#### **SCO STEM Discussion Script**

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**STEM Scholarship Overview**

Will this be on the main VA website? Yes

When we have students inquiring about the application status, where do we send them?

We do have a lot of STEM students who are exhausting their benefits and we have them running out of time. They use them up at Community Colleges, they use them up while they’re active duty. Also, a lot of STEM courses follow a specific flow and they can’t get into the right wave.

When it says “nearing exhaustion date”, what does “nearing” mean? (Has to be within 180 days.)

During the application process, would they have to indicate which major that they’re currently in?

Probably want to define what a post-secondary degree is: first bachelor’s degree, master’s degree – be very specific about it. This is what we’d have to define.

Also include the definition of STEM. Include what can be certified under the new scholarship. Does Economics fit? Is there going to be a clear indicator of what is included. They would have to apply and be denied.

?? Do we include a list of what is NOT included? Do we include language that says “if it’s not on this list, it’s not going to be approved.”?

What is the turnaround time for this award?

**Draft STEM Application Form**

In the Important Information: **Also put in there about “Fry Scholarship Recipients” as well.**

“Fiscal Year” – everyone will have questions about this as it’s in the middle of a semester for most traditional schools. As SCO’s, we would tell them they have to apply for both since it looks like it would run out mid-year.

Is the CIP Code what is recognized by DOE or are those VA specific codes? It would make like a lot easier if they were DOE codes.

>> Where is the list of all approved STEM programs that is listed in the draft STEM application.

Assuming this document would be a fillable PDF.

VA will want to define what a Veteran is. Q9 – would be helpful to know what VA deems a Veteran for this scholarship. Also Q9 wouldn’t apply for Fry so it would be good not to ask them.

Q10. Would be good to allow them to check their benefits because a lot of them won’t know. A lot of people will leave this blank if you don’t hand-hold here. Would be good to either have a link to Check Your Benefits or tell them how.

Part II:

There will be a lot of confusion around the Teaching Certificate question. A lot of students won’t understand if their teaching certificate will be covered.

Have you talked with School Registrar’s Office… Registrar and Financial Aid deal with CIP codes and will have a better idea of what needs to happen here.

Will Students have to provide a document confirming the information they’ve listed? Not yet.

For the section that needs to be filled out by the SCO, depending on the info they need the SCO might not be the right role to help with this effort.