



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS' PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

Proudly Serving Veterans Since 1975

Veterans' Education Programs Issues, Legislative, & Education Agenda 2020-2021



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ABOUT US

Pre COVID-19

The National Association of Veterans' Program Administrators (NAVPA) is an organization of institutions and individuals who are involved or interested in the operation of veterans' affairs programs and/or the delivery of services to veterans as Veterans' Education Program Administrators across the country.

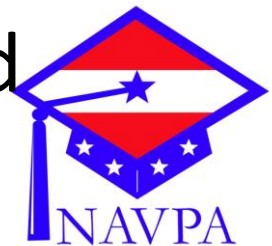




ABOUT US

Pre COVID-19

NAVPA has served as the voice of advocacy for veterans in higher education since its founding in 1975. Our research, training, and policy initiatives have developed programs and support services to ensure veterans achieve their academic and professional goals.



MEMBERSHIP

NAVPA's membership includes over 390 Institutions of Higher Learning across the nation that represent over 518,000 veterans.

Membership in NAVPA shall be extended in three levels of participation:

- Institutional Membership
- Auxilliary Membership
- Associate Membership



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

PRIORITY ISSUE #1

85-15 VA proposed Changes

Issue: The VA announced they are changing the definition and method of calculation of the 85-15 Rule to go in effect July 1, 2021 causing harmful outcomes to student veterans.



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

Current Calculation:

Program Name	Number of VA Students	Total Enrollment	VA Student Percentage
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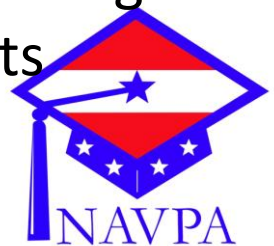
ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

Recommendation:

NAVPA is concerned that language presented in the recent training will preclude any GI Bill® recipient the ability to attend their school of choice for the program they seek, due to potential unintended program suspensions under the new definitions of a Supported Student. These new definitions include provisions that are not part of 38 CFR, § 21.4201, Restrictions on enrollment; percentage of students receiving financial support.

NAVPA is concerned on how the new categories introduced during the training included some previously non-supported students erroneously being classified as Supported Students.



ISSUES/CONCERNS

UPDATE

NAVPA's Response:

- Contacted Director Bogue
- Spearheaded a coalition of Higher Ed organizations that were concerned about 85/15 new directives
- Led coalition and wrote letter to Director Bogue (SCO Handbook update)
- Met with Deputy Director and VA legal (December, February and April)
- Included guests: ACE, NACUBO, AACRAO



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

PRIORITY ISSUE #2

Rounding Out

Issue: It has been announced by the VA that they are planning to remove the Rounding Out option August 1, 2021.



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

Recommendation:

NAVPA recommends VA continue to support the veteran by allowing the flexibility to obtain full-time status.



ISSUES/CONCERNS

UPDATE

NAVPA's Response:

- Met with the 4-Corners and Director Bogue in 2020 to express our concerns
- Congress tasked NAVPA to gather data on the quantity of students this would affect and how
- NAVPA conducted 2-different surveys and reported findings to Congress



ISSUES/CONCERNS

UPDATE

NAVPA's Response:

- VA testified to Congress in April 2021 that they were “updating” the Rounding Out policy
- VA Testimony would not meet the needs of student veterans. NAVPA conducted additional survey
- NAVPA expressed concern to 4-Corners in April and shared data results
- House passed H.R. 2878 to address this disparity and it is currently in the Senate
- <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2878/text>



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

PRIORITY ISSUE #3

PUBLIC LAW 116-315 VETERANS HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Issue: Many provisions of P.L. 116-315 had implementation dates of January 5th with no directive from the VA on how these will be applied.



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

Recommendation:

NAVPA is concerned these issues will negatively impact our student veterans. NAVPA recommends a call to action. VA needs to immediately issue training guidance to the field. NAVPA supports an open dialogue round table with the VA prior to new processes being implemented. These round table discussions will help alleviate any known and unknown issues prior to nationwide execution with the common goal of sustainable workable solutions during transitional periods.



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

PRIORITY ISSUE #4

SCO HANDBOOK UPDATES

Issue: The School Certifying Official (SCO) Handbook has been moved to an online format by the VA. This has created an issue in that little or no communication is sent to the field surrounding updates made to the Handbook.



ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP FOUR PRIORITY ISSUES

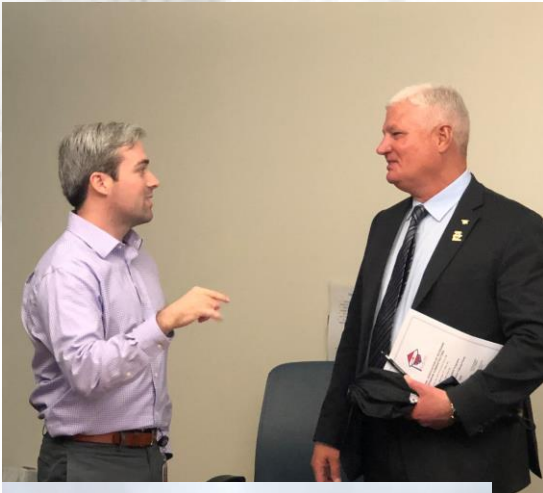
Recommendation:

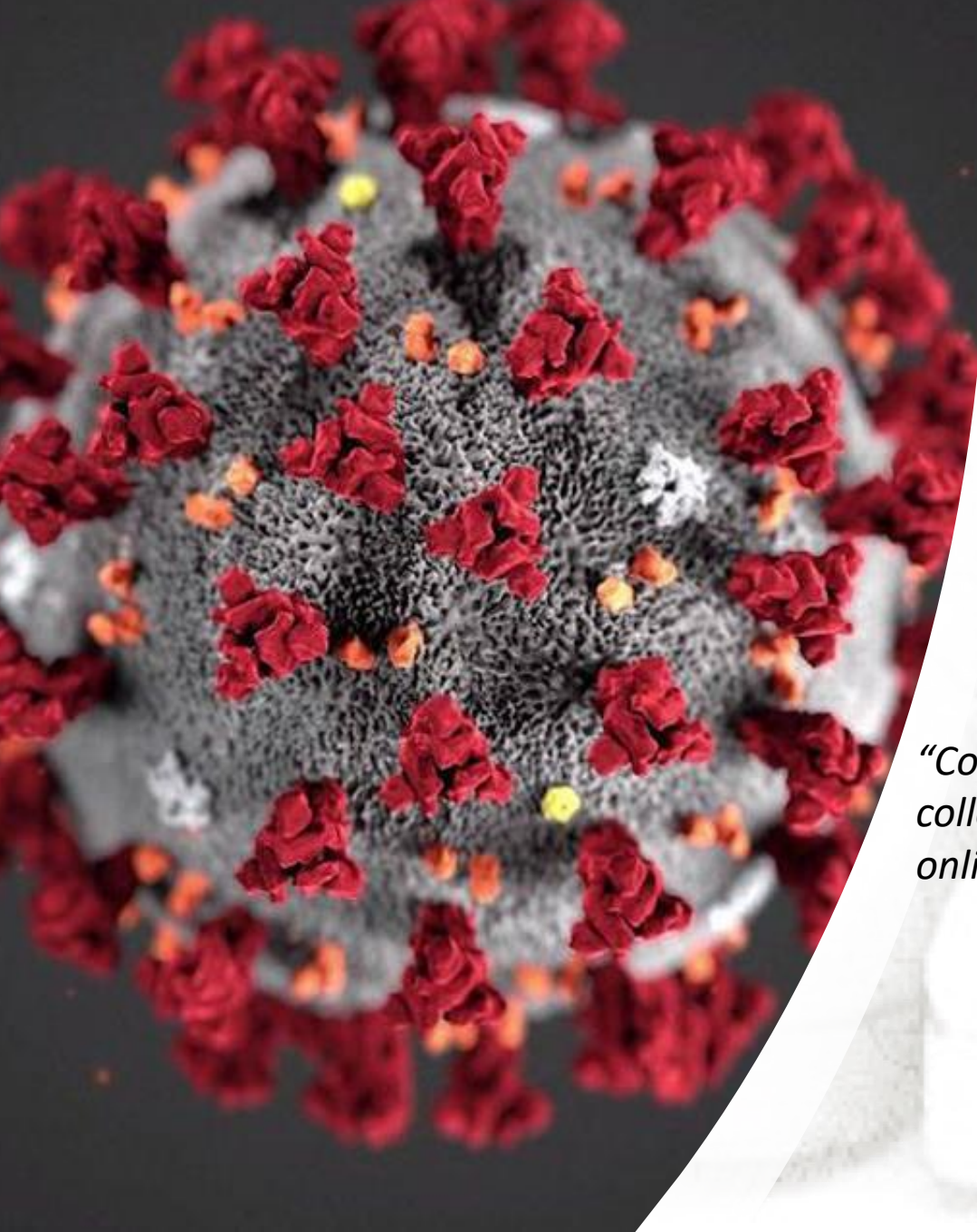
NAVPA asks that the VA submit all update announcements to SCO's immediately regarding the SCO Handbook users via a formal announcement tool such as the mass emails received from the VA using the following email methodology: Veteransbenefits@messages.va.gov and create a public archive of SCO Handbooks.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS' PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

