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Supporting Soldiers, Civilians & Families – Active, Guard, Reserve and Retired



Post 9/11 GI Bill



Information Briefing June 2010

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Agenda

- Overview
- Eligibility Summary
- Transferability Summary
- Current Issues



Post 9/11 GI Bill Overview

- New educational benefit for Soldiers
 - Veterans' Administration funds thru appropriations
 - Program effective 1 Aug 09
 - Does not replace existing VA education programs (MGIB, MGIB-SR, VEAP, REAP)
 - Requires no contribution by the Soldier
 - May use up to 15 years after last date of active duty
- May be used for education offered by an accredited institution of higher learning
 - Includes graduate, undergraduate, and vocational/technical training
 - VA determines eligible institutions of higher learning and approves programs of education
 - Does not apply to solely online / internet programs
- Benefits:
 - Tuition and fees limited to the highest in-state undergraduate tuition for the state enrolled
 - A monthly living stipend paid at the rate of E-5 (with dependents) BAH based on the zip code of the school (for dependents and / or separated Soldiers and spouses) for full time students.
 - Up to \$1,000 per school year to pay for books and supplies
 - Up to \$1,200 of tutorial assistance
 - Up to \$2,000 for reimbursement of one licensing or certification test



Eligibility Summary

- VA determines eligibility for education benefits
- Generally, to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill
 - Soldiers must have served on active duty after 10 Sep 01
 - For at least 30 continuous days with a service-connected disability discharge
 - Or an aggregate period ranging from 3 to 36 months or more
 - Honorably discharged, or while still on active duty, not flagged for adverse action
- Non qualifying active duty periods of service:
 - Five year Active Duty Service Obligation (ADSO) for commissioning from a service academy
 - Four year ADSO for an ROTC Scholarship
 - Three year ADSO associated with acceptance of the Student Loan Repayment incentive
 - Title 32 AGR service
 - Initial entry training for the Reserve Components



Eligibility (Additional Information)

- Soldiers currently eligible for an existing VA education programs (Such as MGIB, VEAP, REAP, MGIB-SR, etc) can also be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill if they attain qualifying active duty service
- Soldiers or Veterans may only receive benefits under one education program at a time
- The VA will determine program eligibility and in certain cases will require Soldiers to convert from an existing education program to the Post 9/11 GI Bill program
- Soldiers not currently eligible for an existing VA education program will be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill based on qualifying active duty service
 - Includes those Soldiers who elected not to participate in the current MGIB program or past programs
 - Includes officers who are not eligible for existing programs due to attendance at a service academy or receipt of an ROTC scholarship; provided they have qualifying service
- Soldiers who convert from MGIB to Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits will receive a refund of their MGIB contributions if they use all their Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits
 - Refund will be paid with the final benefit payment
 - If all Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits are not used, no refund is made
- Benefits are Pro-rated based on length of qualifying Active Duty service



Pro-Rating of Benefits

Eligible individuals receive 36 months of benefits. Benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill are paid over the 36 months based on a percentage, as determined by length of qualifying active duty service.

Service Requirements (after 9/10/01 an individual must serve an aggregate of)	Includes entry level and skill training?	Percent of Maximum Benefit Payable
At least 36 months	Yes	100
At least 30 continuous days on active duty (Discharged due to service-connected disability)	Yes	100
At least 30 months, but less than 36 months	Yes	90
At least 24 months, but less than 30 months*	Yes	80
At least 18 months, but less than 24 months*	No	70
At least 12 months, but less than 18 months	No	60
At least 06 months, but less than 12 months	No	50
At least 90 days, but less than 06 months	No	40

* If a Soldier separates with less than 24 months of active duty service, the length of entry level skill training is not qualifying for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. If a Soldier separates with 24 or more months of active duty service, the length of entry level skill training is qualifying for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits.



