

Veterans Administration Work Study Opportunity

William Joiner Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences

The William Joiner Institute (WJI) Veteran Work Study position(s) will work in direct support of the WJI's efforts to enhance the support and service veteran's and their families receive across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A research study completed in June 2020 by the WJI and UMass Boston's Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging for the Town of Natick, MA, identified several important recommendations, of which one included creating an updated contact list to conduct a comprehensive census/survey of veterans (Natick in this case) to gain a broader understanding of age, gender, race, socioeconomic status, and contact information. The work of these work study positions will enable the WJI to initiate this process at a state-wide level. This will also support several other recommendations the Town of Natick study made including a public recruitment campaign, outreach events, social media campaigns, and other activities related to supporting veterans and their families.

These positions (two or more) will work on gathering data from UMass Boston Veteran students and their families as it relates to their interests, aspirations, challenges, needs, awareness of services available at UMass Boston, the VA, other agencies. These positions will also work in support of broadening connections for veteran students with the private sector in New England and nationwide. Specific duties will include, but not be limited to the following:

- Creating a venue/forum through the WJI, and in conjunction with the Student Veterans' Center, to invite, attract and retain veteran student participation in periodic informational, social, and networking meetings to remain connected, engaged, and integrated/immersed in UMass Boston and regional offerings.
- Planning, developing and implementing a series of meeting events and agendas that will attract interest and retain participation in these meetings over the course of the academic year.
- Conducting outreach to veteran friendly companies and veterans in New England/nationwide to invite input or participation in these periodic meetings.
- Other tasks may include working cross-function with the other work study positions as appropriate, if needed, and/or if available within the authorized hours to complete a specific task.

To participate in the VA Work-Study Allowance Program, student must be receiving benefits under one of the following education programs:

- Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 30: The Montgomery GI Bill
- Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 31: Vocational Rehabilitation
- Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 32: The Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Program
- Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 33: The Post-9/11 GI Bill / Fry Scholarship
- Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 35: Dependents' Educational Assistance Program
- Title 10, U.S.C., Chapter 1606: The Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve

The student must be enrolled in and pursuing an approved college degree, vocational or professional program of education at a rate of 3/4 time or greater.

Applicants should send a resume and a one-page narrative of why they are interested in one of these positions to the Director of the William Joiner Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences at Ana.Alejandro001@umb.edu.