



# A Policy Evaluation of CPP's Veteran Services Initiative

Presented by:

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# Aim of Study

- Does Cal Poly Pomona's Veteran Services Initiative address the needs of its current student veteran population?



# Strength

- Priority Registration

“Priority registration is a great advantage, especially with the limited amount of time and funding with the GI Bill, and the VA coordinators in the Registrar’s office have been exceptionally helpful and friendly. Just keep up the good work, (Respondent 1).”



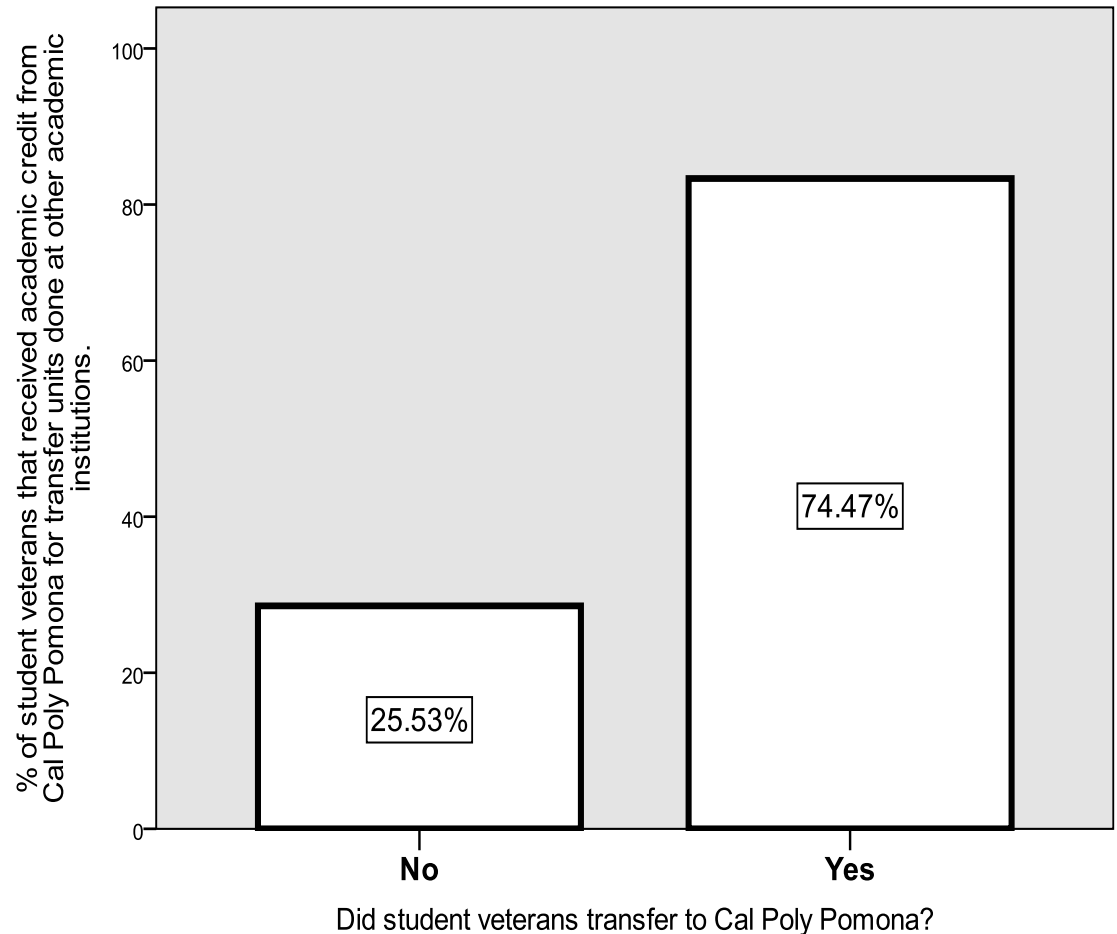
# Recommendation

- Keep priority registration



# Strength

- **Transfer students** more likely to secure academic credit.



