

Education Benefit Programs



Name of Conference

Month
Year

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

This is approved SCO Annual Training!

Participants will earn 1-hour credit toward their annual training requirement if they...

- Remained logged into the online training for the duration of the session.
- Participate in the Menti Section Reviews (if applicable)
- Complete the feedback portion of the Menti survey
- Log onto the SCO Training Portal
- Self-certify they completed the conference training
- Print the certificate and keep for their records



THE MODERATOR WILL PROVIDE THE MENTI CODE!

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

TOPICS COVERED:

Montgomery GI Bill®

Dependents' Educational Assistance

Montgomery GI Bill® - Selected Reserve

Reserve Educational Assistance Program

Post 9/11 GI Bill®

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

General and detailed descriptions for each program are online at

http://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/comparison_chart.asp

The screenshot shows a web interface for the VA Benefits Administration. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with a dropdown menu at the top labeled 'Select One'. The menu items are: Transition Assistance, Compensation, Education & Training (highlighted), Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment, Home Loans, Life Insurance, Pension, Employment and Economic Impact, Special Groups, Services, and Applying for Benefits. The main content area is titled 'Education and Training' and contains a sub-section 'Comparison Chart/Payment Rates'. Below this, there is a paragraph of text and a bulleted list of links to various VA education and training programs.

Education and Training

Comparison Chart/Payment Rates

You may be eligible for several types of VA education and training benefits, but there are many things to consider before you apply for a GI Bill program. For most participants, the Post-9/11 GI Bill is the best option. Other students would benefit more from the Montgomery GI Bill. The following comparison tools may make it easier to decide which education and training benefits are best for you:

- [Compare VA education benefit programs](#)
- [Review current payment rates](#) for the following VA education and training programs:
 - [Post-9/11 GI Bill \(Chapter 33\)](#)
 - [Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty \(MGIB-AD/Chapter 30\)](#)
 - [Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve \(MGIB-SR/Chapter 1606\)](#)
 - [Reserve Educational Assistance Program \(REAP/Chapter 1607\)](#)

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2016 ended REAP on November 25, 2015. Some individuals will remain eligible for REAP benefits until November 25, 2019, while others are no longer eligible for REAP benefits.
 - [Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program \(DEA/Chapter 35\)](#)

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

COMPARISON OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

A comprehensive comparison can be found on the GI Bill website at the following link:

http://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/comparison_chart.asp

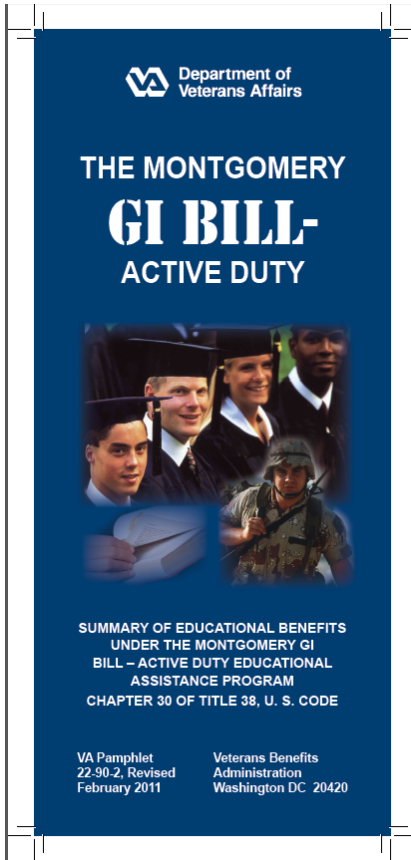
	Post-9/11 GI Bill	MGIE-AD	MGIE-SR	VEAP	DEA
Minimum Length of Service	90 days active aggregate service (after 9/10/01) or 30 days continuous if discharged for disability	2 yr. continuous enlistment (minimum duty varies by service date, branch, etc.)	6 yr. commitment (after 8/30/85)	181 continuous days active service (between 12/31/78 and 7/1/85) ¹	Not applicable
Maximum # of Months of Benefits ²	36	36	36	36	45
How Payments Are Made	Tuition: Paid to school Housing stipend: Paid monthly to student Books & Supplies: Paid to student at the beginning of the term	Paid to student	Paid to student	Paid to student	Paid to student
Duration of Benefits	If your release from active duty was before January 1, 2013, there is a 15-year time limitation for use of benefits. For individuals whose last discharge date is on or after January 1, 2013, the time limitation has been removed.	Generally 10 years from last day of active duty	Ends the day you leave Selected Reserve	10 yrs from last day of active duty	Spouse: 10 - 20 years ³ Child: Ages 18-26
Degree Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non College Degree Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
On-the-Job & Apprenticeship Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Flight Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Correspondence Courses	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 30

