

GI BILL PROGRAMS

Ron Scoggins
Lead Education Liaison
Representative
Florida Outreach Office
Atlanta RPO

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Florida



Montgomery GI – Active Duty MGIB-AD Chapter 30

- First entered active duty after 6/30/85 or entered active duty before 1/1/77 & remained on active duty until sometime after 7/1/85.
- Did not decline the MGIB or accepted it during an open season.
- Had military pay reduced by \$1,200.
- Entitlement is generally 36 months of full time benefits payments.
- Delimiting date is 10 years after last release from active duty.

MGIB – Active Duty Chapter 30

- Programs include college degrees, non-degree technical programs, flight training, correspondence courses, OJT & apprenticeship, licensing & certification tests, and national exams.
- Limited ability (Army only) to transfer entitlement to dependents after extending their enlistment for a longer period.
- Claimants apply with VA Form 22-1990 and thereafter VA Form 22-1995 for subsequent programs.

Vocational Rehabilitation Chapter 31

- Veteran must have service connected disability which causes an employment handicap.
- Must be counseled by VA counselors & placed by them in a program which is deemed by VA to be suitable for his/her aptitude, needs, and abilities.
- Pays a monthly stipend to veteran and directly reimburses the school for tuition, fees, books and supplies.
- Effective 8/1/11 those veterans who are also eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill may elect to receive the housing allowance otherwise payable under that program in lieu of the chapter 31 monthly stipend.
- Entitlement is generally a maximum of 50 months, but can be extended with prior approval.
- Veterans usually must apply within 12 years of discharge from active duty.

Vocational Rehabilitation Chapter 31

- Veterans apply with VA Form 28-1900
- Schools certify enrollments with VA Form 28-1905 which is supplied by Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment personnel.
- All courses, programs, etc., approved through and contacts through each veteran's individual counselor.

Veterans Educational Assistance Program – VEAP Chapter 32

- First entered active duty between 1/1/77 and 6/30/85.
- Contributory program – VA contributes \$2 for each \$1 contributed by service member.
- Monthly rate determined by amount contributed.
- Maximum entitlement is 36 months
- Delimiting date 10 years after discharge from active duty.
- Most Chapter 32 participants have converted to Chapter 30.

Dependents' Educational Assistance Program – DEA Chapter 35

- Child, spouse, surviving spouse of veteran who died in line of duty on active duty, is totally and **permanently** service-connected disabled, died of service-connected cause, or died while totally and **permanently** service-connected disabled.
- Entitlement is 45 months of full time payments.
- Delimiting date is 10 years from date of eligibility for spouses, 20 years from date of rating or date of marriage (whichever is later) for spouses of a veteran who is rated totally and permanently disabled within three years of discharge from active duty (effective with ratings from 10/1/08), 20 years from date of eligibility for surviving spouses, and 8 years from date of eligibility for children.

Dependents' Educational Assistance Program – DEA Chapter 35

- Programs include college degrees, non-degree certificate programs, OJT & apprenticeship, and (for spouses/surviving spouses only) correspondence courses. Flight training is **not** included for either spouses/surviving spouses or children.
- Initial application is with VA Form 22-5490 and for subsequent programs VA Form 22-5495.

Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve MGIB – SR Chapter 1606

- Reservist who signed up for six years in selected reserves after 6/30/85.
- Entitlement is 36 months of full-time benefits.
- Delimiting date is the day they leave the selected reserves.
- Delimiting date can be extended by the amount of time served on active duty in a contingency operation plus four months, even beyond the date they leave the reserves.
- Effective 01/28/08, members who are involuntary separated from the selected reserve due to deactivation of a unit between 10/31/07 and 9/30/14 will have a delimiting date that is 14 years from date of separation.

**Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve
MGIB – SR Chapter 1606**

- Programs that may be pursued are same as Chapter 30.
- Applications and subsequent programs are with same forms as Chapter 30

**Chapter 1607
Reserve Educational Assistance
Program (REAP)**

- Reservists called to active duty on or after 9/11/01 under Title 10 for contingency operations for at least 90 consecutive days or more. National Guard eligible if called under Section 502(f), Title 32 USC and serve same period.
- Entitlement is 36 months of full time benefits.
- Pays percentage of MGIB based on length of active duty service. Same programs as MGIB.

