

Veteran Student Course Scheduling Policy

The Higher Education Course Scheduling Preference for Veteran Students Act (Act of May 14, 2014, P.L. 667, No. 46 (PA Act 46)) requires that Veteran Students receive course scheduling preference at all public institutions in Pennsylvania, including the University of Pittsburgh and the other Pennsylvania state-related institutions of higher education.

Eligibility for Course Scheduling Preference:

Veteran Student – An individual who (i) is a Veteran (as defined below) or active duty service member; (ii) has been admitted to the University of Pittsburgh, and (iii) resides in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania while enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh.

Veteran – An individual who (1) has served in the United States Armed Forces, including a reserve component of the National Guard, and (2) was discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable.

Veterans who completed their obligated service in the Reserves and National Guard but were not deployed to active duty are included in this definition of Veteran. Veteran Students may or may not be using veterans educational benefits at the institution. PA Act 46 applies to Veteran Students admitted to all for-credit courses and programs offered at the institution.

Course Scheduling Policy and Implementation

In order to adhere to and implement the requirements of this Act, we convened the ad hoc working group in place at the University, which addresses federal and state mandates for military personnel and their dependents. Here is a summary of the plan to comply with PA Act 46 moving forward:

A priority enrollment appointment period for veteran students will be created for the Friday before the standard enrollment appointment period, which will begin on the following Monday for each Fall, Spring, and Summer term. Enrollment appointments for veteran students will begin at 8:30 a.m., and will be assigned in order, according to credits completed.

Information alerting veteran students about course scheduling preference will be advertised on the websites of the Office of Veterans Services and the Office of the University Registrar.

Any student who has a question about their Veteran status at the University of Pittsburgh should contact the Office of Veterans Services at 412-624-3213 or visit the OVS website at <http://www.veterans.pitt.edu/>.

Resources PA

Higher Education Course Scheduling Preference for Veteran Students Act Guidelines can be obtained online at: [https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2014&sessInd=0&act=46#:~:text=Course%20scheduling%20preference.,\(b\)%20Guidelines](https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2014&sessInd=0&act=46#:~:text=Course%20scheduling%20preference.,(b)%20Guidelines)

Questions from your staff or students should be addressed to the Office of Veterans Services by phone at 412-624-3213 or by email veterans@pitt.edu. Please also see the OVS website at <http://www.veterans.pitt.edu/>.

Act 46 of 2014 requires public institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania to provide veteran students, as defined in the Act, with preference in course scheduling. Non-compliance may be reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Education by submitting the Higher Education Student Complaint form found at <https://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>