MONTGOMERY GI BILL® - ACTIVE DUTY (MGIB)

CHAPTER 30, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE



Chapter 30 has:

- 4 eligibility categories
- After June 30, 1985
- Pay reduced \$100 a month for 12 months
- Honorable discharge

Chapter 30 benefits are paid on a monthly basis directly to the veteran.

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

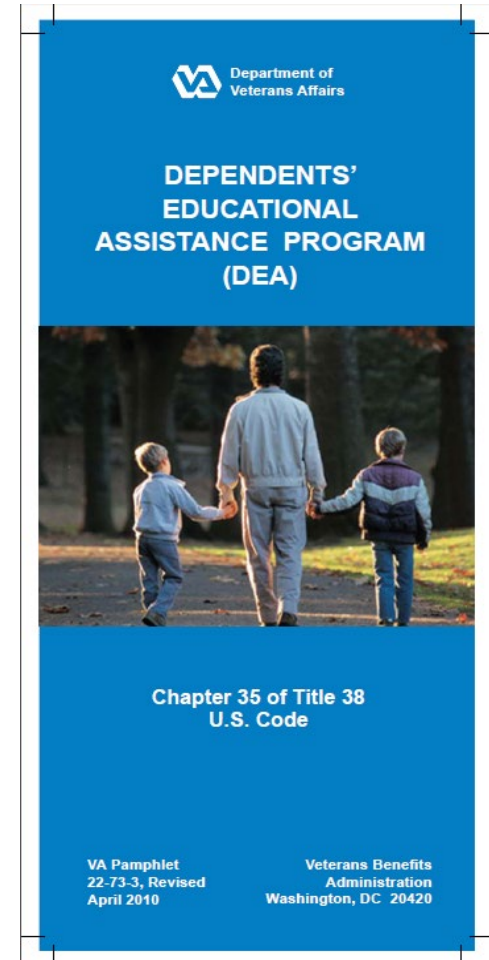
CHAPTER 35

DEPENDENTS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE (DEA)

CHAPTER 35, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

- A child (generally between ages 18 and 26)
- A spouse/surviving spouse

of a veteran who is permanently and totally disabled due to a service-related condition; or who died in service; or who died of a service-connected disability; or who died while evaluated as having total and permanent service-connected disability; or who is listed as a POW or MIA.

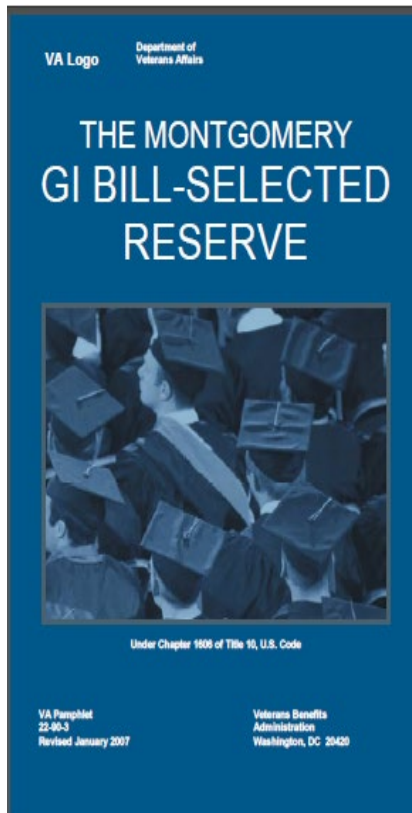


EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 1606

MONTGOMERY GI BILL® - SELECTED RESERVE (MGIB-SR)

CHAPTER 1606, TITLE 10 U.S. CODE



- Active participants in the Selected Reserve
- DoD & DHS determine who's eligible
- 6-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve and satisfactory participation in required Selected Reserve training

Chapter 1606 benefits are paid on a monthly basis directly to the reservist.