Chapter 1607

- No delimiting date as long as member continues to participate in reserves. A member who serves their complete contract after recall to active duty in the Selected Reserve will receive a 10 year Delimit Date upon discharge from the Selected Reserve. This provision is retroactive to 09/11/01.
- Members who leave their reserve/Guard component prior to completing their obligation lose all chapter 1607 entitlement.
- Programs approved are same as Chapter 30.
- Application is with VA Form 22-1990 annotated at top of form in big block letters, **Chapter 1607.**


Where To Send Forms

- All applications, changes, enrollment forms, changes in enrollment, etc., for schools in Florida (except chapter 31) are sent to the Atlanta Regional Processing Office in Decatur, Georgia.
- Chapter 31 forms are sent to the individual's counselor or to the VA Regional Office in St. Petersburg, Florida. Exception – forms for individuals pursuing training in the Florida panhandle (all west of the Apalachicola River) go to the VA Regional Office in Montgomery, Alabama.

QUESTIONS?






 **Overview**

Topics to be covered:

- Program Overview
- Eligibility & Entitlement
- Approved Programs
- Payments
- Application Process
- Questions


VRAP v 1.0 (20120427)

 **Overview**

On November 21, 2011, President Obama signed Public Law 112-56, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, which includes the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) for unemployed Veterans.

The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) and the Department of Labor (DoL) will collaborate to implement the program.

VRAP v 1.0 (20120427)




Overview of DoL Eligibility

The Department of Labor (DoL) will make the initial determination of eligibility for VRAP. In order to be eligible, a Veteran:

- Must be at least 35, but no more than 60 years of age as of the date of application;
- Must be unemployed **as of the date of application**;
- Must not have been enrolled in a Federal or State job training program at any time during the 180 days prior to the application date; and
- Must submit an application no later than October 1, 2013.


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Overview DoL Eligibility

- Applicants who meet all of the DoL requirements will continue to the VA portion of the VA Online Application (VONAPP).
- Applicants who **DO NOT** meet the DoL requirements will be notified by DoL of their ineligibility and appellate rights. Disallowed applications will not be forwarded to VA.


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Overview DoL Eligibility


- VA will make further eligibility determinations and issue payments.
- Upon completion or termination of VRAP, participants will be contacted by DoL to provide additional employment assistance.

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VA Eligibility & Entitlement Determinations

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Overview of VA Eligibility

To establish eligibility for VRAP, Veterans:

- Must have a character of service other than dishonorable for the final discharge;
- Must not be eligible to receive assistance under chapters 30, 31, 32, 35, 1606, 1607 and Post-911 GI Bill (including ToE and FRY) **at the time of application for VRAP**; and
- Must not be in receipt of compensation for a service-connected disability due to unemployability.

Note: Eligibility for all Veterans under VRAP will terminate April 1, 2014 (no pay date).

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Entitlement


- Veterans are entitled to a maximum of 12 months of VRAP. However, the 48 month rule applies so the original entitlement may be less than 12 months.
- Individuals will be charged one day of entitlement for each day of training pursued.
- Entitlement will end effective the earlier of:
 - The program completion date
 - The entitlement exhaust date
 - The VRAP program end date of April 1, 2014

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Approved Programs

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Approved Programs

Effective July 1, 2012, eligible Veterans may pursue a program of training that:

- Is approved for VA benefits;
- Is pursued on a **full-time** basis;
- Is offered by a community college or technical school (see later slide for definitions);
- Leads to an associate degree or certificate; and
- Provides training for high-demand occupations as defined by DoL
- A list of occupations can be found online at www.benefits.va.gov/VOWJ.

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Approved Programs

Change of program


- Individuals eligible for VRAP will not be permitted to change their program **once a payment has been issued.**
- Natural Progression is not allowed under VRAP, but if a student goes from one program to another and full credit is given for the first program, then a change of program is deemed not to have occurred and we can pay for the second program, assuming the student still has VRAP entitlement remaining.

Reductions

- Individuals who reduce their training below full-time will no longer be eligible to receive assistance under VRAP.
- Benefits will be terminated on the date of reduction.

Note: VA will re-establish benefits if an individual increases his/her training time back to full-time.

