

VA | VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

College and University Health Professional
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Education Service

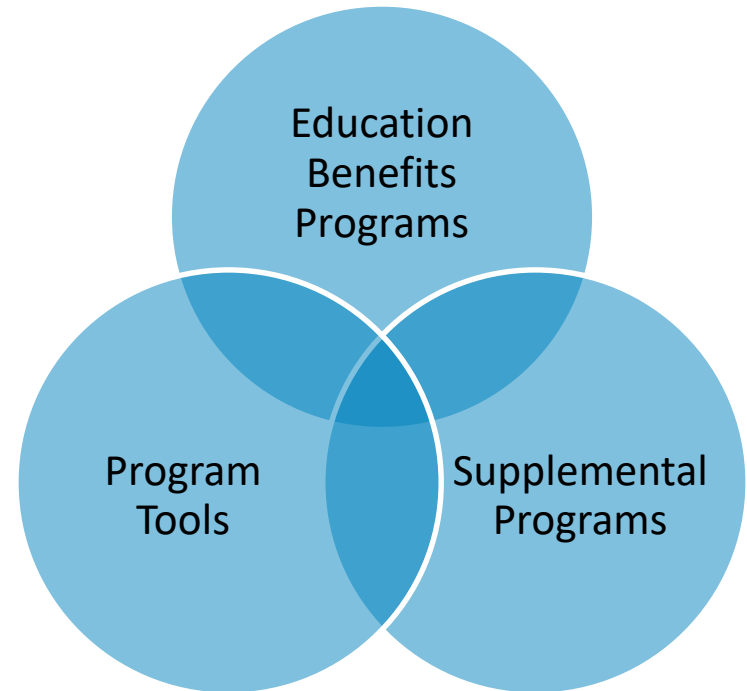


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Discussion Topics

- EDU Service Mission
- Education Service Highlights
- Education Benefits Programs
- Education Benefit Payments
- Fry Scholarship
- Yellow Ribbon
- Transfer of Entitlement
- Comparison Tool
- Harry W. Colmery Veterans Education Assistance Act
- VETTEC
- STEM
- Contact Information
- Questions



Education Service's Mission

Mission

To provide ready access to and timely & accurate delivery of education benefits to Veterans, Service members, and their families.

- Effective and efficient claims processing
- Creating the informed consumer
- Protecting the integrity of GI Bill benefits

Stakeholders

Stakeholders and clients of the programs administered by Education Service include educational institutions, State Approving Agencies (SAA), Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs), and other Federal and private sector partners



Education Service Highlights

- Administer five educational benefits programs
- Process approximately 4 million claims each year
- Average Days to Complete Education Claims
 - Original applications: 23 days
 - Returning student enrollments (each academic term): 13 days
- Distribute \$12B/year to one million beneficiaries
- Post 9/11 GI Bill by far largest education benefit
 - Since inception (Aug 2009), \$100B to 2.1 million beneficiaries



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VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Lesson Objectives

At the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- Identify the 5 VA Education GI Bill Benefit Programs
- Recognize and list important components of the Comparison Tool
- Identify the eligibility criteria for the Rogers STEM Program Scholarship
- Identify the eligibility criteria for the VET TEC Program



VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Five GI Bill Education Benefit Programs

Veteran Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) or Chapter 32

Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty (MGIB-AD) or Chapter 30

Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) or Chapter 1606

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA) or Chapter 35

Post – 9/11 GI Bill, Forever GI Bill, or Colmery Act Chapter 33

Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship Program

Yellow Ribbon

Transfer of Entitlement



VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Education Benefit Payments

Individuals may be eligible to receive funding for:

- School tuition and fees for public, private, or foreign schools; flight programs, correspondence training; and distance learning
- Non-College Degree Programs
- Monthly housing allowance
- Books and supplies
- License or certification tests
- National exams, including SATs, ACTs, GMATs, and LSATs
- On-the-job and apprenticeship training
- Vocational/technical training
- Relocating from highly rural areas