**Did student veterans transfer to Cal Poly Pomona? The percentage of student veterans that received academic credit from Cal Poly Pomona for transfer units done at other academic institutions.**

# Recommendation

- Transfer students have fewer difficulties transitioning to CPP
- Represent a different veteran population





# Challenge 1

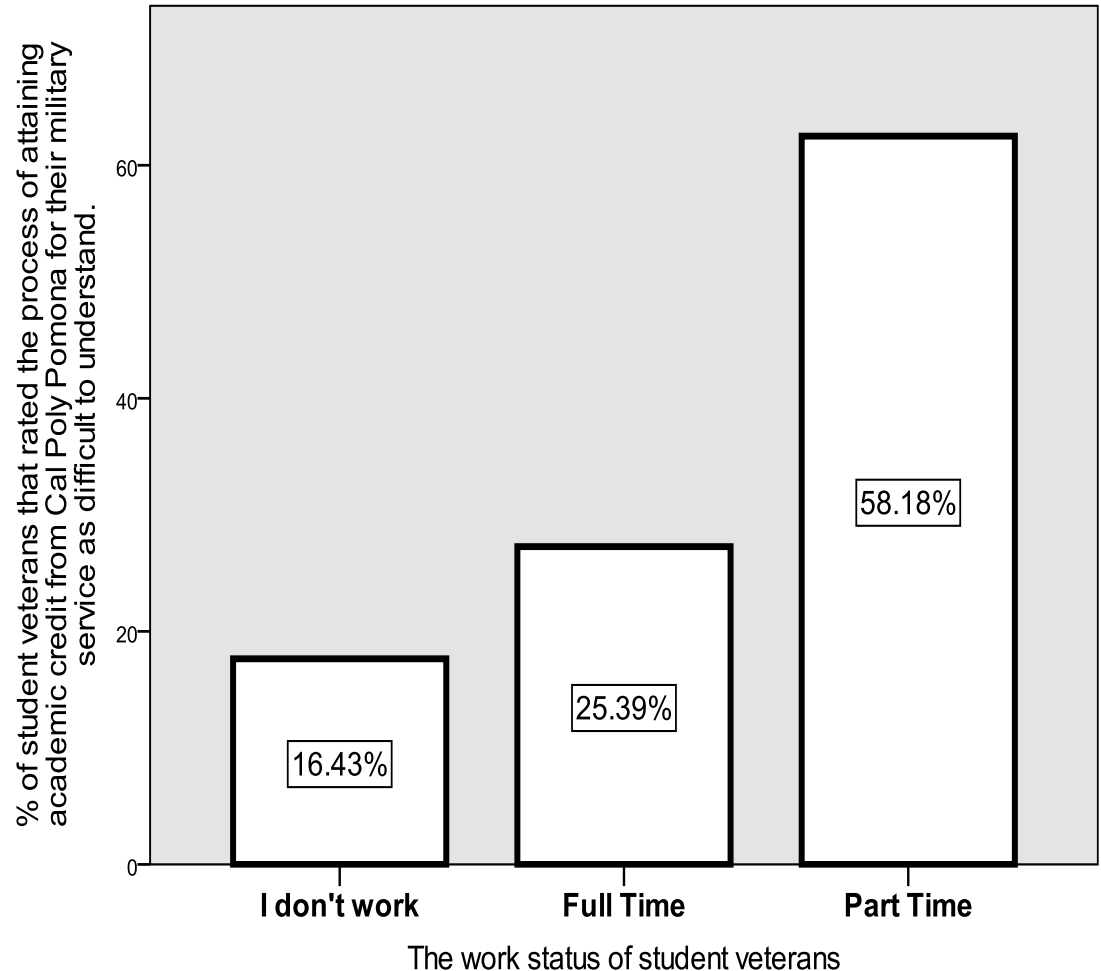
- Academic credit for military service



“I had a lot of technical training that probably should have converted into units that could be used to satisfy many courses, but the university only gave me general credits that go toward graduation. This really doesn’t help me one bit. I even have a SMART transcript that gives details about what topics were covered, but the school isn’t looking at that, (Respondent 2).”

# Continued

- Academic credit for military service



**The work status of student veterans and the percentage of student veterans that rated the process of attaining academic credit from Cal Poly Pomona for their military service as difficult to understand.**



# Recommendations



## 1. Academic credit for military service - short term

- Develop an articulation process using military transcripts (e.g. SMART) and American Council on Education's Online Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Forces.
- Translate these resources into specific credits for veterans at Cal Poly Pomona.

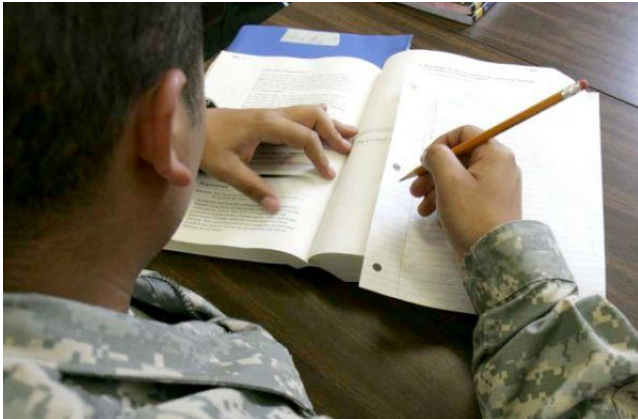
# Recommendations



- 1. Academic credit for military service - long term**
  - Define own system for evaluating and crediting military service, experience, training, related education coursework.

