

# Colorado Technical University

# Military Info-2-Go

# Colorado Technical University strongly supports the commitment, dedication and bravery exhibited by members of the U.S. Military.



arning an industry-current college degree at Colorado Technical University can be a good way to help advance your career in the military or pursue fulfilling job opportunities once you re-enter the civilian workforce.

We understand that the nature of a mobile military lifestyle can present challenges to completing a degree. At CTU, we are committed to helping you achieve your academic goals. Our flexible programs allow you to work toward your degree in the evening, on weekends and even online—when it is convenient for you. And many of our programs allow you to earn your degree in less time than you would think. You may be able to earn an Associate's degree in as little as 18 months or a Bachelor's degree in as little as 3 years.

Colorado Technical University is also a member of SOCAD, the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) degree program for the Army. SOCAD consists of colleges that offer undergraduate degree programs on or accessible to Army installations worldwide. These colleges have formed a network in which each college accepts credits from all the others. This network ensures that Army students and their adult family members can continue toward completion of their degrees even though the Army may transfer them several times.

#### **About Info-2-Go**

We have organized helpful information within the pages of this document to make it easy for you to get started on your mission to earn a college degree at Colorado Technical University. We encourage you to print out these pages and share them with your Education Service Officer.

This document contains the following important information:

- The Top IO Reasons Military Personnel Enroll at Colorado Technical University
- A Checklist for Your Education Service Officer Meeting
- Information on Applying for Financial Aid



If you need more reasons why you should attend Colorado Technical University, then look no further. Print this list and share it with others helping you make your decision about where to attend college.

# Top 10 Reasons Military Personnel Enroll at Colorado Technical University

- I. DANTES and SOCAD—Colorado Technical University is a DANTES-affiliated institution and a member of SOCAD, the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) degree program for the Army. SOCAD consists of colleges that offer undergraduate degree programs on or accessible to Army installations worldwide. These colleges have formed a network in which each college accepts credits from all the others, ensuring that Army students and their adult family members can continue pursuing their degrees even though the Army may transfer them several times.
- **2. Regional Accreditation**—Colorado Technical University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association (30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504, www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org).
- **3. Flexible Learning Programs**—CTU offers degree programs designed to accommodate today's lifestyles. Rather than requiring students to adhere to strict, rigid class schedules that can conflict with personal or professional responsibilities, we offer innovative learning options like our DegreeNOW™ program, which gives you the flexibility to complete your studies at night, online and on weekends. And our executive-format programs are designed specifically for working professionals.
- **4. Career Track Education**—Today, many students want to earn a degree faster so they can begin pursuing their career goals earlier. Many of CTU's degree programs allow students to complete an Associate's degree in as little as 18 months and a Bachelor's degree in as little as 3 years.
- **5. Financial Aid**—CTU is committed to helping students find the financing solution that is best for them. Some of the options may include scholarships, grants, student loans, work study, company tuition reimbursement, VA and other military benefits, and personal investment. Financial aid is available to those who qualify.
- **6. Hands-on Experience**—Today's employers want employees who can step right in and get the job done. For this reason, CTU's academic programs focus on real-world experience and project-based education. Every graduate should have the education and skills to take on today's organizational challenges.
- **7. Built-in Professional Certificates**—Résumé-enhancing Professional Certificates are built into nearly every CTU degree program without additional costs or courses. Professional Certificates empower you to add meaningful credentials to your job qualifications as you have the opportunity to learn and gain new skills in business, technology and other career fields.
- **8. Experienced Professors**—CTU professors are committed to helping you succeed; personally, academically and professionally. They bring years of knowledge and practical experience to every course, which means you can receive a relevant education that you may be able to apply in the military or on your job after your tour of duty.
- **9. Small Class Size**—At CTU, we believe our students should be as comfortable learning as we are educating. To stimulate classroom discussion and interaction, class sizes are kept small. Our campus also features executive comfort chairs, multimedia classrooms, and welcoming student lounges.
- **10. Project Management Institute**—Many CTU degree programs are designed to provide students with the in-depth knowledge of project management that can be invaluable to their careers. Much of our program content has been reviewed by the Project Management Institute (PMI®) and found to be relevant and consistent with the knowledge and process areas described in the Guide to Project Management Book of Knowledge.