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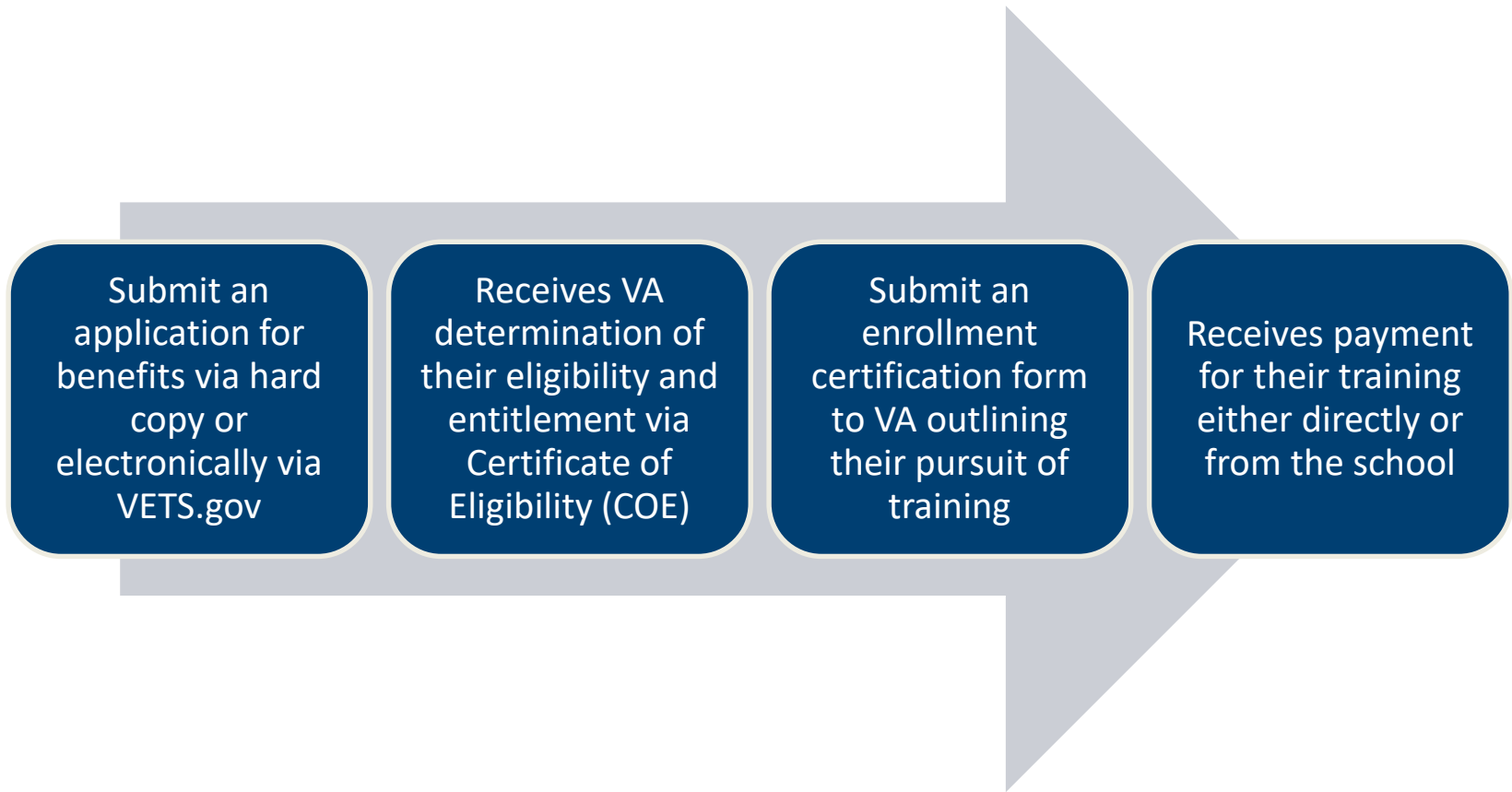
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VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Basic Education Benefits Process



VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

The Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Program

The Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) or Chapter 32 is an education benefit available to veterans if they made contributions from their military pay before April 1, 1987, to participate in this program.

