TO: Veterans Resource Center Directors and Coordinators
Chief Student Services Officers
Chief Business Officers

FROM: Mia Keeley, Dean of Educational Services
Todd Hoig, Director of Management Information Systems

RE: Veterans Resource Center Funding Formula – Change to Data Source and the Impacts on Funding Allocations

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This memorandum provides details regarding this upcoming change to the data source and its impacts on future program allocations to the colleges.

BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

Since the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) Program's inception, the Chancellor's Office has been collecting data from the colleges on the number of certifications for student veterans and military dependents by using data from VA's certification platform, *VA-Once*.

In early 2022, the VA launched their new certification platform *Enrollment Manager*, which did not have the same capabilities as *VA-Once* to access certification data reports until recently. Alternatively, the Chancellor's Office asked colleges to submit their "Annual Reporting Fee Letter" from the VA to get the same data. We identified several inconsistencies and errors between the Annual Reporting Fee Letters, *Enrollment Manager* certification reports and local certification data. Ultimately, the 2022-23 certification data is deemed unusable for this year's funding formula due to the many discrepancies and errors for the majority of colleges.

The allocation logic behind the funding formula for the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) Program remains unchanged. The formula allocates funds as follows: 20% base allocation + 80% distributed proportionately based on the number of certifications for student veterans and military dependents.

Starting in the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the Chancellor's Office will change its calculation for the number of student veterans and military dependents from using Veterans Affairs (VA) Education benefits data to using MIS data elements.

CHANGE TO THE VRC FUNDING FORMULA DATA SOURCE AND IMPACTS ON ALLOCATIONS

To ensure data integrity and reliability, over the past two years, the Chancellor's Office has been

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working with the Veterans Advisory Committee workgroup and other stakeholders to transition the data source for student veterans and military dependents from the VA to the MIS.

Starting in the 2026-27 fiscal year, the Chancellor's Office will allocate VRC program funds to colleges based on:

- Base allocation +
- MIS data elements SG01- Student-Military-Status and SG02-Student-Military-Dependent-Status using military and dependent headcounts.

The 2026-27 funding formula will use prior-prior year MIS data from the 2024-25 fiscal year. VRC Directors and Coordinators are highly encouraged to work collaboratively with their college/district's Institutional Research departments to ensure SG01 and SG02 MIS data elements are reported accurately starting in the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

For fiscal years of 2024-25 and 2025-26, colleges will continue to receive the same level of funding as their 2023-24 allocation amounts for the VRC Program.

RESOURCES

For more information about MIS, data elements SG01 and SG02, and best practices in accurate data collection, and veteran and military student verification, please view the following webinar recordings and presentation slides:

Data Collection & Tracking Student Veteran Outcomes – Part I Recording & Presentation Slides
Data Collection & Tracking Student Veteran Outcomes – Part II Recording & Presentation Slides

Questions can be directed to Heather McClenahen, Veterans Specialist Veterans@CCCCO.edu

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