



VA Educational Benefits 101

Presented by:

Tom Beasley

Mike Dommer

Iowa Department of Education

Veterans and Military Education Section



VA Educational Benefits

- Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill
- Chapter 31 – Disabled Veterans
- Chapter 32 - Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)
- Chapter 33 – Post 9/11
- Chapter 34 – Old Montgomery GI Bill
- Chapter 35 – Survivors and Dependents Assistance (DEA)
- Chapter 1606 – Reserves
- Chapter 1607 – Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)



Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill

- Veteran paid \$1200 during first 12 months of enlistment.
- Veteran has 36 months of eligibility at fulltime rate. Designed to last 4 academic years.
- Benefit must be used within 10 years of date of separation. Deployment of subsequent Title 10 tour will extend benefits for another 10 years.
- Active Duty personnel limited to actual tuition and fees or training time, whatever is less.
- May pay a kicker (service college fund) on top of the chapter 30 payment.



Chapter 31 – Disabled Veterans

- Must have a 10% disability as determined by VA as an employment handicap.
- Once disability is determined, the VA pays tuition, fees, books, supplies, as well as a monthly subsistence allowance based on dependents.
- The VRC assists with choosing an appropriate major (program) based on overcoming the disability and returning to workforce.
- The VA Certifying Official invoices the VA for all appropriate charges related to the student's education.



VEAP

- Entered service for the first time between January 1, 1977, and June 30, 1985;
- Opened a contribution account before April 1, 1987;
- Voluntarily contributed from \$25 to \$2700.
- Contributions matched on a \$2 for \$1 basis.
- Benefit entitlement is 1 to 36 months depending on the number of months of contributions.
- Most veterans elected to switch to chapter 30 when they were given the chance.
- Veteran with unused entitlement may request refund of original contribution.



Chapter 33 – Post 9/11

- Veterans who were on active duty as of September 10, 2001, may have eligibility for this program.
 - Eligibility is based on the amount of time served on active duty after September 10, 2001. Eligibility can range from 40% to 100%. A veteran must have served at least 90 consecutive days on active duty to meet minimal eligibility criteria. This excludes time in basic military training and/or skill training.



Post 9/11 – Chapter 33 cont.



Service Requirements	% of Max Benefits
At least 36 months	100
At least 30 consecutive days on active duty with discharge due to service-connected disability	100
At least 30 months, but < 36 months	90
At least 24 months, but < 30 months	80
At least 18 months, but < 24 months	70
At least 12 months, but < 18 months	60
At least 6 months, but < 12 months	50
At least 90 days, but < 6 months	40



Chapter 33 - continued

- Students who currently have VA educational benefits under another program must make an irrevocable election (decision) to relinquish the other program in lieu Chapter 33.
- Tuition and fees paid to the school based on information forwarded to VA by a School's Veterans Certifying Official and the VA Enrollment Certification process.



Chapter 33 - continued

- In order to receive the housing and book allowances, the veteran must be enrolled more than half-time.
- Allowances sent directly to the veteran.
 - Book allowance is up to \$1000 per academic year based on a 24 credit hour enrollment per year.
 - Calculated at \$41.67 per credit hour. Prorated based on the percentage of maximum benefit payable



Chapter 33 - continued

- Veterans discharged after 30 consecutive days of active duty who have a service-connected disability may receive 100%.
- **Does not include those veterans discharged from Active Duty and back to Guard or Reserves (REFRAD) and a disability is determined later.**
- A veteran has 15 years from the date of separation use the education benefit.



Chapter 33 – Transfer of Entitlement (TOE)



- Only GI Bill program that is transferable to a spouse or dependent
- Veterans must qualify for Chapter 33 and must **still be members of a military service in order to** transfer all or part of their benefit to a spouse or their children.
- Child must be under 18 before they may use the benefit. Entitlement will last from 18-26.
- The veteran must have served 6 years as of the date of election and agree to serve an additional 4 years to transfer to a spouse
- The veteran must have completed at least 10 years of service before the child can use the benefit.



