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IHL Passes Policy to Award Academic Credits for Military Learning

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FaTvLiErCoSMPrSt



The IHL Board of Trustees has passed a policy to award academic credits for military learning. Photo by Robert Jordan/Ole Miss Digital Imaging Services

The United States military is known for being the best in the world. The training is rigorous. The expectations are high. With life or death consequences, the room for error is zero.

When service men and women decide to use their G.I. benefits to pursue higher education, they sometimes find themselves in a classroom relearning information already learned through their military training.

“As I toured the state on a Listening Tour last summer and fall, I heard from several veteran students about the need to find a way to grant credit for equivalent military training,” said Alfred Rankins Jr., commissioner of higher education. “Last December, I established a task force to develop a policy for accepting military credit.”

The IHL Military Credit Policy Task Force was charged with:

- Evaluating best practices within the state and across the nation;
- Creating a policy and guide to systematize the awarding of academic credit for military learning;
- Placing the guide and articulated credit decisions on a system level website; and
- Working with Mississippi community colleges to establish articulation and transfer agreements for military credit.

The task force included a representative from each of the eight public universities and was comprised of two chief academic officers, two registrars, two admissions officers and two military/veteran specialists.

The task force also invited representation from the Governor’s office, the Adjutant General’s office, the Mississippi National Guard, the Mississippi Veterans Affairs Board and the Mississippi Community College Board to meet with them. A liaison from Army University presented at the meeting to discuss the steps involved in their review process and the benefits of having military experts participate in the review process with faculty experts.

IHL Military Credit reviews will be organized at the system level for all eight universities. Faculty expert panels will review American Council on Education recommendations, speak with military experts, review additional military documentation provided by Army University and identify course equivalencies within their specific degree programs. The panels’ recommendations will be subject to an institutional review process.

Once approved at the university level, the course equivalencies will be posted on the IHL Military Credit website to inform prospective service members and veterans prior to admission. An IHL institution may

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Students Learn ‘Real Politics’ in Washington, D.C., Winter Session

OXFORD, Miss. – Eleven University of Mississippi students spent their winter break learning about the people who work behind the scenes of the American government in Washington, D.C. Lead by Jonathan Klingler, assistant professor of political science, the students of Pol 391: Applied Politics met not with candidates, but with the people who make candidates’

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OXFORD, Miss. – Stephanie Jennings Teague, of Chicago, sees her commitment of \$100,000 to the Patterson School of Accountancy’s new building at the University of Mississippi as a means of saying “thank you.” “It is a way to show a small token of my appreciation to Ole Miss, the faculty and staff, and the accounting

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U.S. inflation roller coaster prompts fresh look at long-ignored money supply By Michael S. Derby NEW YORK – The amount of money sloshing around the U.S. economy shrank last year for the first time on record, a development that some economists believe bolsters the case for U.S. inflation pressures continuing to abate. The Federal Reserve’s

award up to 90 hours of academic credit for military learning at the undergraduate level. Evaluation of military learning for academic credit will occur at the time the student is admitted and enrolls at an IHL institution and will be recorded on the student's transcript at that time to allow for informed advisement.

"This policy and the process of awarding academic credit for military learning will benefit veterans and service members greatly," Rankins said. "I am pleased that the IHL Military Credit Task Force worked quickly to address this important issue."

As the task force began its work, Senate Bill 2053 was introduced and passed in the 2019 Legislative Session. This bill requires Mississippi Public Universities and community colleges to award educational credits for courses that are part of a student's military training or service by the 2020 Academic Year. This policy achieves SB 2053 requirements for the university system.

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