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

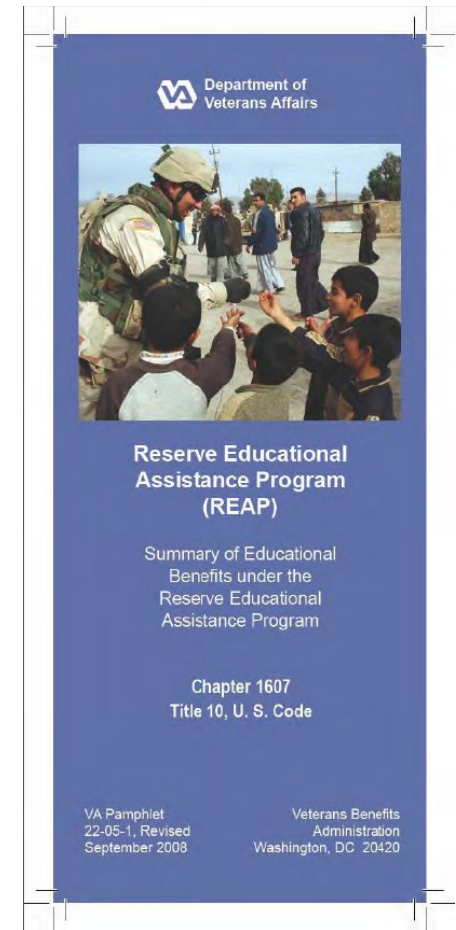
CHAPTER 1607

RESERVE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (REAP)

CHAPTER 1607, TITLE 10 U.S. CODE

The National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2016 **sunset** chapter 1607 effective November 25, 2015.

Under the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act, members of the Reserve who established eligibility to educational assistance under the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) before November 25, 2015, and lost it due to the sunset provision may elect to have that service credited towards the Post-9/11 GI Bill program



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Eligible Individuals

- Minimum of 90 days on active duty after September 10, 2001 (under title 10)
- On October 1, 2011, VA begin paying benefits to members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard for qualifying service (under title 32)

Effective on August 1, 2018

- Reservists ordered to active duty to receive authorized medical care, be medically evaluated for disability, or complete a Department of Defense (DOD) health care study on or after September 11, 2001 (under Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act)
- Servicemembers and honorably discharged Veterans who were awarded a Purple Heart on or after September 11, 2001



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Period of Eligibility

- 15 year delimiting date

The 15-year time limitation for using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits is eliminated for Veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013, and qualifying dependents (Fry children who became eligible on or after January 1, 2013 and all Fry spouses)

In order to retain eligibility, after meeting the service requirements, an individual must:

- Honorably discharged; or
- Be released with service characterized as honorable
 - retired list
 - temporary disability retired list
 - transferred to the Fleet Reserve
 - Fleet Marine Corps Reserve
- Be released from Armed Forces



POST★9/11
GI BILL
It's Your Future

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Chapter 33 Entitlement

- Generally entitled to 36 months of educational assistance
- Limited to a maximum of 48 months of entitlement when using benefits under two or more programs

Individuals eligible for benefits may not receive assistance under two or more programs concurrently (e.g. Chapter 30, 31, 33, 35, 1606, 1607).



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Election

- Students eligible for Chapter 30, 1606, or 1607, must relinquish a benefit to receive Chapter 33
- Students eligible for more than one benefit only have to relinquish one benefit to receive Chapter 33

Chapter 33 elections are irrevocable; however, this is not the case if:

- RPO receives the election withdrawal (or election change) before the CoE is issued or payment processed

The student must request the change in writing.



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Service Requirements (Aggregate active duty after 9/10/01)	% Of Maximum Benefit Payable
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 ⁽¹⁾	90
At least 24 months, but less than 30 months ⁽¹⁾	80 ⁽³⁾
At least 18 months, but less than 24 months ⁽²⁾	70 ⁽³⁾
At least 12 months, but less than 18 months ⁽²⁾	60
At least 06 months, but less than 12 months ⁽²⁾	50
At least 90 days, but less than 06 months ⁽²⁾	40

⁽¹⁾ Includes entry level and skill training. ⁽²⁾ Excludes entry level and skill training.

⁽³⁾ If the service requirements are met at both the 80 and 70 percentage level, the maximum percentage of 70 must be applied to amounts payable.