Chapter 33 – TOE continued



- A family member must be in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS) at the time of transfer.
- Eligible service members may make transfer designation at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB>.
- After veteran has designated the recipient(s) and approval granted by Department of Defense, the recipient(s) must apply using VA Form 22-1990E.



Chapter 33 – TOE continued



- If transferor is on active duty spouse is not eligible to receive the housing allowances.
- If transferor is on active duty children do receive both the housing and book allowances.



Yellow Ribbon

- Institutions within the U.S. may voluntarily enter into an agreement with the VA to fund the tuition and fees that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition and fees. Participating institutions agree to:
 - provide contributions to eligible individuals on a first-come, first served basis.
 - State the maximum number of individuals for whom contributions will be made per academic year.
 - State the maximum dollar amount of contributions that may be provided per individual per academic year.
 - Provide contributions using funds under the unrestricted control of the institution.



Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship

- Allows children to use Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits that could have been transferred to them if their military parent had lived.
- The VA began accepting applications as of May 1, 2010.
- Enrollments can't be certified until August 1, 2010; however, enrollments can then be certified retroactive to August 1, 2009.
- Apply using VA Form 22-5490.



Chapter 34 – the old Vietnam Era GI Bill or the 34/30 Conversion

- There are a few veterans still receiving this benefit.
- Monthly benefits are based on the enrollment status, the number of family members, and the enrollment status of the dependents.
- Different categories, but most had entered service before July 1, 1977.



Chapter 35 – Survivors and Dependents Assistance



- Must be the child or spouse of:
 - a veteran who died or is totally or permanently disabled as a result of a service-connected disability.
 - A service-member missing in action or captured in the line of duty.
- The child must be between the ages of 18 and 26.
- For spouses, benefits end 10 years after the date the spouse is deemed eligible or from the date of death of the veteran.



1606 – Montgomery GI Bill



Selected Reserve (Guard and Reserve)

- If eligibility for this program began prior to Oct. 1, 1992, the veteran has 10 years from the beginning date of eligibility to use benefits.
- If eligibility for this program began after October 1, 1992, the veteran has 14 years from the beginning date of eligibility to use benefits.
- Need to submit a Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE) signed by the commanding officer of the unit.



1607 –Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP)



- It is a Department of Defense education benefit program.
- Designed to provide educational assistance to members of the Reserve components called or ordered to active duty in response to a war or national emergency.
- Reservists activated for at least 90 days after 9/11/2001 are eligible for benefits or have increased benefits based on consecutive time served.
- May contribute up to \$600 to increase benefits.



How to Apply

- VONAPP – Veterans Online Application
 - <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>
 - Go to Apply for benefits
- Forms are also available in the VA Certifying Official's Office at GI Bill approved colleges and universities.



How to Apply - continued

- Please submit a copy of the VA Application to the VA Certifying Official at the school.
 - The VA Regional Office will not notify the school an application has been received.
- Other forms requested include:
 - NOBE (if applicable)
 - DD-214 (if applicable)
 - Certificate of Eligibility (if received from the VA)



Application Forms

- 22-1990 – Application for VA Education Benefits
 - Initial application for benefits for all chapters except Chapters 31 and 35.
- 22-1990E – Application for Family Members to Use Transferred Benefits
- 22-1995 – Request for Change of Program or Place of Training (except 31 and 35)



Application Forms - continued

- 22-5490 – Dependents Application for VA Education Benefits (chapter 33 (Fry) and chapter 35)
- 22-5495 – Dependents Request for Change of Program or Place of Training (chapter 33 (Fry) and chapter 35)



Helpful Websites/Resources



DoD Housing Allowance Website

- <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/perdiem/bah.html>
 - Use E-5 with dependents. Determined by using the school's zip code

www.gibill.va.gov

GI Bill Hotline

1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551)



Military One Source

- Education, relocation, parenting, stress - you name it - Military OneSource is here to help you with just about any need. Available by phone or online, our free service is provided by the Department of Defense for active-duty, Guard, and Reserve service members and their families. The service is completely private and confidential, with few exceptions.