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Approved Programs

Terminations
 VA will terminate VRAP payments the earlier of the training discontinuance date (including completion or Graduation), or the VRAP no pay date of April 1, 2014.

Unsatisfactory Attendance, Conduct, or Progress
 Veterans will be terminated the earlier of:

- The date the institution terminates enrollment; or
- The date the Veteran's progress became unsatisfactory


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Certification

- Enrollments and amendments must be submitted **electronically** through VA-ONCE. Term, quarter, or semester enrollments may be certified for the ordinary school year plus the summer term; or for the entire length of the course if the institution operates year-round.
- Institutions must **electronically** certify enrollments before individuals may receive payment.

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Certification


Community colleges and technical schools can be identified by the 2nd position of the Facility Code, which must be a "4" or "5". Because many Florida community colleges have added baccalaureate degrees and have become state colleges with a facility code second digit of "1", claims examiners take the extra step in such cases to review DOE's College Navigator Website (see link below) for the list of two-year institutions. If your school is listed there, it qualifies for VRAP.

<http://uces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

VA will make payment to the Veteran only after:


- VA verifies that the program leads to an approved associate degree or certificate at a community college or technical school;
- The institution certifies full-time enrollment; and
- The individual verifies his/her monthly attendance through WAVE or IVR.

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Payments

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Payments

VRAP participants will receive a monthly amount equal to the MGIB (ch30) 3 year full-time rate. The rate is subject to the annual COLA increase.

- Benefits are paid directly to the Veteran.
- Veterans will be responsible for all expenses including tuition, fees, and books.

NOTE: VA will not make any payments after March 31, 2014.

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Non-Payment

Non-duplication
Veterans who are receiving VRAP benefits and subsequently become eligible for another education program (e.g. ch30, 31, 32, 33, 35, etc.) may not receive benefits concurrently.


Incarcerated Veterans
Veterans who are incarcerated due to a felony conviction are not eligible for benefits under VRAP.

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Application Process

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Application Process

Step 1:
Veterans interested in VRAP should visit www.benefits.va.gov/VOW for additional information and/or access to VONAPP.

Step 2:
Veterans should select the VRAP application (22-1990V) from the available options.

Step 3:
Veterans will complete the initial questions (name, date of birth, etc) for DoL to determine their eligibility.


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Application Process

Step 4:
If the Veteran is **not eligible** based on DoL's initial questions, a denial letter will be generated (with the option to print) that includes appellate rights, and instructions. The process will terminate.

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Application Process

Step 5:

If the Veteran is **eligible** based on DoL's initial questions, the Veteran will continue completion of the VONAPP application for submission to VA.

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QUESTIONS ??

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The Post-9/11 GI Bill

(PUBLIC LAWS 110-252 & 111-377

Chapter 33 of Title 38 U.S.C.)



Ron Scoggins

Lead Education Liaison Representative

U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Florida Outreach Office

Atlanta Regional Processing Office

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Post-9/11 GI Bill Legislative History

- Approved under Title V of the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2008, Public Law 110-252 became law on June 30, 2008.
- Originally proposed by Virginia Senator Jim Webb who introduced the original form of the bill in January 2007.
- The concept was to provide a college education to veterans pursuing an undergraduate degree as an in state student at a public college or university at no cost to the student.
- Other names under which this program is known are Post-9/11 GI Bill, 21st Century GI Bill of Rights or the Webb GI Bill.
- Amended on January 5, 2011 by PL 111-377

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Post-9/11 GI Bill Eligibility

An individual who served on Title 10 active duty after 09/10/01 or (effective 1/5/11 but not payable until 10/1/11) one who served in the National Guard under Title 32 for the purpose of organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training the National Guard; or under section 502(f) for the purpose of responding to a national emergency may be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill if the individual—

- Served for an aggregate period of at least 90 days.

Exception: An individual discharged due to a service-connected disability after serving at least 30 continuous days on active duty after 9/10/01, may also be eligible.

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Eligibility Criteria

- Be honorably discharged and placed on the retired list, temporary disability retired list, transferred to Fleet Reserve, or to Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; **or**
- Be discharged or released for:
 - Injury Existing Prior to Service (EPTS),
 - Hardship (HDSP), *or*
 - Condition Interfered with Service (CIWD).