- Contributed from \$25 to \$2,700.
- May use these benefits for degree, certificate, correspondence, apprenticeships or on-the-job training, and vocational flight training programs.
- Must have completed first period of service and was discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable.

If individual is currently on active duty and wish to receive VEAP benefits, they must have at least three months of contributions available.

VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty

Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty (MGIB-AD) or Chapter 30

Eligible Servicemembers may receive up to 36 months of education benefits.

Monthly benefit paid to an individual will be:

- Based on the type of training taken
- Length of service
- Eligibility Category
- College Fund (kicker) and,
- Additional Contribution (\$600 buy-up program)
 - additional contribution must be made while on active duty

Typically individuals have 10 years to use MGIB benefits. Generally MGIB-AD benefits are paid directly to the student on a monthly basis.



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Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve

The **Montgomery GI Bill – Select Reserve (MSIB-SR) or Chapter 1606** provides up to 36 months of education and training benefits to eligible members of the Selected Reserve, including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard Reserve, Army National Guard or Air National Guard.

- Eligibility for this program is determined by the Selected Reserve components

Generally, MGIB-SR benefits are paid directly to the student on a monthly basis.



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Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) or Chapter 35 provides assistance to children and spouses of Veterans and Servicemembers.

Generally an eligible child/spouse will receive a maximum of 45 months of benefit payments. Individuals must be the son, daughter, or spouse of:

- A Veteran who died or is permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability. The disability must arise out of active service in the armed forces.
- A Veteran who died from any cause while such permanent and total service-connected disability was in existence.



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DEA Cont'd

- A Servicemember missing in action or captured in line of duty by a hostile force.
- A Servicemember forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power.
- A Servicemember who is hospitalized or receiving outpatient treatment for a service connected permanent and total disability and is likely to be discharged for that disability. This change is effective Dec. 23, 2006.

Note: The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act – Forever GI Bill decreases the amount of entitlement that new eligible individuals will receive under DEA from 45 month to 36 months and became effective on August 1, 2018.



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Post – 9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33, the Forever GI Bill, or the Colmery Act

The **Post – 9/11 GI Bill** or **Chapter 33** provides assistance to children and spouses of Veterans and Servicemembers who meet the requirements as described in law and policy below:

- Eligible individuals must have served at least 90 days of aggregate active duty service after Sept. 10, 2001,
- Be honorably discharged or was discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days, or a
- Purple Heart recipients, regardless of length of service



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Post – 9/11 GI Bill Cont'd

Generally, individuals are eligible for a maximum of 36 months of entitlement 15 years from their last day of active duty.

- However, there is no time limitation for the use of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for individuals whose last discharge or release from active duty is on or after January 1, 2013.

Note: The Harry W. Colmery Act of 2017, is also known as the Forever GI Bill focuses on enhancing the Post-9/11 GI Bill for Servicemembers, Veterans, and dependents.



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Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship (FRY) Program

This Scholarship provides Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits to the children and surviving spouses of Servicemembers who died in the line of duty while on active duty on or after September 10, 2001.

- Eligible for up to 36 months of benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill
- 100% level under Post-9/11 GI Bill
- Children may use benefits until age 33
- Spouses have no time limit
 - However, benefits can only be used for training beginning on or after January 1, 2015
 - Spouse who is eligible for Chapter 35 and the Fry Scholarship must make an irrevocable election regarding which benefits he/she wants to receive
- Eligible for Yellow Ribbon Program



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VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Post – 9/11 GI Bill Chapter 33 Yellow Ribbon Program

The **Yellow Ribbon Program (YR)** is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008.

- Payable to schools when student's tuition and fees exceeds the academic yearly cap of the highest instate tuition and fees charged
- Is available to Fry Scholarship recipients for terms beginning on or after August 1, 2018 (under Colmery Act)
 - Retroactive payment is not authorized for earlier terms



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Transfer of Entitlement

Serves as a retention program for Department of Defense (DoD).

