Pathway #1 – **Undergraduate** Veteran Success Pathway

Our goal is to empower veteran students to succeed throughout their academic journey and to be well prepared to thrive after graduation. This resource is designed to support your transition to the university by highlighting events, programs, services, and key considerations that can help you make the most of your collegiate experience academically, professionally, and personally.

	Transition & Support	Resources & Benefits	Connection & Community	Academic Success	Career Design
Empower (Early State)	❑ Complete your Empower & Thrive check-in call with a CVSC Staff Member during your first semester. ❑ Visit the CVSC (either in person or through virtual drop-in hours), meet the staff, and learn how to utilize the services they offer. ❑ Consider joining the Empower & Thrive Peer Mentoring Program as a mentee to be paired with a peer mentor for additional support within your first two semesters at UF. ❑ Create a Veteran Tactical Plan (VTP) during your first semester to identify how your values, interests, and experience will help with reaching your goals (with the support of your Empower & Thrive Peer Mentor). ❑ Explore what your local community has to offer with the support of UF's Off Campus Life office. ❑ Explore what Gainesville and the local community have to offer with the support of UF's Off Campus Life office and this year's Gator Guide.	❑ Send the first page of your ***Certificate of Eligibility (COE)*** to military-benefits@ufl.edu (UF's School Certifying Official) as soon as possible once you've been approved to utilize education benefits by the VA. ❑ Attend either of the CVSC's "Campus Navigation" or "Community & Connection" presentations to get a baseline of what resources are available to you as a UF student. ❑ Review the VA educational benefits you're entitled to and make an affordability plan for after you have utilized them all. ❑ Within 120 days of the next semester, complete your Term Certification through UF's Office of Veteran Services (the school certifying officials).	❑ Complete UF's Student Engagement Involvement Quiz and explore ways to get involved by going to a Student Organization Fair, or by scheduling an involvement consultation with the Office of Student Engagement. ❑ Identify and build relationships with your professors, mentors, and staff. Discuss personal and professional goals and establish mutual expectations. They may author potential letters of recommendation in the future. ❑ Identify and engage in at least one meaningful experience each semester, such as: ➢ Student Actives and Involvement through GatorConnect. ➢ Leadership & Volunteerism opportunities through Gators for Good ➢ Service-Learning opportunities through Brown's Center for Leadership, the Bob Graham Center for Public Service, and the Student Engagement Office ➢ Experiential Learning through the C3's Experiential Learning Dashboard ➢ Research Opportunities through the Center of Undergraduate Research's "Find Research" Database ➢ Internships, Co-Ops, and Work Based Learning Experiences through the C3 or in your local community ➢ If eligible, obtaining a VA Federal Work Study position at an approved worksite. ❑ Join the UF Veterans & Military-Connected Student Association (VMCSA) and attend at least one general body meeting before you graduate.	❑ Meet with your Academic Advisor, Undergraduate Coordinate or Program Coordinator PI) once a semester to ensure you are on target, build your schedule around your interests and goals, and grow your professional community. ❑ Attend at least one (1) office hours with your TA or your Professor for each class, each semester for proactive academic support or to develop your rapport. ❑ Attend a "Time on Target: Building Healthy Routines" Workshop with the CVSC & GatorWell. ❑ Proactively engage in tutor/academic enrichment opportunities through free or paid services. ➢ Tutorial Assistance through the VA Education Benefits ➢ Office Hours with Professors & TAs ➢ CLAS Tutor Hub ▪ Tutoring ▪ Supplemental Instruction ▪ Language Studio ▪ Standardized Test Prep ▪ Resources & Workshops ▪ Video Resources ❑ Schedule a meeting with the Writing Studio to hone your writing skills. ❑ Review your Disability Rating and consider if you would benefit from additional classroom accessibility & assistance from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) for either in-class or out of class support.	❑ Meet with a Career Connections Coach during your first semester to discuss your Career Pathway & begin graduate school/career planning. ❑ Explore "What Can I Do with This Major" to learn about employers in your field of study. ❑ Create an account on the Career Connection Center (C3) Career Hub, engage in Self-Guided Career Planning, and meet with C3 to retool your resume and LinkedIn profile to reflect your professional goals. Build your network by making at least 10 connections ❑ Attend at least one (1) co-sponsored CVSC & C3 workshop over Translating your [Military] Experience workshop at least once during the academic year. ❑ Conduct informational interviews or shadow someone in your professional field of interest. ❑ Attend at least one (1) campus career fair during your first year at UF, being sure to check with your college/department in for department specific fairs.

