

Sioux County

Welcome Package



Community Single Point of Contact – The Chamber of Commerce representative contact information for Hull, Rock Valley, Orange City and Sioux Center will be listed on the Sioux County Home Base Iowa Page to be the contact person for the veteran. The Chamber representative will then arrange for the veteran to receive their welcome package incentives. There will also be a link to each Chamber website for additional community information.

Welcome Basket – Each veteran that visits Sioux County will receive a welcome basket from the respective Community that they visit.

Community Tour – The respective Chamber of Commerce for the community / communities visited will arrange for a community tour and facilitate arranging meetings with various service providers in their community.

Hotel Incentive – The following hotel incentives will be made available for each veteran visiting the respective Sioux County Community. Please contact the respective Community Chamber of Commerce to arrange for lodging and taking advantage of the incentive.

- Orange City – Orange City Chamber of Commerce will pay for a hotel room for any veteran visiting an Orange City employer for potential employment (Hampton Inn or Super 8 subject to availability).
- Sioux Center – Contact the Chamber to make the reservation and to receive the discount. Econolodge - \$49/night plus tax, subject to availability. Holiday Inn Express \$79.99 / night plus tax, subject to availability.
- Rock Valley – Contact the Chamber to make the reservation and to receive the discount. Knights Inn will offer 20% off for a one night stay for a veteran.

Closing Cost Incentive

- American State Bank – Waive \$500 origination fee for a residential real estate loan for a veteran.
- People's Bank - \$500 off closing costs of a new home mortgage. \$10 deposited into any new checking or savings account. These are available to any veteran who relocates to Sioux County. NMLS #433180
- Northwest Bank - \$500 reduction of closing costs on the purchase of a home.
- Iowa State Bank - \$500 off closing costs for a new home mortgage.

Telecommunication Incentive – Premier Communications will offer free installation for any residential services to any veteran relocating to Sioux County.

Housing Incentive

- Rock Valley - \$5,000 interest free loan for new home construction. \$3,000 grant for new home construction.
- Sioux Center - \$2,000 rebate for homes purchased in the County View Development.
- Orange City Iowa – 2 year tax abatement for new construction.

Sioux County Veterans Affairs Office – Sioux County has a full time veteran's affairs office in the Sioux County Courthouse to assist veterans. Sioux County is located less than 70 miles from the Sioux Falls VA Hospital.



Northwest Iowa Community College (NCC) is a Home Base Iowa designated college committed to meeting the needs of Veterans and their families through ongoing support and assistance. The **Home Base Iowa Certified Higher Academic Military Partner Program** ensures Iowa is an attractive place for transitioning military members who choose to pursue education first or in addition to private sector employment. Together, each component of Home Base Iowa is one element of a comprehensive effort to make Iowa the smart and strategic choice for service members as they transition to civilian life.

Incentives include, but are not limited to:

- Veteran services expert on campus with individualized assistance in developing an educational plan
- Consistent credit honored for all established military training and schools
- Automatic in-state tuition for former active-duty service members National Guard and Reserve members and spouses and children domiciled in Iowa—regardless of residency requirements
- Personalized advising from financial aid counselors with deferred billing options to ensure timing of benefits does not hinder success
- Veteran Services Support Group including staff who are veterans or who come from military (NCC has 45 self-identified veterans or family members of veterans on staff.)
- Veteran new student orientation activities
- Dedicated Veteran center/study space (fully accessible)
- Veteran students may be considered preferentially for entrance into programs
- Lifelong Learning & Recreation Center (LLRC) student membership

Veterans are able to apply for many established scholarships. NCC also offers two specific scholarships dedicated to transitioning service members and/or their dependents:

The first is the Wolff, Whorley, De Hoogh, and Schreurs PLLC Scholarship, recognizing the sacrifices of our Armed Forces, which awards \$1,000 annually to a full-time student. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a veteran or retiree of the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, or U.S. Coast Guard.
- Have completed active duty with an honorable discharge.
- Or be an active member of the reserves from any branch of the armed services listed above.
- Or be an active member of a state National Guard unit.
- Maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) while attending NCC.
- Submit a short narrative summarizing your military experience.

The second scholarship is the American Legion of Iowa Foundation Scholarship which awards two \$1,000 scholarships to students who have served in the military and are eligible for educational benefits from the Veterans Administration. Applicants must meet the following criteria to receive the scholarship:

- Must have a “verifiable veteran” status.
- Must be a full-time or part-time student.
- Must have a 2.0 cumulative G.P.A. from high school or college.

Northwest Iowa Community College veterans representative: Beth Sibenaller-Woodall, beths@nwicc.edu – 712-324-5066 x141.