What to Expect:

- Prompt attention to inquiries made to the VITAL program.
- VITAL will adhere to all privacy standards with respect and sensitivity.
- Maintain a Veteran-centered perspective keeping the Veteran's well-being and best interest in mind.
- Use of Research Based Treatments.

Our VA Values:

Trust in the integrity of the VITAL Initiative and a commitment to its goals.

Respect, understanding, and sensitivity to your unique concerns.

Excellence in service delivery.

Compassion in all that we do.

Commitment to the highest principles and ethics.

VITAL Program Coordinators:

Barb Shupe, LCSW
402-676-4261
Barbara.Shupe@va.gov

Veterans Health Administration
Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System

VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System
4101 Woolworth Ave.
Omaha, NE 68105
402-346-8800
1-800-451-5796
www.nebraska.va.gov

2206 Longo Dr., Ste. 102
Bellevue, NE 68005

710 S. 13th St. Ste. 1200
Norfolk, NE 68701

2201 N. Broadwell Ave.
Grand Island, NE 68803

600 E. Francis, Ste. 3
North Platte, NE 69101

1118 Burlington St.
Holdrege, NE 68949

555 E. John St.
O'Neill, NE 68763

600 S. 70 St.
Lincoln, NE 68510

512 S. Fremont St.
Shenandoah, IA 51601

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VITAL

VETERANS INTEGRATION TO ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System

What is VITAL?

Veterans **I**ntegration **T**o **A**cademic **L**eadership is a Veteran-centered, results oriented, collaboration between the VA Health Care System and higher education. We strive to enhance academic retention and success. We understand the unique factors facing our Veteran students. *We are here to help.*

If you are a Veteran or concerned about a Veteran enrolled in a local college or university, VITAL will partner with you to resolve issues and find resources.

As a Veteran did you know?

- You have access to a VA VITAL Coordinator.
- There are important benefits and resources available to you.
- You have someone who can help with VA Services.
- You have an ally at school that knows your unique needs as a student Veteran.

Services Include

For Veterans:

- Connect to treatment for adjustment, stress, anger, depression, anxiety, sleep problems and PTSD.
- Refer and work with campus disability services to request academic accommodations.
- Support with processes regarding academic actions and/or conduct issues.
- Assist with enrollment and care at the VA Health Care System.
- Obtain help and resources from within the VA and its affiliates including: Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Support with obtaining and using assistive technology such as hearing aids and screen-reader software.
- Support with development of Student Veteran Peer Groups including Student Veterans of America chapters (SVA) www.studentveterans.org/

For Academic Faculty/Staff:

- Education for college/university staff about Military & Veteran culture.
- Consultation regarding Veteran specific issues that impact performance and retention.
- Work with college/university counseling centers in serving the unique mental health needs of Veterans.
- Assist with communication between the VA Health Care System and college/university staff.