ON THE HILL





ISSUES & LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

After COVID-19

“Coronavirus college closings: More than 100 colleges cancel in-person classes and move online,” USA TODAY (March 11, 2020, 2:47)



COVID-19 Response

ACTION: Supported Senate Bill, S.3503

Actions Overview S.3503 — 116th Congress (2019-2020)

[All Information](#) (Except Text)

[Bill History — Congressional Record References](#)

Hide Filters



6 results for Actions Overview

Sort by

Newest to Oldest

- ☒ Actions Overview [6]
- ☐ All Actions Except Amendments [10]
- ☐ All Actions [10]

Date	Actions Overview
03/21/2020	Became Public Law No: 116-128. (TXT PDF)
03/21/2020	Signed by President.
03/20/2020	Presented to President.
03/19/2020	Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed without objection.
03/16/2020	Passed/agreed to in Senate: Introduced in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Voice Vote.
03/16/2020	Introduced in Senate



COVID-19 Response

ACTION: Supported House Bill, H.R.6322

All Actions H.R.6322 — 116th Congress (2019-2020)

[All Information](#) (Except Text)

[Bill History — Congressional Record References](#)

Hide Filters

14 results for All Actions | [Compact View](#)

Sort by [Newest to Oldest](#)

- ☐ Actions Overview [8]
- ☐ All Actions Except Amendments [14]
- ☒ All Actions [14]

Action By

Check all

- ☐ House [9]
- ☐ Senate [3]
- ☐ Executive Branch [2]

House Committees

Check all

- ☐ Armed Services [2]
- ☐ Veterans' Affairs [2]

Date	Chamber	All Actions
04/28/2020		Became Public Law No: 116-140. (TXT PDF)
04/28/2020		Signed by President.
04/23/2020	House	Presented to President.
04/22/2020	Senate	Message on Senate action sent to the House.
04/21/2020	Senate	Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S2187 ; text: CR S2187)
04/21/2020	Senate	Received in the Senate under the order of 4/21/2020.
03/31/2020-3:03pm	House	Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
03/31/2020-3:03pm	House	On passage, as amended Passed without objection. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR H1869-1870)
03/31/2020	House	Committee on Armed Services discharged.
03/31/2020	House	Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged.
03/31/2020-3:03pm	House	Without objection, the Chair laid before the House H.R. 6322 with an amendment. The reading of the amendment was dispensed with and the amendment was agreed to without objection. (consideration: CR H1868-1870)
03/23/2020	House	Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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03/23/2020	House	Introduced in House



COVID-19 Response

ACTION: Supported other Bills

The National Association of Veterans' Program Administrators (NAVPA) is pleased with the immediate response from our nation's leadership to protect student veterans from unforeseen circumstances due to the COVID-19 crisis. As educational institutions across the country take action to ensure the safety of students, faculty, and staff, NAVPA appreciates the new measures being initiated by Congress to grant the Secretary of the VA the ability to address any disparities and ensure our student veterans have no detrimental impact from this national emergency.



