

## Campus Resources

### Undergraduate Admissions & Transfer Resources

Ernesto Esqueda  
(951) 827-1247

Ernesto.esqueda@ucr.edu

### Office of the Registrar

Melissa Gomez  
(951) 827-5896

melissa.gomez@ucr.edu

### Financial Aid/Veteran Services Coord

Patrick Napier  
(951) 827-6162

Patrick.napier@ucr.edu

### Student Housing

John-Paul Wolf  
(951) 827-5723

john-paul.wolf@ucr.edu

### Career Services

Jeannette Lalama  
(951) 827-3637

jeannette.lalama@ucr.edu

### Services for Students with Disabilities

Maria Keller  
(951) 827-5380

maria.keller@ucr.edu

### Staff/Faculty Veterans, Military Members & Families Group

Karen Springer  
(951) 827-3268

karen.springer@ucr.edu

## Additional Support

### Dr. Elika Abtahi, Counseling Center Liaison

(951) 827-5531 / elika.abtahi@ucr.edu  
24/7 Counseling Hotline: 951-UCR-TALK

### Campus Health Center

(951) 827-3031  
health@ucr.edu

### The Well (Student Wellness Programs)

Devon Sakamoto, Director  
(951) 827-5481

devon.sakamoto@ucr.edu

### Gabe Mendoza, Academic Intervention

Academic Resource Center  
(951) 827-3721

gabriel.mendoza@ucr.edu

### Penny Key

#### Student Affairs Case Manager

(951) 827-5000

penny.key@ucr.edu

### Student Special Services

900 University Avenue  
125 Costo Hall  
Riverside, CA 92521

Tel: 951.827.3861

Fax: 951.827.4218

E-mail: specserv@ucr.edu



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# VETERANS SUPPORT TEAM



## A Guide for Student Veterans

## What is the VST?

The Veterans Support Team is an interdisciplinary team of staff and administrators from key departments across campus, who have come together to foster awareness of the student veteran experience and ensure that student veteran needs are being met across campus.

Our main goals are to promote a positive campus experience for student veterans and their families, support student veteran entry into civilian and university life, and facilitate access to veteran benefits, resources, and mentors to enable degree completion.

### UCR Veterans Support Team Leaders

#### **Laura Riley**

Director, Student Special Services  
(951) 827-5379  
laura.riley@ucr.edu

#### **Linda Kelley**

Student Special Services Assistant  
(951) 827-3861  
linda.kelley@ucr.edu

[www.facebook.com/UCRvets](http://www.facebook.com/UCRvets)  
Twitter: @UCRVets



## What student VETERANS need to know!

- After enrollment, you must contact Financial Aid to complete your VA certification. You may also be required to verify your attendance; check with the VA for info.
- VA monthly allowances are always paid in arrears, around the first of the month for the prior month's enrollment. Also, the VA will prorate your allowance for the start and end of each term. Be sure to budget carefully!
- Veterans and dependents are encouraged to apply for Federal Financial Aid to help cover additional educational expenses and unforeseen payment delays. Apply online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).
- You may be eligible for exemption from the Deferred Payment Plan processing fee and the first late fee. However, you are responsible for taking care of your financial obligations in a timely manner.
- Student veterans receive priority registration. You will be assigned an early appointment time during each registration cycle beginning in your second quarter at UCR.
- To "learn the ropes" from someone who's been there, contact UCR's Veteran Peer Mentors or join the Student Veterans Organization. Call Student Special Services at (951) 827-3861 for info, or connect on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/UCRstudentvets](http://www.facebook.com/groups/UCRstudentvets).
- For information about your VA benefit eligibility or entitlement, contact the VA National Call Center at 888-GI-Bill-1 (888-442-4551) or visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).

## More Helpful Info...

The VA will only pay for courses that are required for you to complete your degree program or objective.

Your Academic Advisor will help you plan your degree program and select courses that fulfill degree requirements.

The POC's below in the various colleges and academic divisions can provide additional support and mentorship.

#### **Bourns College of Engineering**

Dr. David Jassby, Assistant Professor  
(951) 827-6475 / [david.jassby@ucr.edu](mailto:david.jassby@ucr.edu)

#### **CHASS Student Academic Affairs**

Dennis David, Academic Advisor  
(951) 827-2829 / [dennis.david@ucr.edu](mailto:dennis.david@ucr.edu)

#### **CNAS Academic Advising**

Dr. Mike McKibben, Associate Dean  
(951) 827-3110 / [michael.mckibben@ucr.edu](mailto:michael.mckibben@ucr.edu)

#### **Graduate Division**

Kennett Lai, Assistant Dean  
(951) 827-4302 / [kennett.lai@ucr.edu](mailto:kennett.lai@ucr.edu)

#### **School of Business Administration**

Mark Estrada, Assoc Dir, Grad Prog Recrmt  
(951) 827-2915 / [mark.estrada@ucr.edu](mailto:mark.estrada@ucr.edu)

#### **School of Education**

Dr. Mike Vanderwood, Associate Professor  
(951) 827-4313 / [mike.vanderwood@ucr.edu](mailto:mike.vanderwood@ucr.edu)

#### **School of Medicine**

Kathleen Buckner, Director of Financial Aid  
(951) 827-7343 / [kathleen.buckner@ucr.edu](mailto:kathleen.buckner@ucr.edu)