Military One Source Career & Education



- **Career & Education**

- Military OneSource can help you achieve your career and educational goals by connecting you with the information and resources you need.

-

- **Career**

- A wide array of materials and resources to help you plan your career, prepare for retirement, and everything in between. Special resources for spouse career support and information on exploring and planning portable careers.

-

- **College**

- Information on preparing for, applying to, and paying for college.

-

- **Special Needs in Education**

- Information and tools about early intervention and special education services for children ages 3-21.

-

- **Pre-K to 12**

- Booklets, articles, CDs, and more on adjusting to a new school, dealing with change, home schooling, parent involvement in education, and much more.

-

- **Spouse Career Center**

- The Military OneSource Spouse Career Center offers comprehensive spouse education and career opportunity resources that aim to put you on a solid career path.



MyCAA Program

- **October 25, 2010** - MyCAA is open.
- Program is open to all eligible spouses under the new program guidelines below:
- Spouse of an active duty Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine service member, or activated Reserve member in pay grades E1-E5, W1-W2, or O1-O2.
- If the spouse of National Guard and/or AGR member, the sponsor must be on federal Title 10 active duty orders as reported in DEERS.
- Spouses of Guard/Reserve members in an Alert, Transition Assistance, or Post Deployment status are not eligible.
- MyCAA accounts will be limited to the new \$4,000 maximum benefit with a \$2,000 fiscal year cap. Waivers to the fiscal year cap will be available for spouses pursuing licensure or credentials with a cost that exceeds the \$2,000 fiscal year cap up to the total maximum assistance of \$4,000.
- Spouses must finish their program of study within three years from the start date of the first course.
- Funding is limited to only Associate's degrees, certifications and licensure programs.



Military Family Life Counselors



- MFLCs are unique in that they are not traditional therapists; instead they help service members and military families develop an action plan for addressing problems.
- MFLCs proactively contact warriors and family members, often in public settings like hallways, hospitals, cafeterias and recreation facilities.
- Common stress reactions to deployment
- Reintegration and the transition from warrior to citizen
- Relocation adjustment
- Separation
- Homesickness
- Loss or grief
- Resiliency
- Anxiety, sadness or other common emotional concerns



Iowa's MFLC

- Western Iowa – David N. Brown
7105 NW 70th Ave., Johnston, IA 50131
800.294.6607, ext 3130

Eastern Iowa – Tanja Duffy
7105 NW 70th Ave., Johnston, IA 50131
800.294/6607, ext. 3130



Education Services Centers



- The Iowa Army National Guard offers many options for continuing your education, from scholarships and tuition assistance to low- or no-cost certification testing.
- As always, your first point of contact for questions is your unit Readiness NCO or Admin NCO.
-
- If they cannot answer your questions please call 1-515-252-4468 or email us at Educationia@ng.army.mil
-
- **Scholarships Information:**
- [Peterson's](#)
- [Scholarships.com](#)
- [CollegeBoard](#)
- [MyCAA!](#)
- [INGOA](#)
-
- **Education Briefings:**
- [GoArmyEd Soldier Brief](#)



Troops to Teachers

- Public Law 107-110, the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" authorized the continuation of the Troops-to-Teachers Program .
- Designed to make quality teachers available for high-need schools and high-need school districts throughout America.
- Stipends of up to \$5K are available to reimburse costs associated with becoming certified to teach. Recipients of these stipends must agree to teach for three years in a school located in a "high-need" district.
- Bonuses of \$10K are available to those who agree to teach for three years in a school that serves a high percentage of students from low-income families.
- TTT continues to pursue the goal of helping to relieve teacher shortages, especially in math, science, special education and other high needs subject areas, and to assist military personnel in making successful transitions to second careers in teaching.
- If you have any questions or need additional information contact the Missouri/Iowa TTT Consortium at or contact TTT at Proud to Serve Again.com.



