

Books for Veterans

The [Butte College Veterans Resource Center](#) (VRC) was officially opened on Tuesday, May 6. The VRC will serve all veterans attending Butte College, including veterans who served (and continue to serve) in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF Iraq) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF Afghanistan).

Current statistics show that more than 21,000 veterans reside in Butte and Glenn counties (with military service from 1930 forward). More than 180 veterans (and their dependants) are currently enrolled in Butte College courses. The most conservative estimates suggest that the number of veterans expected to separate from military service and enroll in California's community colleges will increase by 20% within the next eighteen months.

Although most veterans are eligible for GI Bill benefits, many times those benefits are delayed until well after the start of a semester (through no fault of the veteran). Experiencing delays in benefits, veterans are often unable to purchase textbooks and basic school supplies until weeks after the semester has started. As a consequence, from the first day of class the veteran is often behind in reading assignments, frustrated with the "VA system", and discouraged in the pursuit of a post secondary education. With your generous support, however, a problem can be converted to an opportunity.

For a \$5.00 donation ([a larger donation, of course, would never be refused](#)) you can receive a beautiful 3" X 5" magnet suitable for framing or placement on any metallic surface – like an automobile. The brilliant blue magnet banner proclaims: "*I support Butte College's Books for Veterans*". I am confident that the magnets will become a collector's item and can be expected to fetch an astronomical quote on Antiques Roadshow or a small fortune on private auction at E-bay (maybe not in our lifetime, but they are that handsome!)

All donations will be deposited in the Butte College Foundation, Books for Veterans account. Donations are tax deductible (minus the \$1.25 cost of the magnet).

Politics aside, this is a grassroots effort that will directly benefit students enrolled in Butte College courses who also happen to be veterans of the United States military. Donations can be accepted in three campus offices:

1. **Veterans Resource Center:** Monday-Friday, 8 to 5:00 p.m. Located next to DSPS in Quad 2.
2. The **Veterans Office:** Monday-Friday, 8 to 5:00 p.m. Located adjacent to DSPS in Quad 1.
3. **Disabled Student Programs & Services (DSPS):** Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Located in Quad 2.

Your donation can be made in cash or, if preferred, by check made out to [Butte College Foundation/Books for Veterans](#).

With your generous support, [Books for Veterans](#) can help our students, our veterans, transition from conflict to the classroom with the least amount of delay. In advance, thank you for supporting this project.

If you have a question regard this effort, please call Rich Dunn, DSPS, (530) 895-2455.