

Post-9/11 GI Bill



Education Service
U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs

March 2009



Eligibility

- CH33 Election
 - Individuals who are eligible for CH30, CH 1606, or CH 1607 on August 1, 2009 ***and*** who have CH 33 qualifying active duty service must make an irrevocable election relinquishing eligibility under one of those benefit programs to receive CH33
 - No CH30 election cutoff
- Honorable Discharge
 - Not required for EPTS, CIWD, HDSP



Entitlement

- Generally, individuals are eligible for up to 48 months of entitlement between two programs
- Individuals transferring to CH33 from CH30 are limited to the months of CH30 entitlement remaining at the time of the election
 - If an individual exhausted all entitlement under chapter 30 prior to electing CH33 he/she may use up to 12 months under CH33



Tuition

- The in-State maximum tuition payable for an individual will be determined by multiplying the highest tuition per credit hour by the number of hours certified by the school
 - VA University reports that Joe Veteran is charged \$2400 tuition for 15 credit hours
 - The in-State maximum per credit hour is \$100
 - Joe may receive \$1500 for tuition



FEES

- Any mandatory charges (other than tuition, room, and board) that are applied by the IHL for pursuit of a program of education.
 - Includes health premiums, freshman fees, lab fees
 - Does not include Study Abroad fees unless required for program of education
- The amount of fees payable during each term, quarter, or semester may not exceed the maximum in-State amount posted by VA



Tuition and Fees

- Maximum amounts payable determined by State Approving Agencies (SAA) in cooperation with VA
 - Information posted on GI Bill Website is preliminary
 - Callers should be directed to sign up for RSS feed email alerts to receive notification of changes in the maximum amounts payable (and other information)
 - <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>



Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA)

- Based on the BAH payable for an E5 with dependents living in the zip code of the school
- Paid for each day the individual is enrolled at more than half time and in a resident course
- Full amount paid to each qualifying individual if all criteria are met
 - Full amount payable to husband and wife at the same time



Foreign Training

- Foreign Training
 - Individuals may receive CH33 benefits for an approved program of education offered at a foreign institution
 - Average in-State amounts will be used to determine maximum tuition, fees, and monthly housing allowance



Parent/Supplemental School

- Individuals will be paid based on their enrollment at each school, even if schools are located in different states
 - Tuition will be paid to each school that submits an enrollment certification
 - Monthly Housing Allowance will be paid based on primary school or school where resident courses are being pursued



Transfer of Entitlement (TOE)

- DoD determines eligibility to TOE
 - Each service branch will issue policy at a later date regarding eligibility requirements for TOE
- Individuals must be in the Armed Forces on or after 8/1/2009 to be eligible to transfer benefits



Payment Issues

- **Early/ Veteran Priority Registration**
 - Schools will submit enrollment certifications for for each term, quarter, or semester
 - We will notify schools when we begin accepting enrollment certifications for CH33

- **School Payment Requirement**
 - VA must receive an enrollment certification before a payment can be issued



Payment Issues Contd.

- Tuition and Fees Refund (due to call-up)
 - Schools should continue to refund tuition and fees to individuals in accordance with their regularly established policy
- Refunds
 - Financial aid applied to the individual's account after he or she is charged will not affect VA benefit payments
- Programs (Pell Grants, scholarships, loans)
 - VA will pay based on the amount the student is charged



Overpayment of Benefits

- VA will determine the amount of an overpayment for an individual in receipt of chapter 33 benefits
- An individual who does not complete one or more courses in the certified period of enrollment, and who does not substantiate mitigating circumstances for not completing such course(s), will be charged an overpayment equal to the amount of ALL educational assistance paid for such course(s) for that period of enrollment



Overpayment of Benefits (Cont'd)

- This means, the student is responsible for any overpayment incurred as a result of not completing courses
- In the event a student does not complete a course, schools should follow their established student refund policy

Bottom Line: Tuition and Fees payments are paid to the school on behalf of the student; overpayments for Tuition and Fees will be charged to the student



Overpayment of Benefits (Cont'd)

- In the event a student does not complete a course, the student may (or may not) receive a refund from the school

Bottom Line: If an overpayment is charged, the student will make repayment arrangements with VA's Debt Management Center (DMC) regardless of whether or not a refund was received from the school



Overpayment of Benefits (Contd)

- If an overpayment is charged, VA will notify the student
- Overpayment notifications will inform the student of the overpayment amount and whom to contact to establish a repayment schedule
- Overpayments are collected by the VA Debt Management Center



Overpayment of Benefits (Contd)

- Students with existing overpayments on their record may attend schools; however, their benefit payments (including Tuition and Fees) may be applied to the overpayment until it is repaid



Making A Decision

- Amount of Active Duty Service after 9/10/01
- MHA only payable for individuals
 - Off active duty
 - Training at more than half-time
 - Enrolled in at least one resident course
- CH30 benefit may be better
 - See Comparison Chart on GI Bill website
 - http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/CH33/Benefit_Comparison_Chart.htm



Counseling

- Vocational and Educational counseling is available upon request
- Ch31 participants will continue to receive counseling from fully trained counselors on all available educational assistance programs administered by VA
- Customer service representatives are also available at 1-888-GI-BILL-1