Student Loan Repayment (SLRP)



- **Student Loan Repayment Program**
- SLRP may be used to pay off up to \$50,000 in existing student debt.
- Soldiers must contact for SLRP as an Enlistment Option and to qualify an enlistee must score 50 or better on the AFQT (ASVAB).
- Loans must be qualifying loans (examples: Stafford (subsidized), Stafford (unsubsidized), Supplemental, Loans for Students, Federally Insured, Consolidated Loan Program (CLP and SMART), William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program). State Student and Parent Loans are not eligible for the SLRP.
- **Reenlisting / Extending:**
- SLRP may also be obtained:
- Soldier extends current contract to equal 6 years
- Soldier reenlists with a 6 year contract.
- *Loans must be Army National Guard qualifying loans.
-
- **DD Form 2475, DoD Educational Loan Repayment Program (LRP) Annual Application (while deployed):**
 - You need a Power of Attorney (POA)
 - Should arrive 2-3 months prior to anniversary date of contract.
 - (POA) will sign a DD 2475 that is sent to the last know home of record of the soldier.
 - (POA) will return the DD 2475 to the education services office.



Army Continuing Education Assistance (ACES-TA)



Financial assistance authorized by Congress (Title 10, USC 2007) for voluntary off-duty education programs that support the educational objectives of the Army and the Soldier's personal self-development goals.

Standardized TA fiscal policy authorizes all or a portion of tuition costs or up to \$250 per SH, whichever is less, with maximum total yearly amount of \$4,500.

The Army implemented an automated business process called Centralized Tuition Assistance Management, giving Soldiers 24/7 access to request TA online and enroll in college courses through a new portal called [GoArmyEd](http://www.goarmyed.com) (www.goarmyed.com).



National Guard Education Assistance (NGEAP)



- A state funded tuition assistance program that pays schools "up front" for the cost of tuition for the soldier.
- **ELIGIBILITY:**
- Iowa Resident
- Active members of the Iowa Army or Air National Guard (satisfactory performance of duty)
- Completed Initial Entry Training (Basic Training & Advanced Individual Training)
- Not met requirements for a baccalaureate degree
- Attending a North Central Association (NCA) accredited community college, university, or private college or university in Iowa
- **FUNDING:** Based on annual appropriation by the Iowa state legislature, NGEAP pays at least 50% of the tuition rate at state Board of Regents schools (Iowa, Iowa State University, University of Northern Iowa) or 50% of the tuition rate at the institution attended by the National Guard member, whichever is lower. Current funding levels from the state legislature allow NGEAP **to pay up to 90% of the Regents tuition rate**. The maximum award for school year 2011-2012 is \$2,888.00 per semester, \$5,776.00 per school year. NGEAP does not cover summer courses. NGEAP funds school between August and May.



Federal Tuition Assistance



- **ARMY NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS USING ARNG-FEDERAL TUITION ASSISTANCE**
- GoArmyEd supports Active Duty and Army Reserve as a one-stop Web site that allows Soldiers, Army Education Counselors and schools to conduct business for all education needs in a seamless Soldier-centric environment.
- Guard Soldiers will be able to register for college courses or on-duty classes and review their student records 24x7. GoArmyEd links directly with schools to allow the Army to pay schools upfront. GoArmyEd enforces Army tuition assistance (TA) policy via logic throughout the portal, ensuring that registered classes are found on the Soldier's degree plan, that no duplicate courses are taken, and that the Soldier maintains a GPA standard required by the Army to be eligible for TA. GoArmyEd standardizes services at all Education Centers and supports the Army's mobile Soldier base.
- **1 October 2011** – All ARNG Soldiers and Army education personnel are required to use GoArmyEd to apply for Federal Tuition Assistances for courses that start on or after 1 October 2011.
- Applications must be submitted before the start date of the course.



Defense Activity for Non Traditional Education Support (DANTES)



- DANTES offers many different programs and services and supports all of the DOD components and the US Coast Guard.
- The programs offered by DANTES are treated differently by the various military service components. The service components (Army, Navy, Air Force, etc, determine service member eligibility or whether the component participates in a particular DANTES program or not.
- For more information about any DANTES sponsored programs contact the appropriate DANTES Program Manager.
- A service member should also contact an Army or Air Force Education Center, a Navy College Office, a Marine Lifelong Learning Center or the Coast Guard Institute