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Period of Eligibility

Generally, individuals will remain eligible for benefits for 15 years from:

- Date of last discharge from active duty service of at least 90 continuous days.
 - Each new 90 days of service results in new “delimiting date”
- Individuals may receive up to 36 months of benefits

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Approved Programs

- All programs approved and offered at an institution of higher learning (IHL). IHLs are degree granting institutions. **Effective October 1, 2011, students may be paid for pursuit at NCD (non college degree) schools, flight schools, correspondence schools, and apprenticeship and other on-the-job training.**
- Prior to October 1, 2011, individuals who were previously eligible for chapter 30, 1606, or 1607 may continue to receive benefits for approved programs not offered by IHLs (flight, correspondence, apprenticeship/on-the-job training, preparatory courses, and national tests)
 - Individuals will be paid **AS IF** they are still receiving benefits under chapter 30, 1606, or 1607
 - No books and supplies stipend or housing allowance.

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Benefit Payments

- Tuition and Fees *Paid to the School*
- Monthly Housing Allowance *Paid to the Student*
- Books and Supplies Stipend *Paid to the Student*
- Kickers/College Fund *Paid to the Student*
(effective 8/1/11 kickers are paid on a monthly basis rather than in a lump sum at the beginning of the enrollment period)
- Yellow Ribbon Program *Paid to the School*
- Miscellaneous Payments



Chapter 33 Effective Date

August 1, 2009

Chapter 33 benefits can be paid for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009 at IHLs. No payments may be made for training pursued before that date.



Eligibility Criteria

| Service Requirements (after 9/10/01 an individual must serve an aggregate of) | Payment Tiers Percentage |
|--|-----------------------------|
| At least 36 months | 100 |
| At least 30 continuous days on active duty (Must be discharged due to service-connected disability) | 100 |
| At least 30 months, but less than 36 months | 90 |
| At least 24 months, but less than 30 months | 80 |
| *At least 18 months, but less than 24 months | 70 |
| *At least 12 months, but less than 18 months | 60 |
| *At least 06 months, but less than 12 months | 50 |
| *At least 90 days, but less than 06 months | 40 |

*Excludes time in Basic Military Training and/or Skill Training



Tuition and Fees

- For students at public tax supported schools, as of August 1, 2011 payments are limited to:

The net charges for tuition and fees * for an in-state student at a public school/college. Essentially this means we pay full net tuition and fees for all in-state public school students including associates degrees, through Medical Doctor & Juris Doctor, etc. **Schools certify only the in state portion of tuition and fees, even for non state resident students.**

Net charges **exclude** any waiver or reduction in tuition and fees and any scholarship, or other Federal, state, institutional, or employer-based aid or assistance (other than Title IV funds) that is provided directly to the institution and specifically designated for the sole purpose of defraying tuition and fees.

* **All references to fees in this presentation include only mandatory fees**

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Tuition and Fees

- For students at private schools, as of August 1, 2011 payments are limited to:

The net charges for tuition and fees up to \$17,500 per academic year (August 1 through July 31). Effective August 1, 2012 this increased to \$18,077.50 and on August 1, 2013 will increase to \$19,198.31.

Net charges exclude any waiver or reduction in tuition and mandatory fees and any scholarship, or other Federal, state, institutional, or employer-based aid or assistance (other than Title IV funds) that is provided directly to the institution and specifically designated for the sole purpose of defraying tuition and fees.

In practice, this means we will pay the full net cost of tuition and fees (as described above) until a total of \$18,077.50 has been paid. For those persons not eligible at the 100% level, we will still pay the appropriate percentage of all tuition and fees, and the yearly cap will be reduced by the benefit level of the veteran. For example, for a veteran eligible at the 90% level we will pay 90% of tuition and fees up to \$16,269.75 per academic year.

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Tuition and Fees

- Effective March 5, 2011 individuals **on active duty** will be subject to the same level of benefit restrictions as veterans and tuition and fees will be paid to schools in the same manner.
- Effective October 1, 2011 **active duty members** will be eligible to receive the book stipend.
- **Active duty members** will still **not** be eligible to receive the housing allowance (they still receive their housing allowance from the military).



