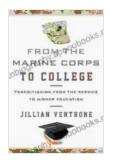
# **Unlock Your Career Potential: Transitioning From the Service to Higher Education**

For those who have served their country, pursuing higher education can be a natural and rewarding next step. The transition from military service to higher education can be a transformative experience, opening up new career possibilities and personal growth opportunities.

This comprehensive article will provide veterans and transitioning service members with all the information they need to navigate the transition to higher education, from applying to college to succeeding in the classroom. We'll cover:



### From the Marine Corps to College: Transitioning from the Service to Higher Education by Jillian Ventrone



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- Why Higher Education is a Great Fit for Veterans
- Choosing the Right School and Program
- Applying to College

- Financing Your Education
- Making the Most of Your Time in College

#### Why Higher Education is a Great Fit for Veterans

There are many reasons why higher education is a great choice for veterans:

- Skills and Knowledge: Higher education provides veterans with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in a wide range of civilian careers.
- Career Advancement: A college degree can help veterans advance their careers and move into higher-paying positions.
- Personal Growth: Higher education is a great opportunity for veterans to learn new things, meet new people, and grow both personally and professionally.

#### **Choosing the Right School and Program**

Choosing the right school and program is an important step in the transition to higher education. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Mission and Values: Make sure the school's mission and values align with your own.
- Academic Programs: Choose a school that offers the academic programs you're interested in.
- Location and Size: Consider the location and size of the school. Do you want to attend a large university or a small college? Do you want to stay close to home or move to a new city?

 Cost: Make sure you understand the cost of attending the school and explore financial aid options.

#### **Applying to College**

Once you've chosen a school and program, it's time to apply. The application process can vary from school to school, but there are some general steps that all veterans should follow:

- Gather Your Documents: You'll need to gather your official transcripts, military records, and any other required documents.
- Complete the Application: Most schools require veterans to complete an application form.
- Write a Personal Statement: The personal statement is your opportunity to tell the admissions committee about yourself, your goals, and why you want to attend the school.
- Submit Your Application: Once you've completed the application, submit it to the school.

#### **Financing Your Education**

Financing your education is an important part of the planning process. There are a number of financial aid options available for veterans, including:

- The GI Bill: The GI Bill provides financial assistance for veterans who want to pursue higher education.
- Veterans Affairs Educational Assistance Programs: The VA offers a number of educational assistance programs for veterans, including the

Post-9/11 GI Bill and the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Program.

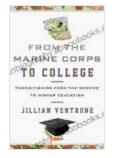
 Scholarships and Grants: There are a number of scholarships and grants available for veterans.

#### **Making the Most of Your Time in College**

Once you've enrolled in college, it's important to make the most of your time. Here are a few tips:

- Get Involved: Get involved in campus activities, join a club or organization, and meet new people.
- Seek Support: Don't be afraid to seek support from your professors, classmates, and the school's counseling center.
- Use Your Resources: Take advantage of the school's resources, such as the library, tutoring center, and career counseling center.
- Set Goals: Set academic and career goals for yourself and work towards them.

Transitioning from military service to higher education can be a challenging but rewarding experience. By following the tips in this article, veterans can increase their chances of success in college and beyond.

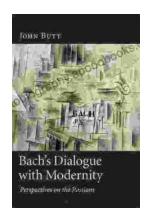


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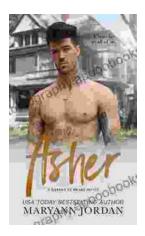
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