

Cuyahoga Community College Student Veteran of the Year 2019



Andrew Mahall – U.S.Navy

Andrew Mahall served in the U. S. Navy from 2012 to 2016. During his time in service, Andrew deployed to the Arabian Gulf and Kuwait. He was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal on July 10, 2016 for managing 30 sailors and conducting a number of missions during an eight-month period in which there were no mishaps or casualties. The award notes “Petty Officer Mahall’s exceptional professionalism, unrelenting perseverance, and loyal devotion to duty.” In addition, he received the Navy Good Conduct Medal in 2015 for three years of good service and professionalism.

Within two months of discharging from the Navy at the end of his term of service, Andrew connected with Veterans Upward Bound at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) and began preparing for his post-secondary education. He completed a refresher course in math to prepare for the college placement test and met the academic goals he set out to achieve.

Enrolling as a full-time student in Spring 2017, he worked to maintain Dean’s List status and participated in honors-level courses at Tri-C. In May 2018, he delivered an address to the Veterans Upward Bound / Veterans Education Access Program community at the annual pinning ceremony as Student Speaker. The program asked him to speak because of the sincere determination he demonstrated in his academic pursuits.

After completing two associates’ degrees at Tri-C, Mahall took a summer internship to bridge his transfer to Case Western Reserve University, where he is currently enrolled and working to complete a bachelor’s degree.

In addition to attending school full time, Andrew participates in a rugby club and volunteers at area shelters, which he has done with his family for more than eighteen years. He also maintains two part-time jobs and participates in long-distance runs.

Andrew Mahall exemplifies the positive transition we hope all student veterans can make at Cuyahoga Community College by utilizing his military training and skills to make positive contributions to society and promote excellence in his endeavors.

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