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Length of Service Percentage

Effective August 1, 2020, the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 eliminates the 40-percent benefit level and expands the 60-percent benefit level under Post-9/11 GI Bill.



OLD TIER STRUCTURE	
At least 36 months	100%
At least 30 continuous days and discharged due to service-connected disability	100%
At least 30 months < 36 months	90%
At least 24 months < 30 months	80%
At least 18 months < 24 months	70%
At least 12 months < 18 months	60%
At least 6 months < 12 months	50%
At least 90 days < 6 months	40%

NEW TIER STRUCTURE – 8/1/2020	
At least 36 months	100%
At least 30 continuous days on active duty and must be discharged due to service-connected disability or received a Purple Heart (Purple Heart effective August 1, 2018)	100%
At least 30 months < 36 months	90%
At least 24 months < 30 months	80%
At least 18 months < 24 months	70%
At least 6 months < 18 months	60%
At least 90 days < 06 months	50%

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Chapter 33 Benefit Payments

- Tuition and fees
- Monthly housing allowance
- Books and supplies stipend
- College fund (“kicker”) payments
- Rural benefit payment
- Yellow Ribbon Program benefit

Chapter 33 differs from other education Chapters in that each type of payment is issued separately, with some payments made directly to the school and others directly to the student.

Tuition and Fees

The tuition and fees payment is paid directly to the school on behalf of the student when the school’s enrollment certification is processed. The tuition and fees payment is prorated by the student’s benefit level.



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Tuition and Fees

August 1, 2011, Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL):

U.S. Public Schools: The actual net cost for in-state tuition and fees after the application of any waiver, scholarship, aid or assistance, other than Title IV, provided directly to the institution and specifically designated for the sole purpose of defraying tuition & fees.

Private and Foreign Schools: The lesser of the actual net cost for tuition and fees or up to the amount of the yearly cap - **\$24,476.79** for the academic year beginning on **August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2020.**

The amount of the yearly cap will be adjusted each year based upon a Cost Of Living Allowance (COLA) and is subject to proration based upon benefit level.

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) Payment Rates for 2019 Academic Year (August 1, 2019 - July 31, 2020)

https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/resources/benefits_resources/rates/ch33/ch33rates080119.asp



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Monthly Housing Allowance

Monthly housing allowance:

- Paid in arrears directly to the student on a monthly basis
- Payments may be prorated
 - Length of service percentages
 - Partial months
 - Delimiting Date
 - Entitlement Exhausted
 - Election of another VA benefit
 - Prorated according to the RoP > 0.5 (rounded to the nearest tenth)



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Monthly Housing Allowance

Prior to August 1, 2018, rates equal the Department of Defense's Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for an "E-5 with dependents" and the zip code of the school.

BAH rates are at the following link: <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/perdiem/bah.html>

Effective August 1, 2018, calculation of Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) will be based on the BAH rate for the location of campus where the majority of classes are attended.

MHA is currently based on the "main campus" location of the school where the individual is enrolled. VA will continue to pay this way until Spring of 2020. VA will also correct retroactively any underpayments

Not eligible for the Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA):

- **Active duty personnel**
- **Spouses of active duty personnel utilizing transferred entitlement**



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Rate of Pursuit and the Housing Allowance

Rate of pursuit (RoP) = Chapter 33

Training time = all other Chapters

VA calculates rate of pursuit by dividing the number of credit (or credit hour equivalents) being pursued by the number of credit considered to be full-time by the school. The resulting percentage is the student's rate of pursuit.

Examples: If full-time is 12 credits, then rate of pursuit for:

- 6 credits (or credit equivalents) is 50% ($6 \div 12 = 50\%$)
- 7 credits (or credit equivalents) is 58% ($7 \div 12 = 58\%$)

Monthly housing allowance if RoP is more than 50%

The applicable Basic Allowance for Housing rate is multiplied by the rate of pursuit rounded to the nearest multiple of 10.



