

Governor: Veterans Deserve In-State Tuition Rate At Community Colleges

By

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RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - Veterans who attend one of North Carolina's 58 community colleges will pay the in-state tuition rate if Gov. Pat McCrory has his way. On Thursday, the governor told the inaugural Women Veterans Summit and Expo that the budget he will present to the General Assembly will include the provision.

"More than 60,000 service men and women are expected to separate from the armed services in North Carolina during next five years as the war in Afghanistan winds down," the governor said. "Make no mistake, we want more veterans to make North Carolina their home. We want their skills to help build our economy and their leadership to strengthen our communities and state. In-state community college tuition is designed to help them start their civilian careers in North Carolina." At the event, the governor signed a proclamation declaring April 17, 2014, Women Veterans Day in North Carolina.

He also signed an executive order authorizing the creation of the Governor's Working Group on Veterans Service Members and their Families. The working group will be led by the governor's military advisor, Cornell Wilson and Ilario Pantano, director of North Carolina Veterans Affairs.

Additionally, the governor handed out new "Veteran" designated driver's licenses, a new program started by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.