Transferability Summary

- Soldier **on Active Duty**, or a **member of the Selective Reserves** at the time transfer who does not have an adverse action flag, and
- Requires **at least six years** of qualified service in the Armed Forces (active duty, Selective Reserves) and agrees to serve **at least four additional years** from the date of request (unless retirement eligible)
- Allows transfer up to 36 months to spouse, eligible dependent child, or combination
- **Must transfer education benefits while serving on active duty, or in Selective Reserves**
- Spouse may use immediately
- Eligible children may use after member completes 10 years of service
- Living Expense Stipend (E-5 BAH w/ dependent rate) at school location:
 - Available when Soldier is NOT on active duty – for Soldier, spouse or child
 - Available to the child only - when a Soldier IS on active duty
 - Stipend is not payable for those pursuing education / training at half time, or less, or for those enrolled in online / distance learning programs



Transferability Summary (continued 1 of 3)

- Retirement eligible means a Soldier completed 20 years of active federal service, or 20 qualifying years under Title 10 USC 12732, **or becomes retirement eligible during 1 Aug 09 thru 1 Aug 13 and agrees to service the additional period if any specified below:**
 - Eligible for retirement on August 1, 2009
 - no additional service is required.
 - Has approved retirement date after August 1, 2009, and before July 1, 2010
 - no additional service is required.
 - Eligible for retirement after August 1, 2009, and before August 1, 2010
 - 1 year of additional service is required.
 - Eligible for retirement after August 1, 2010 and before August 1, 2011
 - 2 years of additional service is required.
 - Eligible for retirement after August 1, 2011, and before August 1, 2012
 - 3 years of additional service is required.
- 2 Aug 12, who are retirement eligible are required to meet 4 years of additional service obligation, or service until mandatory retirement / retention control point
- Period of additional service obligation begins on the date of benefit transfer



Transferability Summary (continued 2 of 3)

- Transferred benefits are, by law, not marital property.
- Death of a Soldier will not affect the use of the dependent benefits.
- Children must be **eligible dependents in DEERS** to receive benefits.
- Children lose eligible dependent status at age 21, unless extended.
- Eligible dependent status can be extended from age 21 to age 23 only if the child is enrolled as a full-time student, verified by DEERS, once verified, that child can use the benefits to age 26.
- Children remain associated to the sponsor in the DEERS database for as long as sponsor's personal information is archived in the database.
- Soldiers may modify, or revoke the transfer of unused benefits, anytime
- Unused transferred benefits will revert back to the Soldier
- A spouse with transferred entitlements under Post-9/11 GI Bill may use it to take a licensing and certification test. He / she may be reimbursed only once up to \$2,000. There is no charge against the person's entitlement for this one-time reimbursement.



Transferability Summary (continued 3 of 3)

- By law, transferred benefits are not affected for a Soldier who:
 - fails to complete the service agreement by reason of death, or
 - separation due to a pre-existing medical condition determined not service-connected, or
 - separation for hardship, or
 - separation for a physical or mental condition that was not characterized as a disability and did not result from the Soldier's own willful misconduct but did interfere with the Soldier's ability to perform assigned duties, or
 - separation for force shaping involuntary separation



Transferability Procedures (1 of 2 Phases)

Phase 1

Soldier requests to transfer benefits at Transferability of Education Benefits (TEB) website:

<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB>

Step #1:

- a. Logon with CAC card, DoD Self-Service Logon, or DFAS PIN
- b. Click on each empty box to acknowledge each statement on TEB site.
- c. Click “EDIT” to open eligible dependents name
- d. Select transfer begin date.
- e. Select transfer end date.
- f. Select number of months to transfer to each dependent.
- g. Do not check “revoke” unless revoking a transfer.
- h. Click save; soldier’s status on the TEB page reflects “submitted”; date of status will be blank. Soldiers may want to make a screen shot of the transferred page listing their dependent(s) as a reference.