Tuition and Fees

- An individual eligible for the 100% tier will have all tuition and fees* paid if he or she is—
 - Enrolled at a public institution and
 - Charged in-state tuition and fees.
 - An individual at one of the 40%-90% tiers, enrolled as above, will receive 40%-90% of the charged tuition and fees*
- *Assumes the individual has months of entitlement available for the enrollment period.*
- The same principle applies to enrollees at private schools, e.g., a student eligible at the 50% tier is limited to no more than \$9,038.75 per academic year (50% of \$18,077.50).

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Tuition and Fees

- The amount of tuition & fees certified to VA by the school must be reduced by the amount of any other payments made to the school for the sole purpose of paying for tuition and fees (except for Title IV funds).
Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - ROTC Scholarship payments (designated for tuition and fees)
 - Tuition Assistance from the Reserves & National Guard
 - MYCAA
 - Purple Heart Waiver
 - An employer scholarship paid to the school specifically for tuition and fees.

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Tuition and Fees

- Payments of tuition and fees to schools are made by EFT (preferred) or paper check*.
 - EFT payments made in batch payments under the ACH agreement.
 - A detailed ledger (including names, SSN's, and amount for each student) are transmitted to the bank at the time of the EFT. Banks must provide this ledger to the school upon the school's request.
 - Schools may initiate or change EFT information with our Education Outreach Office. We will provide the format.
 - Payments by paper check are not batched, but instead are made for each individual payment and include identifying information on the check.
- * It should be noted that in the near future the U.S. Treasury will eliminate payment by paper checks and all payments will be via EFT or debit cards.**

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Monthly Housing Allowance

Effective October 1, 2011

- Equivalent to the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for an E-5 with dependents.
- Amount determined by ZIP code of the IHL where the student is enrolled (Student does not have to live in same ZIP code) and by rate of pursuit rounded to the nearest tenth, e.g., a person pursuing 9 semester hours in the fall is pursuing at the rate of 75%. That rounds up and the individual is paid 80% of the otherwise payable rate. One to 4% is rounded down and 5 to 9% is rounded up.
- Also prorated based on the percentage of the individual's payment tier (i.e.: 40% to 100%).
- Active duty members and anyone training at 50% rate of pursuit or less are still **not** eligible for the monthly housing allowance.
- Persons pursuing exclusively through online training and who are pursuing at a rate higher than 50% are eligible to receive 50% of the nationwide average for the BAH, currently \$684. Effective August 1, 2013 this increases to \$714.50.
- Housing allowance paid directly to the student on a monthly basis at the end of the month.

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Monthly Housing Allowance

- Sample housing allowance rates per month (2012) – prorated for partial months of attendance:
 - Tallahassee \$1,164
 - Tampa-St. Petersburg \$1,500
 - Miami-Ft. Lauderdale \$1,863
 - Jacksonville \$1,257
 - Pensacola \$1,056
 - Gainesville \$1,185
 - Orlando \$1,329
 - Marianna \$1,002
 - Ft. Myers \$1,335
 - Melbourne \$1,260
 - Key West \$2,124

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Charge for Entitlement

- The amount of entitlement charged depends upon whether the student is attending a public IHL, or is attending a private school or stand alone NCD school (public or private)
- Students attending any IHL will be charged one month of entitlement for each month we pay the housing allowance at the 100% rate of pursuit. It is pro rated as appropriate for lesser rates of pursuit.
- Students attending any stand alone NCD school will be charged entitlement based upon the tuition and fees paid, e.g., for every \$18,077.50 paid for those at the 100% level of eligibility we will charge 12 months of entitlement, even if the student has actually attended school full or part time for far less than 12 months.

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Charge for Entitlement (examples)

- Student attending USF at the 100% rate of pursuit for 6 months and because he's a Florida resident we pay full tuition and fees. He has used 6 months of entitlement because we paid the full time housing allowance for 6 months.
- Same student at USF attending 60% rate of pursuit for 6 months and we've again paid full tuition and fees. He has used 3.6 months of entitlement because we paid 60% of his housing allowance for 6 months ($6 \times 60\% = 3.6$)
- Student attending Pinellas Technical Education Institute at the 100% rate of pursuit for 12 months and we pay a total of \$1,000 in tuition and fees. He has used 22 days of entitlement ($\$1,000$ divided by $\$18,077.50 = .06$ of one year $\times 12$ months = $.72$ of one month = 22 days).
- Student attending Alpha Computer Learning Center at the 100% rate of pursuit for 6 weeks and we pay a total of \$17,000 in tuition and fees. She has used 11.3 months of entitlement ($\$17,000$ divided by $\$18,077.50 = .94$ of a year $\times 12$ months = 11.3 months)