Colorado Technical University is committed to providing educational opportunities to service members and their families.

### Preparing for Your Education Service Officer Meeting

Visiting with your Education Service Officer is an important step in the enrollment process. After setting up your appointment, you can prepare for your meeting by considering some of the topics most likely to be discussed. The points on this page will help you focus on a productive meeting.



You will need to explain some of the reasons why you've chosen Colorado Technical University. We suggest that you bring your "Top I0 Reasons Military Personnel Select Colorado Technical University" and add to it any additional reasons you may have for wanting to enroll.



Be prepared to talk about accreditation. Colorado Technical University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association (30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504), www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org.



Ask your Education Service Officer whether you are eligible for the GI Bill Top-Up program before you start using your GI Bill, if applicable.



Make sure you gather all essential paperwork for the military tuition assistance and grants. And don't forget to complete and fax copies of the forms to your Financial Aid Representative at Colorado Technical University. Financial Aid is available for those who qualify.



You must get all tuition assistance forms approved by your Education Service Officer before you begin your courses. Also, be sure to apply for tuition assistance through your Education Service Officer before each session, until the ESO tells you that you have reached your benefit limit.



Colorado Technical University has experienced Financial Aid Advisors who understand the procedures required to help you receive the maximum benefits for which you qualify.

## Apply for Financial Aid in Three Simple Steps

he financial aid process is an important consideration for many college students. Your military branch or the Veteran's Administration (depending on the type of military benefits being sought) will be the ultimate decision-maker in determining and approving your maximum benefits.

When you are ready to apply for admission, it will be to your advantage to speak with a CTU Financial Aid Advisor. You should also meet with your Education Service Officer immediately and follow the three steps outlined below to ensure that the process of applying for financial aid goes smoothly.

#### **STEP I**

Schedule an appointment to speak to your Education Service Officer. Be prepared to speak to your Education Service Officer about Colorado Technical University, including our accreditation and the reasons you would like to attend our university. At the time of the meeting, the Education Service Officer will give you the essential paperwork regarding your tuition assistance (TA) and advise you on your eligibility for the top-up benefits, the GI Bill, and any other military benefits. This paperwork will need to be completed in a swift and timely manner and faxed to your Financial Aid Advisor.

To be eligible for the top-up benefit, you must be approved for tuition assistance by a military department and be eligible for MGIB-Active Duty benefits. You must be an MGIB-Active Duty participant and must have served at least two full years on active duty.

#### STEP 2

Within 48 hours of completing your application for admission, fill out the FAFSA application to assist in maximizing your tuition assistance. FAFSA, or free Application for Federal Student Aid, is an online service that determines your eligibility for state aid, private aid, and other forms of financial aid. In order to complete the FAFSA, you must do the following:

- Log on to the FAFSA website, www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Register for a PIN and fill out the FAFSA. You can do both on the same day. If you are registering for the PIN for the first time, it will take a couple of days to receive electronically but it does not hinder you from completing the FAFSA.
- Mhen you receive the PIN, just log on and open your saved FAFSA and sign with your PIN.

When filling out the FAFSA, you will need to input the Colorado Technical University Code: E010148. This code will route the completed information to our Financial Aid department. The entire process takes about 30 minutes to complete and needs to be started as soon as possible.

#### STEP 3

Contact your Financial Aid Advisor after you've completed your FAFSA. Your Financial Aid Advisor, in conjunction with your Education Service Officer, will work with you to determine all military benefits for which you are eligible. The monthly military benefit paid to you is based on the type of training you take, the length of your service, your category, and whether the DOD put extra money in your MGIB Fund (kickers).