Practice (Middle Stage)	❑ Update your Veteran Tactical Plan (VTP) every year to align with your identified values, interests, and short/long term goals	❑ Within 120 days of the next semester, complete your Term Certification through UF's Office of Veteran Services (the school certifying officials).		❑ Conduct a degree audit through One.UF to see how far along in your degree plan you are and what additional requirements you have prior to graduation. ❑ If you are considering to purse a certificate program, meet with your academic advisor to understand how it would impact your graduation timeline. ❑ Talk to your instructors about your research interests, electives, and strategies for success in your classes.	❑ Have a personal statement or cover letter reviewed by the C3 at least once during the academic year, and consider applying to a micro-internship. ❑ Upload your resume to Quinncia for review at least once (1) during the academic year and update it accordingly. ❑ Pursue a digital badge/certification to highlight the knowledge, skills, and experience employers and/or graduate schools value. ❑ Ask a faculty or staff member to be your academic and professional mentor to provide guidance, support, and future letters of recommendation. ❑ Identify professional associations within your field of interest and see what opportunities they have to get involved as a student (list serves, events/workshops, open meeting, etc.) ❑ Visit the Dial Center for Speech and Communication Studies Public Speaking lab to develop communication skills necessary to share ideas and information with those in and outside of your discipline. ❑ Attend an internship/career fair or graduate school fair for your career area of interest.
Thrive (Late Stage)	❑ Update & revise your Veteran Tactical Plan (VTP) the fall before you graduate to align with your identified values, interests, and post-graduation goals. ❑ Consider joining the Empower & Thrive Peer Mentoring Program as a mentor to support incoming veteran students within their first two semesters at UF. ❑ By your second-to-last semester, considering how your career opportunities may influence potential living arrangements with UF's Off-Campus Life office for assistance.	❑ Review the VA educational benefits you're entitled to and make an affordability plan for after you have utilized them all. ❑ If you're planning to pursue graduate/professional schooling and you still have educational benefits available, reach out to your future schools/programs to learn how to active/utilize your benefits at their institution. ❑ Explore community resources and programs for Veteran & military-connected individuals in the area in which you intend to live in post-graduation.	❑ Attend professional association conferences that offer student rates or scholarships. ❑ Serve in a meaningful leadership role through UF or in your local community. ❑ Participate in one CVSC Focus Group for developing veteran & military-specific programs in line with your goals and interests as a student. ❑ Consider joining the UF Military Alumni Association to stay connected with your fellow Gator Veterans post-graduation.	❑ The semester before your anticipated graduation, meet with your Academic Advisor to ensure all graduation requirements will be met. ❑ Apply for graduation by your programs listed deadline.	❑ Review your CV/resume with the C3, Graduate school, mentors and colleagues and create an ePortfolio. ❑ Connect with UF [Military] Alumni on the GatorNetwork or LinkedIn for industry contacts, and meaningful professional relationships. ❑ Attend as many internship/career fairs for your career area of interest as you can. ❑ Identify prospective employers and create a job or doctoral programs/application strategy at least 8 months before graduation. ❑ Prepare for graduation by planning to complete licensing exams, applications, and self-marketing activities. ❑ Analyze the C3's Labor Market Data, O*Net's MyNextMove for Vets, and MIT's Cost of Living Calculator to begin forming a financial plan post-graduation.