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Books and Supplies Stipend

- Up to \$1,000 per academic year
 - \$41.67 per credit hour for up to 24 credit hours in a single academic year
 - For clock hour programs, \$41.67 per 1.5 clock hours per week (classroom/theory predominating, 18 clock hours = full time) or per 1.8 clock hours per week (shop practice predominating, 22 clock hours = full time)
 - Lump sum payment (each quarter, semester or term attended) paid directly to the individual
- Prorated based on the percentage of the maximum benefit payable
- Active duty members were eligible for this stipend effective October 1, 2011

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Yellow Ribbon Program

- Only individuals entitled to the 100 percent benefit rate (based on service requirements) are eligible for this funding. Yellow Ribbon is **not** applicable to anyone on active duty nor is it applicable to any other GI Bill program.
- IHLs may voluntarily enter into an agreement with VA to fund tuition and fees costs that exceed the in-state tuition and fees at a public school or tuition and fees charged over and above \$18,077.50 at a private school. Funds used must be unrestricted and at the full discretion of the school for use, e.g., a donation or grant to the school to provide assistance to veterans may **not** be used for Yellow Ribbon.
- Yellow Ribbon may be used for both degree and non-degree programs at IHLs that offer both types of programs.

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Yellow Ribbon Program

- To participate in Yellow Ribbon a school must complete a Yellow Ribbon contract. You need not submit another contract unless you wish to modify or cancel the current contract.
- It will specify the total amount of money the school is willing to waive, how much per student, and specify if any divisions of the school will not participate.
- Examples of the latter include a College of Medicine, School of Economics, College of Law, etc.
- Individual programs within a major division of the school may not be exempted, e.g., BA in English, BS in Electrical Engineering, etc.

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Yellow Ribbon Program

- Under this program VA will match a school's waiver of the unreimbursed portion of tuition and fees, up to 50% of the unreimbursed portion.
- Example: At a public school in-state tuition is \$200 per credit. The student (out of state) is charged \$500 per credit and the pursues 12 credits = \$6,000. VA pays the school \$2,400 (12 X \$200/credit). Of the remaining unreimbursed tuition of \$3,600 the school waives \$1,800 and VA pays the school \$1,800 under Yellow Ribbon.
- If the school only waives \$1,000 in this case, then VA would pay only \$1,000 leaving the student to pay the remaining \$1,600.
- On the other hand if the school waived \$2,500, VA would only pay \$1,100 which represents all of the remaining uncovered expenses for tuition and fees.

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Miscellaneous Payments

- **Licensing and Certification Tests & National Exams Used for Admission to an IHL**
 - Effective August 1, 2011, eligible individuals may be reimbursed for **more than one** licensing or certification test & may be reimbursed for national exams such as SAT, ACT, GMAT, LSAT, etc.
 - Test must be approved for VA benefits
 - Test must be taken on or after August 1, 2009 (for national exams on or after August 1, 2011)
 - Reimbursement may not exceed \$2,000
 - Effective August 1, 2011, one month of entitlement is charged for each \$1,450 paid. Prior to that date there was no entitlement charge for any licensing or certification exam.

NOTE: Payment issued directly to the student in a lump sum

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Miscellaneous Payments

- Effective August 1, 2011, persons eligible for chapter 33 who are pursuing a program under chapter 31 (Vocational Rehabilitation) may choose to be paid the otherwise allowable chapter 33 housing allowance in lieu of the chapter 31 monthly subsistence allowance. This monthly housing allowance will be at the 100% level even if the veteran is eligible for chapter 33 at less than the 100% level.
- Effective August 1, 2011, payment for **any** breaks **between** any terms can no longer be made under **any GI Bill program**. Breaks within terms (like Spring Break) are still payable. An exception may be a break imposed by an Executive Order of the President or due to an emergency situation such as a natural disaster or a strike.