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Distance Learning and the Housing Allowance

Beneficiaries only enrolled in distance learning:

- Monthly housing allowance equal to 50% of the national average of all Basic Allowances for Housing



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Books and Supplies Stipend

Chapter 33 Books and Supplies Stipend:

- Prorated according to the beneficiary's eligibility percentage
- Payment based upon credit hours being pursued @ \$41.67 per credit hour for up to 24 credit hours in the VA academic year



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Transfer of Entitlement (ToE)

Transferability policy is determined by the DoD

While in the Armed Forces (and after release from active duty, includes participation in the selected (drilling) reserve) members use the ToE website to:

- Designate,
- Modify
- Revoke a ToE request

After separation, members can:

- Provide a future effective date for use of ToE
- Modify the number of months transferred,
- Revoke entitlement transferred by submitting a written request to VA
- New dependents cannot be designated

Refer students to the ToE link on the <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/> homepage. The link explains what the member must do, what the child or spouse must do, and gives all the needed links.



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Fry Scholarship

Children of service members who die in the line of duty after Sept. 10, 2001

Eligible children:

- May be married or over 23 and still be eligible
- Are entitled to 36 months of benefits at the 100% level
- Have 15 years to use the benefit beginning on their 18th birthday
- May use the benefit until their 33rd birthday
- Recipients of the Fry Scholarship will be covered under the Yellow Ribbon Program. This is effective August 1, 2018.

An information sheet about the Fry Scholarship is available at

http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/factsheets/fry_scholarship.pdf



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 33

POST-9/11 GI BILL®

CHAPTER 33, TITLE 38 U.S. CODE

Section 701 expanded the Fry Scholarship to also provide benefits for the surviving spouse

Eligible spouses:

- Are entitled to 36 months of benefits at the 100% level
- Have 15 years to use the benefit beginning on the date of the Servicemember's death
- Lose eligibility if they remarry
- Must make an irrevocable election of which benefit he or she wishes to receive for any and all enrollments beginning after January 1, 2014, if eligible for both Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) and Fry Scholarship benefits
- Recipients of the Fry Scholarship will be covered under the Yellow Ribbon Program. This is effective August 1, 2018.

*Section 701 - Effective for terms beginning on or after
January 1, 2015*



EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

“Forever GI Bill”



Implementation of the Forever GI Bill is segmented into **three implementation periods**:

- Date of Enactment (*13 provisions*);
- Effective January – August 2018 (*18 provisions*); and
- Effective October 2018 and Beyond (*3 provisions*).

VA continues to take action and make progress toward successfully implementing each provision.

General and detailed descriptions of each provision are online at:

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/FGIBSummaries.asp>

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

“Forever GI Bill”



Significant changes to the 31 education-related sections of the bill are as follows:

- Makes the Post-9/11 GI Bill a lifetime benefit
- Restores GI Bill entitlement and provides relief to those affected by school closures
- Provides full Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to all who are awarded the Purple Heart
- Includes Fry Scholarship into the Yellow Ribbon program
- Changes eligibility requirements for Guard/Reserve

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

“Forever GI Bill”



Significant changes to the 31 education-related sections of the bill are as follows:

- Establishes a STEM Scholarship Program
- Makes changes to the transfer to spouses and children beneficiaries
- Establishes a High Technology Pilot Program
- Authorizes \$30M for automation of Education original claims and remaining supplemental claims

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

“Forever GI Bill”



The following provisions went into effect immediately:

- Certain work-study is permanently authorized; previously it had to be re-approved by Congress every few years.
- Improvement of information technology for the Long-Term Solution
- Beneficiaries can now use Post-9/11 GI Bill to pursue accredited independent study programs at certain education institutions that are not institutions of higher learning (IHLs)
- The VetSuccess on Campus program will be available to students across the country
- VA will help Veterans to more clearly identify schools that offer them priority enrollment

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 “Forever GI Bill”



The following provision went into effect January 1, 2018:

- Remove Exemption from DoD Basic Allowance of Housing Reduction

The following provisions went into effect August 1, 2018:

- Educational assistance under Post-9/11 GI Bill for those individuals awarded the Purple Heart
- Inclusion of Fry Scholarship recipients and Purple Heart recipients in Yellow Ribbon Program
- Calculation of monthly housing stipend under Post-9/11 GI Bill, based on location of campus where classes are attended
- Charge to entitlement for certain licensure and certification tests and national tests under Post-9/11 GI Bill

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

“Forever GI Bill”



The following provisions went into effect August 1, 2018:

- Monthly stipend for certain members of Reserve component individuals receiving Post-9/11 GI Bill
- Duration of education assistance under Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA) (from 45 to 36 months of entitlement)
- Limitation on use of reporting fees payable to educational institutions and sponsors of programs of apprenticeship

