

## **Principles of Excellence for Educational Institutions Serving Service Members, Veterans, Spouses, and Other Family Members**

On April 27, 2012, the White House issued EO 13607, which created the Principles of Excellence for Educational Institutions Serving Service Members, Veterans, Spouses, and Other Family Members. The principles apply to all postsecondary schools that receive funding from federal military and veteran's educational benefits programs. They strengthen consumer protections for students who receive these benefits and provide access to information to help them make informed choices about their college education. Adoption of the principles is voluntary but encouraged.

The principles describe requirements in the following key areas:

- (1) providing a standardized cost form
- (2) providing federal aid information
- (3) aggressive and fraudulent recruiting
- (4) state authorization
- (5) misrepresentation
- (6) incentive compensation
- (7) accreditation
- (8) readmission
- (9) refunds
- (10) individual education plans
- (11) academic and financial counseling points of contact

GSC complies with these principles through their participation in the Title IV programs (for example, the refund requirement). One principle requires institutions to provide affected students with a personalized and standardized form describing the students' educational costs and how those may be covered by financial aid. The Financial Aid Shopping Sheet, released by the Department in July 2012, helps institutions satisfy that principle. This sheet is found on the GSC website from Self-Service, click on the Financial tab and click on the link GSC NetPartner.