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Other Programs and Schools

Effective October 1, 2011

- Allows students to use chapter 33 for pursuit at stand alone **NCD** (non college degree/vocational-technical) schools on same basis as for IHLs.
- Allows students to use chapter 33 for pursuit of a program of flight training at a **flight school** to obtain a license or rating (but **not** a private pilots license). All approved costs for dual & solo flights, ground school, and pre/post are covered up to \$10,330 per academic year (effective 8/1/12). For every \$10,330 we pay, the student uses up one year of entitlement. Pro ratio rules also apply.
- Allows payments for pursuit of **apprenticeship & other on-the-job training** on a sliding scale according to the trainee's stage of training.
- Allows payments for pursuit of **correspondence courses** with all charges for lessons completed reimbursed up to \$8,780.50 per academic year. For every \$8,780.50 (effective August 1, 2012 we pay the student uses up one year of entitlement. Pro ratio rules also apply.

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Transfer of Entitlement

Department of Defense Benefit
Administered by VA



Transfer of Entitlement

- To be approved to transfer member must—
 - Be in Armed Forces (active duty or drilling reservist) on 8/1/09, *and*
 - Have completed 6 years in the Armed Forces, *and*
 - Agree to serve 4 more years
- DoD/DHS may prescribe rules to address situations when individuals cannot (by military rules or retirement) serve 4 more years after 8/1/09.
 - VA can't make these decisions
 - If DoD does offer transfer of benefits to this group of individuals, VA will post this information on the GI Bill website

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Transfer of Entitlement

- An individual approved to transfer may—
 - Transfer up to 36 months of benefits (unless DoD/DHS restricts number of months an individual may transfer).
 - Transfer to spouse, child, or children in any amount up to amount transferor has available or amount approved by DoD/DHS.
 - Revoke or modify a transfer request for any unused benefits unless the transferor's 15-year eligibility period is ended.
- Once the transferor is no longer a member of Armed Forces (s)he may **not** initiate a transfer to another dependent who was not previously designated for transfer; however (s)he may revoke or modify any existing transfer.

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Transfer of Entitlement

- TOE recipients who are the **children** of the transferor receive the same chapter 33 benefits as a veteran, i.e., housing allowance, books stipend, and tuition & fee payments to the school subject to the state maximum.
- TOE recipients who are the **spouse** of a **veteran** receive the same payments as the children.
- TOE recipients who are the **spouse** of an **active duty member** receive benefits at the same level as the active duty member **including (effective October 1, 2011) the books stipend.**

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Reporting Fees

- Every year each school is paid a reporting fee by VA.
- This fee is generally paid in February for the previous calendar year.
- It is based upon the total number of VA students that the school certified to VA at least once during the calendar year. Each veteran (no matter how many times certified during the year) is counted one time.
- Effective for the calendar year 2011 VA will pay each school \$12 per student (in prior years it was \$7 per student). Reporting fees are generally paid in February each year.
- The law also now **requires** that this reporting fee be used **only** for the purpose of certifying the enrollment of veterans. This also includes the costs associated with conferences hosted by VA and SAA to train school officials in how to certify VA students for GI Bill benefits. **It may not be used for any other purpose not related to the certification of veterans for GI Bill benefits.**



Repayment of Overpayments

- Generally speaking, schools refund tuition and fees directly to VA only if:
 - Student died during the term and would have been due a refund
 - Student terminated his/her enrollment before the first day of the term
 - School received payment for a person who is not a student at that school
 - School received a duplicate payment
 - School received an erroneous payment amount.

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Repayment of Overpayments

- To refund money to VA, schools will receive a letter from the Debt Management Center in St. Paul, Minnesota that will spell out exactly how to make the refund.

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Repayment of Overpayments

- If a veteran drops a class or terminates enrollment after attending even just one day of any class, schools must:
 - Notify VA of the change
 - Make normal refund of tuition and fees (if any) to the *student*
- VA will create an overpayment in the student's account and recoup it from future payments of the student's housing allowance.

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References

- GI Bill Website
 - www.gibill.va.gov
- GI Bill Call Center (VA staffed)
 - 1-888-GIBILL-1
- Yellow Ribbon Mailbox
 - yellow.ribbon@va.gov

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Questions?

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