Deadline: October 24

NPSMA members: $495 per person
Non-members: $695 per person

Fees include:

• Inaugural National Conference registration
• 2 nights’ hotel stay at the Georgia Tech Hotel
• 3 meals per day; 2 breaks per day
• Thursday evening plenary and PSM networking social
• Wednesday evening NPSMA Board of Directors’ Roundtable
• Discounted air fare on AirTran Airways
• Discounts on tourist attractions
• Conference rates ($285/night/single occupancy) for hotel stays three days before and after the conference

To register:

Please make checks payable to NPSMA and send with your name and contact information to:

NPSMA, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you in Atlanta!
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES
(The NPSMA is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization; Tax ID # 20-8766099)

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORY

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<td>1st year - FREE; 2nd year</td>
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PLEASE PRINT, COMPLETE FORM AND INCLUDE WITH PAYMENT TO THE NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER’S ASSOCIATION. PAYMENT IS DUE UPON RECEIPT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

QUESTIONS: STEPHEN LEMIRE, (508) 831-4996, SLEMIRE@NPSMA.ORG

PLEASE PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION BELOW

Name of Business or Academic Institution  
Address  
Address  
City, State, Zip  

Individual Information (Academic Institutions may provide one contact person/PSM program)

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