Individuals must:

- Be a member of Armed Forces
 - including National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) or,
 - Public Health Service (PHS)
- Agree to serve from one to four additional years per rules established by DOD and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Note: Only the Secretaries of Defense, Army, Navy, Air Force, or Homeland Security can authorize transfer of entitlement for benefits



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Transfer of Entitlement Cont'd

An individual (transferor) approved to transfer benefits may:

Transfer up to 36 months of benefits (unless DoD/DHS restricts number of months an individual may transfer)



Revoke or modify transfer request of any unused benefits unless transferor's 15-year eligibility period has ended



Transfer to spouse, children, or both in any amount up to amount transferor has available or amount approved by DoD/DHS



VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment

The **Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment or Chapter 31** program is not a VA Educational Benefit program, it is an employment program.

- This program assists Veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs
- It does count against the 48 month entitlement
- Pays the student a monthly stipend based on dependent or BAH rates
- Pays the school directly for tuition/books/supplies
- Benefits cannot be used concurrently with VA Education Benefits



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VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

GI Bill Comparison Tool

Use the GI Bill Comparison Tool to help you find a school and determine your GI Bill benefits while attending.

- Outcome Measures (Graduation / completion rates)
- Eligibility
- Benefits Estimators (Housing & books)
- Veteran Indicators (Yellow Ribbon & POE)
- School Indicators (Student Veteran Group on campus)

Website: <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>

GI Bill® Comparison Tool

Learn about education programs and compare benefits by school.

What is your military status?

Veteran

Which GI Bill benefit do you want to use? ([Learn more](#))

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch 33)

Cumulative Post-9/11 active duty service ([Learn more](#))

36+ months: 100% (includes BASIC)

How do you want to take classes? ([Learn more](#))

Online only

In person only

In person and online

Enter a city, school or employer name



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VET TEC Program

Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses

What is VET TEC?

An innovative new 5- year pilot program available to eligible Veterans with at least 1 day of remaining entitlement, connecting them to accelerated learning courses that pairs them with market-leading Training Providers offering high-tech training, skills development sought by employers and potential employment.

- Began accepting Veteran's applications on January 2019
- Launched February 2019
- Pay-for-success pilot with tuition and fee reimbursement to providers and housing stipend to Veterans - \$15 million annual cap



HIGH DEMAND Training Areas



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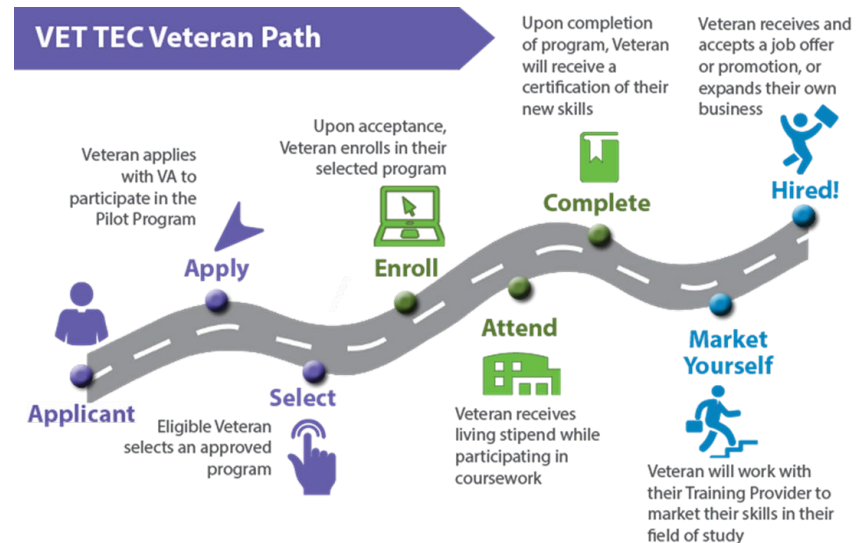
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VET TEC Program Cont'd

VET TEC program will:

- Assist Veterans acquire new skills in IT and to enter the job market, advance their current IT career, or embark upon their own business
- VET TEC pays for eligible Veterans to take your classes in one of five areas:
 - Information science
 - Computer programming
 - Data processing
 - Media applications, and
 - Computer software

- Continuing to seek Training Providers
 - Approximately 13 Participating Providers, and approximately 7 identified as “Preferred Providers”
- Veteran application (22-1999) and is available on VA.gov
 - Over 5,000 applications received



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Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship

- Effective August 1, 2019
- Authorizes VA to provide a scholarship of up to an additional 9 months of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to eligible individuals - Maximum is \$30,000
 - Tuition and Fees
 - Monthly Housing Allowance
 - Other Education Fees
- Programs such as:
 - Biological or biomedical science
 - Mathematic or statistics
 - Engineering
 - Health Profession or related program
 - Agriculture science program



Post-9/11 GI Bill STEM students can apply for a \$30,000 scholarship

Veteran students enrolled in STEM degree programs may receive up to \$30,000 through the Edith Nourse Rogers Scholarship.

Veterans who already earned a STEM degree and are working toward a teaching degree may be eligible for additional benefits.



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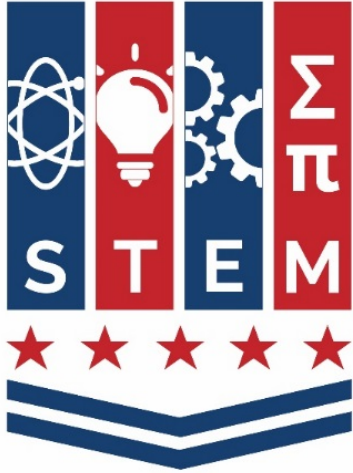
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Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship



- Student must:
 - Be enrolled in a STEM program requiring at least 120 semester (or 180 quarter) hours to complete, or
 - Has completed 60 standard semester (or 90 quarter) hours
- Additional benefits **cannot** be transferred to dependents

Note: Priority is given to those entitled to 100% of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and to those who require the most credit hours



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Post Test

1. Which of the following is not an Educational GI Bill Program: Select all that apply:
 - a) Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve
 - b) The Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Program
 - c) **Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment or Chapter 31**
 - d) Post – 9/11 GI Bill



Post Test

2. There is no time limitation for the use of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for individuals whose last discharge or release from active duty is on or after January 1, 2013.

True or False?



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Post Test

7. The GI Bill Comparison Tool provides the following information to students eligible to receive VA education benefits:

- a) **Benefits Estimators (Housing & Books)**
- b) A student's grade at the end of a term, quarter or semester
- c) **Veteran Indicators (Principles of Excellence (POE) & Yellow Ribbon)**
- d) **Outcome Measures (Graduation/completion rates)**



Post Test

8. How many days of remaining entitlement does a Veteran need to have to be eligible for the VET TEC program?

- a) At least 1 month of remaining entitlement
- b) Served at least 3 years in the Armed Forces and have at least 1 day of remaining entitlement
- c) At least 1 week of remaining entitlement
- d) **At least 1 day of remaining entitlement**



Post Test

9. VA provides a STEM scholarship under the Post-9/11 GI Bill to eligible individuals for up to ___ additional months:

- a) 2 additional month
- b) 36 additional months
- c) **9 additional months**
- d) 48 additional months



Post Test

10. Priority for the STEM program is given to all dependents of Veterans receiving Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits :

True or **False**



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Conclusion

You should now be able to:

- Identify the 5 VA Education GI Bill Benefit Programs
- Recognize and list important components of the Comparison Tool
- Identify the eligibility criteria for the Rogers STEM Program Scholarship
- Identify the eligibility criteria for the VET TEC Program



VA Education Benefit Programs Overview

Where Can I Find More Information?



WEBSITE www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/gibillEducation

TWITTER: Follow us @VAVetBenefits

EDUCATION SERVICE: [Stakeholder Engagement Team](#)

TELEPHONE: 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551)
(Mon-Fri, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. CST)

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Questions?



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