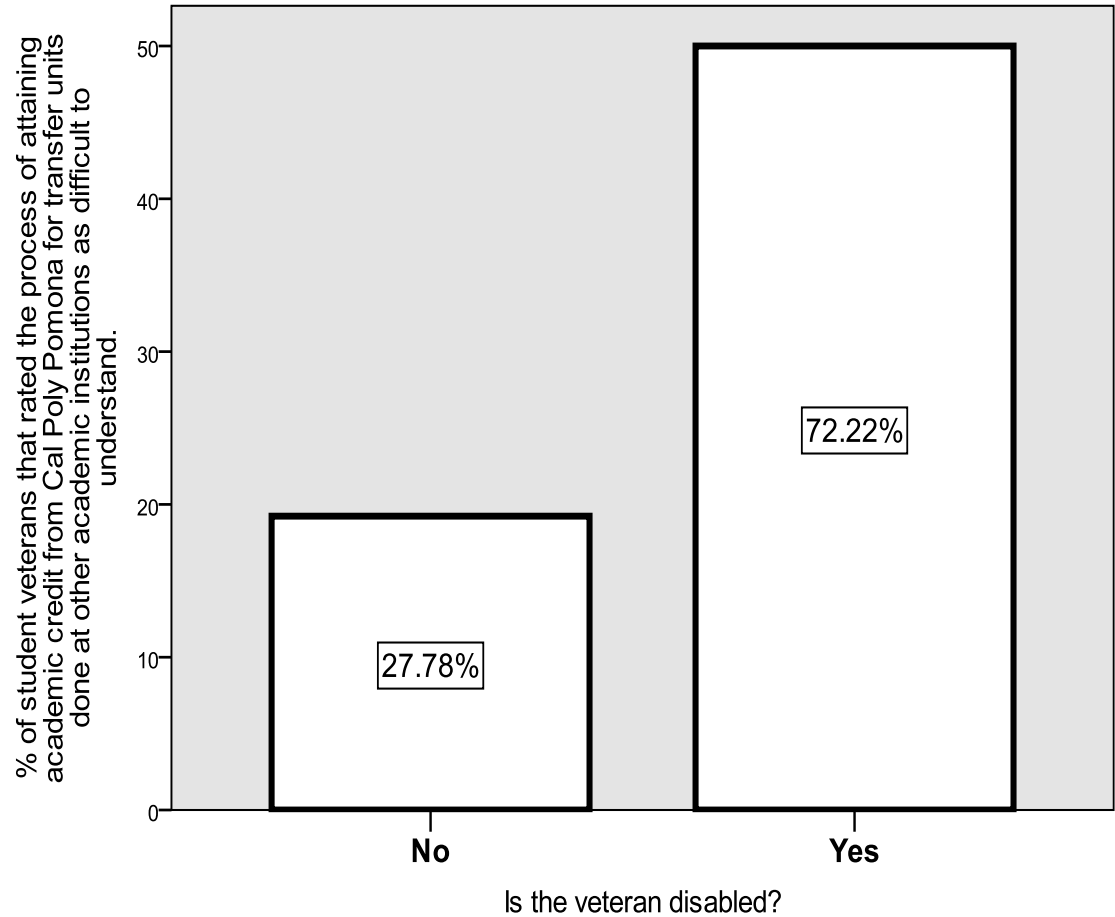
# Challenge 2

- **Admissions** and the process of attaining academic credit from Cal Poly Pomona for **transfer units** done at other **academic institutions**



“Trying to get admission into the school is a very difficult and a very slow process. This can be hard when you are trying to confirm a reason to move and get settled in, as not every student is from southern California. Overall the admission process was slow and evaluation of my credits didn’t come back until the actual day of orientation, this hindered me from enrolling in classes the day of orientation, (Respondent 3).”

- **Transfer credit for academic course work elsewhere more difficult for disabled vets.**



**Is the veteran disabled? The percentage of student veterans that rated the process of attaining academic credit from Cal Poly Pomona for transfer units done at other academic institutions as difficult to understand.**

# Recommendation

## 2. Academic credit for transfer units and the admissions process

- Need for an analysis of transfer credits
- Student veterans with disabilities have a need for specialized assistance
- A veteran orientation that provides a vet to vet experience.



