

USM

Veterans Services



Who Do We Serve?

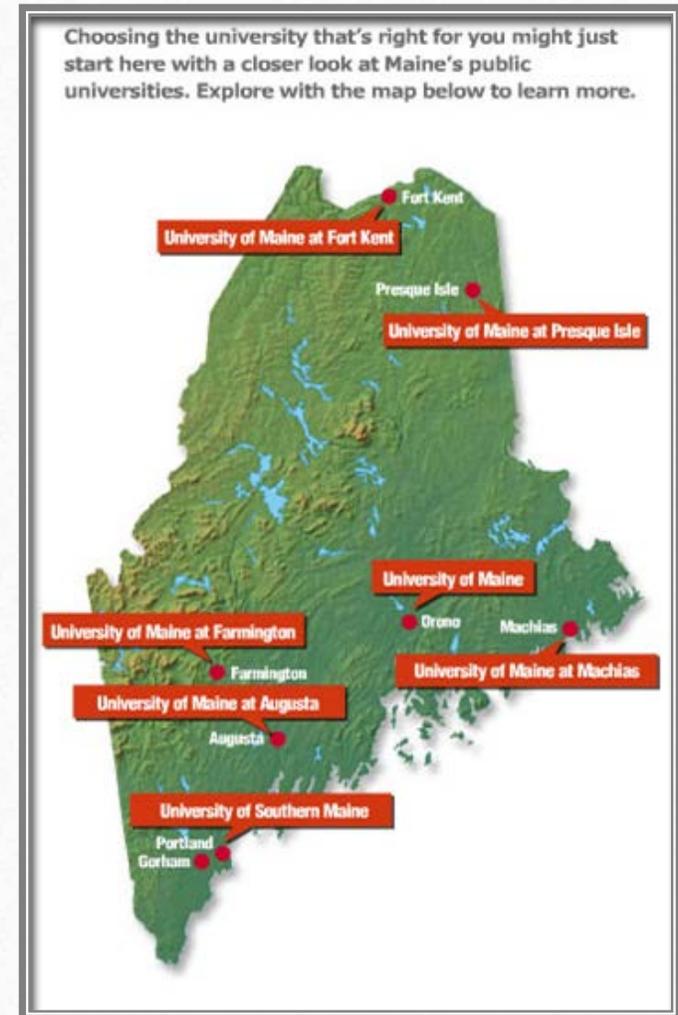
Fall 2015:

402 Students Using GI Bill

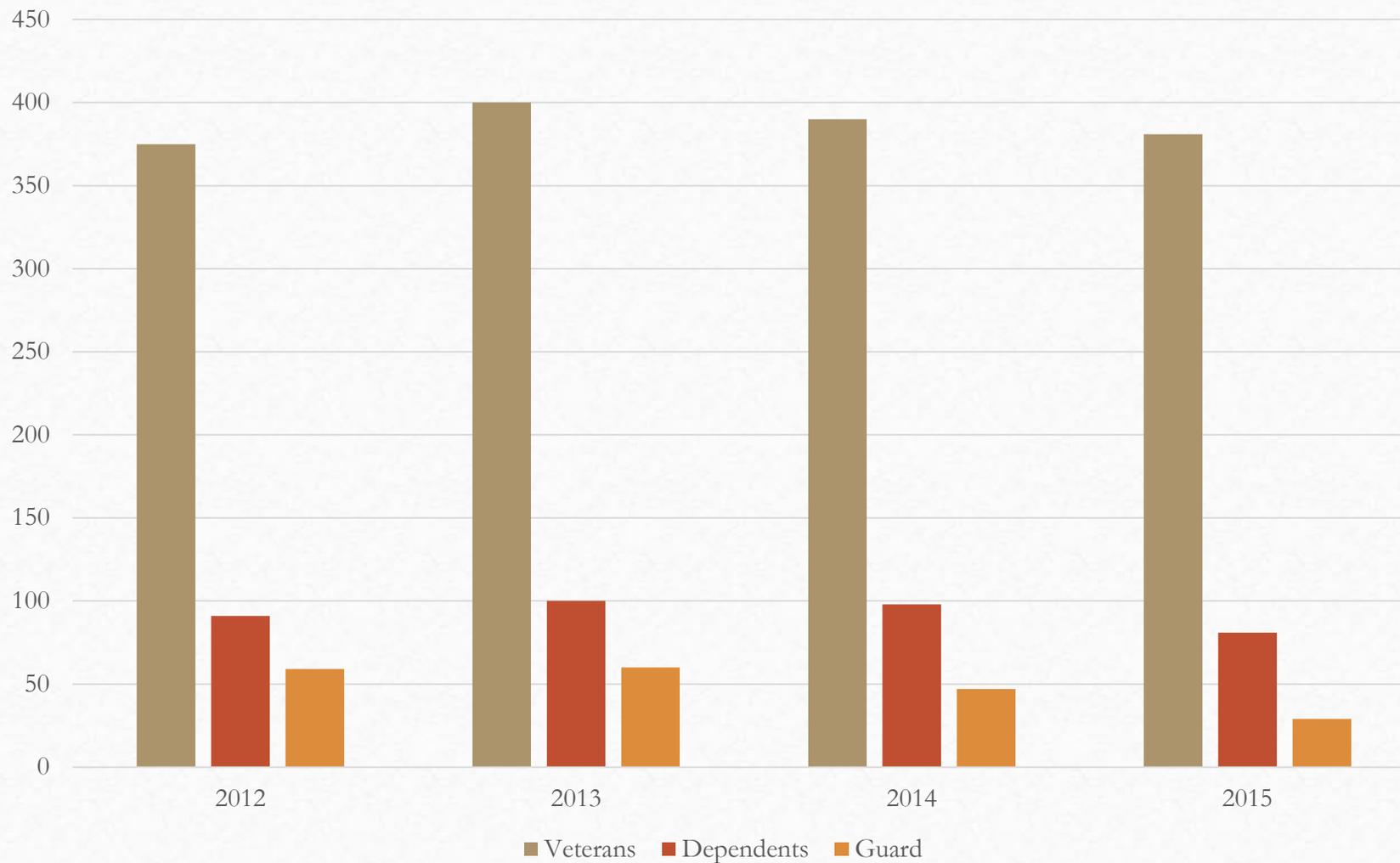
CH 33/Post 9/11	214
CH 31 Vocational Rehab	77
CH 1606	26
CH 35 Dependents	69
Tuition Assistance	16