Step #2: **Enlisted Soldiers notify certifying official (Career Counselor) request was submitted**

- Active Component **Enlisted** Soldiers, notifies Unit Career Counselor request was submitted
- Active Component **Officers** - return to the TEB website within 72 hours to view status and verify transferred amounts. No further action required.
 - LTC and below - HRC, Education Incentives Branch
 - AC COLs and GOs - SLD, (GOMO & CMO)
 - AC special branches (JAG, Chaplain, Acquisition, Medical) - assignment branch manager



Phase 2

Dependent Request to Use Benefits

(2 of 2 Phases)

Step #1: Dependents establish eligibility - certificate of eligibility from the VA

Dependents must log on the VA VONAPP website and establish their account with the VA <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

Complete VA Form 22-1990e, (do not use any other form)

Submitted VA Form 22-1990e via the website

A hard copy of the form is accessible as a pdf form that has to be mailed, found at: <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990e-ARE.pdf>

Step #2:

School must complete a VA Form 22-1999, Enrollment Certification, and submit to the VA, which validates the status of the eligible dependent and allows tuition payment to the school / stipend payment to the student.



Fact or Fiction

- **Soldiers / Veterans believe child under age 26 can receive benefits** – Not True, benefits must transfer prior to age 21, and subsequently the recipient must receive Extended Eligible Dependent status from DEERS each year (age 21, 22, 23 etc).
- **Soldiers / Veterans believe you can transfer benefits to a nondependent child** - Not True – law states , benefits can only transfer if (1) an Active Duty Soldier is qualified to transfer benefits AND the recipient is an Eligible Dependent.
- **Recently retired, or separated Soldiers believe benefits can transfer after separation (no longer on active duty)** - Not True, only qualified Soldiers who are on Active Duty can transfer benefits.
- **VA experienced an extremely large volume of benefit requests, causing delays in payment** – True, the VA experienced an extremely large volume of benefit requests, during the initial fall semester (over 150,000) causing delays in payment; however, currently Spring 2010 semester does not appear to be a back log in payment.
- **Dependents who are approved for transferability of benefits must work closely with the school to ensure his/her enrollment certification is forwarded to the VA for payment processing** - True, transferring education benefits to eligible dependents is just one part of the process; eligible dependents must still apply to the VA to receive their benefit AND they are still required to contact the school registrar's office so that the school can submit an enrollment certificate to the VA for payment.



Links to Post 9/11 GI Bill Information

Veterans' Administration

Phone: (1-888) 442-4551

- General information on the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits www.gibill.va.gov
- VA VONAPP page <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>
- VA Form 22-1990e pdf hard copy form <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990e-ARE.pdf>
- DoD Post-9/11 GI Bill Transferability policy http://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2009/0409_gibill



Points of Contact

- **Army G-1 Policy**
 - LTC(P) Rob Yost
 - Email: g1post911gibill@conus.army.mil
 - Phone: (703) 695-7991
- **Active Component (O5 and below)**
 - Ms. Martha Mraz, or Ms. Sarah Rowley
 - Email: www.armyeducation.army.mil
 - Phone: 1-800-872-8272, or (703) 325-0285
- **Reserve Component (All Ranks)**
 - Mr. Wayne Loehring
 - Email: wayne.loehring@us.army.mil
 - Phone: 1-800-318-5298 or (314) 592-0640
- **National Guard (All Ranks)**
 - Contact state education representative first, then
 - Email: arngch33gibill@pec.ngb.army.mil
 - Phone: (501) 212-4396
- **General Officer Management**
 - CW3 Billy Frittz
 - Email: billy.frittz@us.army.mil
 - Phone: (703) 697-9466
- **Colonels Management Office - Active**
 - LTC Jim Lorenz
 - Email: jim.lorenz@us.army.mil
 - Phone: (703) 696-9293
- **Special Branch Colonels - Active**
 - Acquisition
 - **Chaplain**
 - Mr. Thigpen
 - Ph: 703-601-1145
 - Email: felando.thigpen@conus.army.mil
 - **Judge Advocate General**
 - MAJ Dowdy
 - Ph: 703-588-6798
 - Email: ryan.dowdy@conus.army.mil
 - **Medical Corps - AMEDD**
 - MAJ Princess Atunrase
 - princess.atunrase@us.army.mil
 - Ph: (703) 325-4562