# Challenge 3

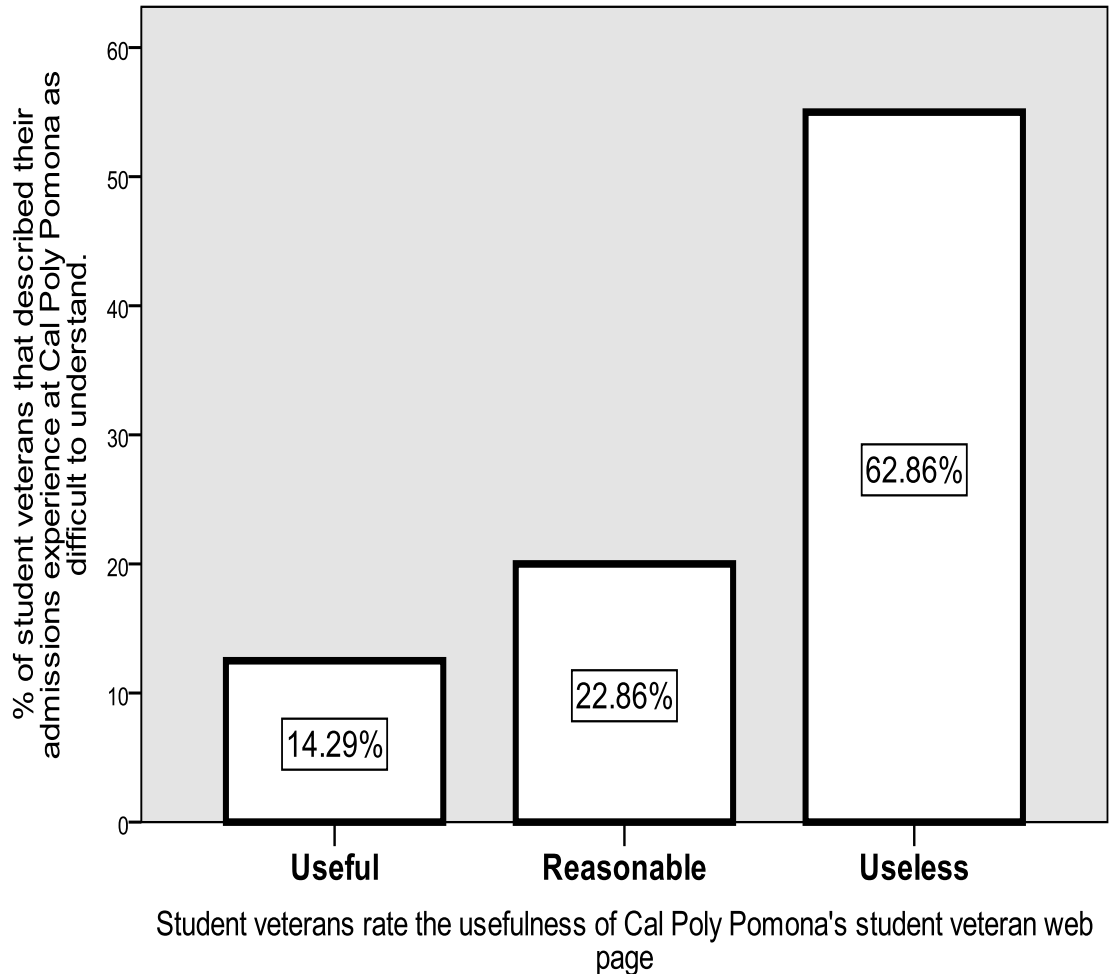
- Veteran On Line Support



“A better more organized website that has more information about benefits. A user forum might be nice as a lot of information comes from other student veterans, (Respondent 4).”



- **Difficulty in attaining veteran specific information for admissions.**



**Student veterans rate the usefulness of Cal Poly Pomona's student veteran web page and the percentage of vets that described their admissions experience at Cal Poly Pomona as difficult to understand.**

# Recommendation

- Use veterans with computer skills to help support and improve the current veteran web resources.
- Example

“Well is there a veterans’ club or what [?] I think [yo]u guys need help. I do graphic design, ( Respondent, 4).”



# Challenge 4

- A lack of a veteran center on campus.



“Clubs and organizations have all sorts of their own special rooms and even houses on campus for them to gather, socialize, help each other, and study at. Veterans would greatly benefit from this! Especially since our culture is quite different from the typical college student mentality, and thus give[s] us a place to work together for individual and common goals, unified to make it a better campus, (Respondent 5).”

# Recommendation

- Fellowship area for veterans
- Location for veterans between CLASS, Business and Engineering
- Computer access, study area and lounge.





# CPP Vision

- Develop a program that is user friendly for non traditional CPP students.



# Thank you for coming.



## Questions?