Education Committee Update

After COVID-19

COVID-19 Response:

Collected data and shared responses and analysis with Congressional staffers and the VA from the following surveys:

- NAVPA GI Bill® Rounding Out Survey
- COVID-19 and the Summer Semester
- SCO School Questions to the VA in Response to COVID-19
- NAVPA Conference Q&A
- 85-15 Change & Effect



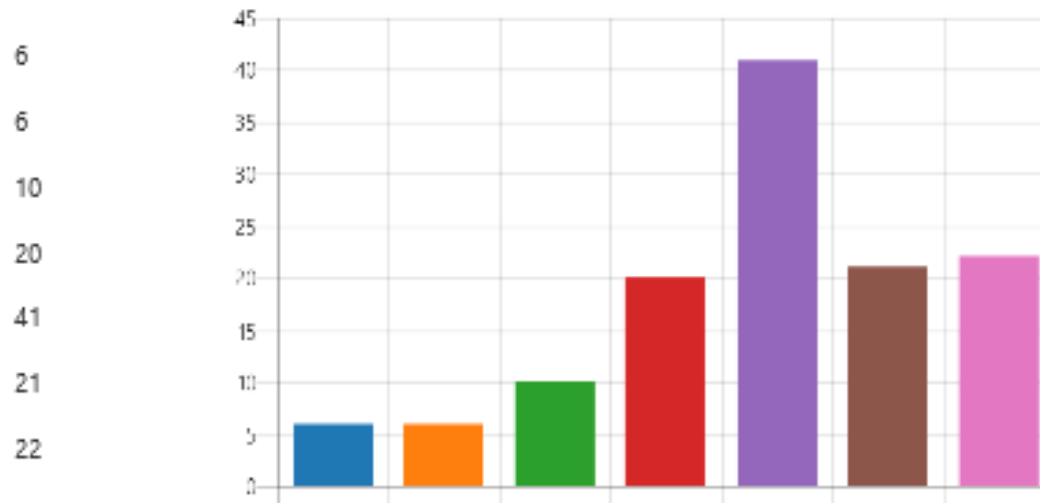
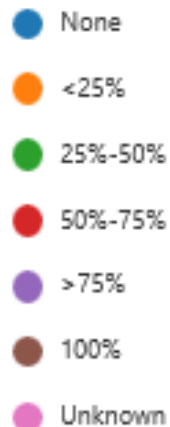
Education Committee Update

The Impact of COVID-19 on Institutions & Military Connected Students

NAVPA partnered with the VA, and Accenture Federal Services to capture data regarding the Impact of COVID-19 on the Fall and Spring semesters for institutions nationwide.

7. What percentage of classes will move online this fall due to COVID-19?

[More Details](#)



Education Committee Update

The Impact of COVID-19 on Institutions & Military Connected Students

14. If Rounding Out was an option for military connected students to maintain their full-time status regardless of what semester they were in, would this help your students stay active in school and continue their education while receiving full-time benefits during the COVID-19 crisis?

[More Details](#)

Yes	86
No	3
Unknown	37



Education Committee Update

The Impact of COVID-19 on Institutions & Military Connected Students

27. Has your school made decisions about the spring Semester/Quarter/Term regarding a COVID-19 response?

[More Details](#)

Yes	15
No	76
Unknown	35



Education Committee Update

Measuring Learning Outcomes with Pre and Posttest Statistics

Pre COVID-19

Topics:

Questions fell into four general areas:

- Compliance Surveys
- Eligibility/Benefits
- Certification Processes
- VA debts



Education Committee Update

Measuring Learning Outcomes with Pre and Posttest Statistics

Curriculum



In 2015, the Education Committee was tasked by the NAVPA Board to develop an instrument to measure student learning outcomes.



The Committee developed a Pre and Posttest instrument for the Basic Training Workshop participants.



The instrument was designed to measure student learning outcomes of new SCO's with at least one year or less of experience.



The Committee presented concept to VA, Team Leader, Compliance & Liaison, VA Central Office, & Chief Education Liaison Officers (CELO's). Collaborating with the CELO team, an instrument was developed and validated.



Education Committee Update

Measuring Learning Outcomes with Pre and Posttest Statistics

Data Analysis of Section 305 training 2019

NAVPA 2019 Conference	Pretest	Posttest	Difference
Highest Score (out of 100%)	81.3%	93.8%	12.5%
Lowest Score (out of 100%)	34.4%	50%	15.6%
Range	3.44 to 8.13	5.00 to 9.38	
Mean	5.66	7.64	1.98



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#StongerTogether2020

For more information about NAVPA, please go to
the NAVPA website or social media pages:

<http://www.navpa.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/NAVPA.org>

https://twitter.com/navpa_schools

LinkedIn:

Listed Group:

National Association of Veterans' Program Administrators (NAVPA)