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

“Forever GI Bill”



The following provisions went into effect August 1, 2018:

- Training requirements for School Certifying Officials as condition of GI Bill approval
- Provision of information regarding Veteran entitlement to educational assistance
- Eligibility of Reserve Component members for Post-9/11 GI Bill

EDUCATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

FOREVER GI BILL

PUBLIC LAW 115-48

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

“Forever GI Bill”



October 1, 2018

Increase in amounts of educational assistance payable under DEA

August 1, 2019

Additional benefits for pursuit of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs

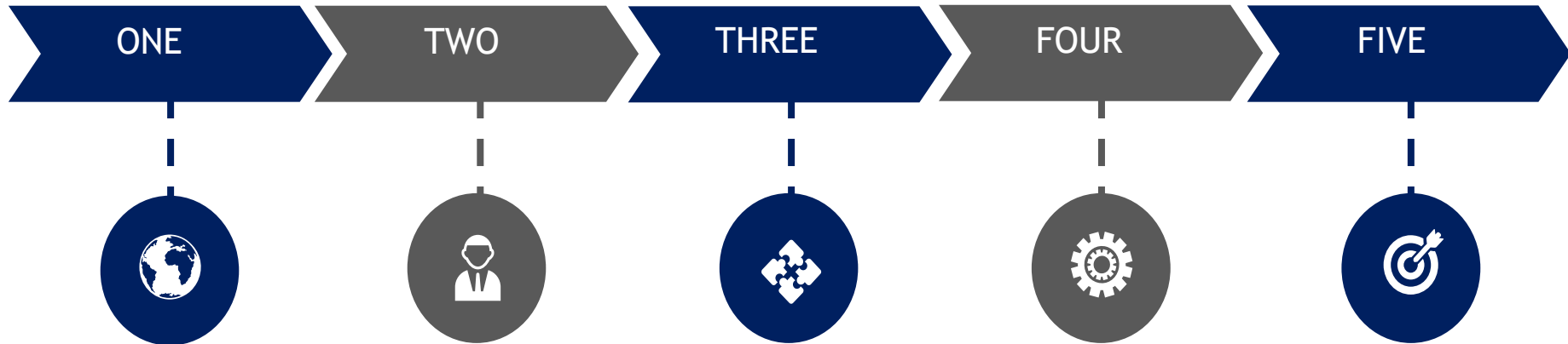
August 1, 2020

Consolidation of certain eligibility tiers under Post-9/11 GI Bill

August 1, 2022

Inclusion of certain active duty members in the Yellow Ribbon Program

CONFERENCE/VIRTUAL TRAINING CREDIT PROCESS



1. ATTEND

Attend a National, Regional, Local Conference or Workshop offering eligible SCO Annual Training. Training must be taught or co-taught with an ELR or VA staff member.

2. RECORD

Record your attendance using the MENTI code given at the session or an alternative attendance tracking method designated by presenter.

3. CERTIFY

Go on the [SCO Training Portal](#) and certify each conference session you attended. By completing this form you are certifying that you attended this training in-person and documented your attendance at the conference training session.

4. PRINT

Print your certificate and keep for your records.

5. PROFILE

Check your profile to make sure all of your online and conference credit is properly counted.

FY'20 Qualifying Training Topics – Existing SCOs

Existing SCO - Training Topics		Credit Hours
1	New School Certifying Official Training	2
2	Advanced School Certifying Official Training	2
3	Compliance Surveys	2
4	Flight School Program at IHLs	1
5	Certification Process for Non-College Degree (ND) Programs	1
6	Education Programs and Benefits	1
7	Program Approval and the State Approving Agency	1
8	Yellow Ribbon	1
9	Work-Study	1
10	School Liability	1
11	Debt Management Center	1



Updated Training Dates & Resources



SCO Web Resources

- [GI Bill Webpage – Colmery Act](#)
- [School Certifying Official's \(SCO\) Handbook](#)
- [ELR of Jurisdiction](#)
- [School Certifying Official \(SCO\) Training 2019](#)

*** Training Cycle extended 30-days due to the COVID-19 pandemic**

CONTACT US



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

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POST★9/11
GI BILL

It's Your Future

This PowerPoint presentation was created by Cynthia Kujawski, Supervisory ELR, May 2015. Last revised May 2019.