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University of South Florida Named the Nation’s Second Best College for Student Veterans

It’s the highest ranking ever for USF on the Military Times annual list.

TAMPA, Fla. (Nov. 9, 2015) –The University of South Florida has been named the second best college in the United States for veterans to attend, [according to Military Times EDGE magazine](#). The “[Best for Vets: College Rankings 2016](#)” released Monday recognize accredited institutions of higher learning for their commitment to the success of student veterans. USF placed fifth in last year’s rankings.

The magazine [evaluated](#) applying institutions in five main categories: academic outcomes/quality, university culture, student support, academic policies, and cost/financial aid. Evaluations were completed based on a comprehensive 120-question survey submitted by each institution plus the analysis of newly available public data from additional sources.

The research revealed that nationally veterans appear to be succeeding in class at similar rates to those of traditional students, indicating that institutions are effectively addressing the unique challenges that historically have impeded student veterans’ academic success.

With a 79% retention rate, 66% graduation rate and 90% employment rate, USF student veterans are succeeding in the transition from the military to college to career.

"USF has long been committed to serving those who have served in the military," said Lawrence Braue, director of the [Office of Veterans Services at USF](#) and Lt. Colonel, US Army (Ret.). "We were the first university in the nation to implement the Department of Veterans Affairs VetSuccess on Campus program and we continue to look for new ways to assist our student veterans on their path to graduation and a new career."

The dedicated staff of USF’s Office of Veterans Services is made up of veterans who eagerly assist nearly 2,000 student veterans and dependents with benefits processing, peer tutoring, and career/professional development—all while providing encouragement and comradery.

“*Military Times* is highly regarded among military members, so it is quite an honor to be ranked so highly,” said Braue. Included with the *Army Times*, *Air Force Times*, *Marine Corps Times* and *Navy Times*, [Military Times EDGE](#) magazine reaches service members in all branches of the military.

The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. USF is a Top 50 research university among both public and private institutions nationwide in total research expenditures, according to the National Science Foundation. Serving nearly 48,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of \$1.5 billion and an annual economic impact of \$4.4 billion. USF is a member of the American Athletic Conference.

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