The University of Maine System

- ❖ In-state tuition and fees for veterans and active duty service members, as well as dependents using GI Bill benefits
- ❖ Application fee is waived for all veterans and service members



Enrollment Trend 2012-2015



What We Do

- Assist with Application process
- Assist with Benefits
- Review Joint Services Transcripts for credit
- Coordinate with Admissions to ensure all new veterans and dependents are contacted upon acceptance
- Work with students who were not accepted
- Provide Transition Orientation for incoming student veterans
- Provide Green Zone training for faculty & staff
- Collaborate with campus and community resources to meet the needs of our students.



Objectives:

To Address Transition Barriers and Challenges

- **Transition**
 - *Loss of perceived identity
- **Campus and Community Resources**
 - *Disability Services
 - *Counseling
 - *Vet Centers
 - *Network with community resources to offer with financial, mental health, housing, legal, etc.. needs
- **VA processes and procedures**
 - *Assist with benefit application
 - *Assist with disability claim
 - *Assist with DD-214's and health care
 - *Assist with tutors



What do students struggle with?

Transition from soldier to student



Health care



MST



Military Sex Assault Epidemic

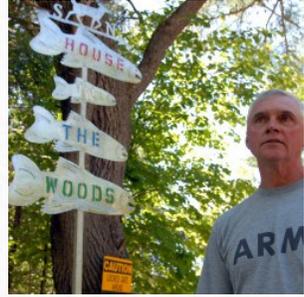
Self-medicating



Feeling Isolated



How We Help: Connecting Our Students to Campus & Community Resources



Student Veterans Organization



USM
Disability Services



USM
Health & Counseling



Student Groups

Veterans Student Organization and Student Veterans of America chapter



Post 9/11 Ceremony

Our Student Veterans Organization coordinated this years Post/911 Ceremony.



Dodgeball Tournament

The Student Veterans Organization held a Dodgeball Tournament as a fundraising event.



Fundraising

The Student Veterans of America chapter held a fundraiser to help cover conference fees.

Programming for Veterans and Dependents:

- Resource Fair with participants that include: Vocational Rehab (VR&E), Maine Career Services, Easter Seals of Maine, DAV...
- Resume Writing Workshop with representatives from USM's Career Services, Maine Career Center, VR&E
- LinkedIn Workshop
- Host community partners in the VRC including Adria Horn – Veterans Affairs, House in the Woods, Veterans Inc, Team Red, White & Blue, All the Way Home, The Summit Project...
- TedTalks



Green Zone Training:



USM Veterans Services offers a program called "USM's Green Zone: Staff & Faculty Military Awareness Training". This program was designed over the last 3 years with the input of our students and is aimed at helping staff & faculty become more familiar with military life and how it translates into the classroom. As service members transition into students, they face unique challenges and may need specific resources to assist them in their success at USM.

The training sessions are two hours and consist of a PowerPoint presentation & discussion scenarios, and are facilitated by student Veterans & Service members. Each participant will leave with a packet of materials that give a basic knowledge of campus & community resources for Vets and dependents, as well as a Green Zone decal for the office door to identify that office as military-friendly.