# **VA EDUCATION BENEFITS – FAQ**

## How do I apply for VA Education Benefits?

If you would like to apply for VA Education Benefits, please visit the Department of Veterans Affairs website at <a href="www.gibill.va.gov">www.gibill.va.gov</a>. Click on "Apply for Benefits" and use the VONAPP portal to fill out the online application. Once you have submitted the application and have been approved, you will receive a Certificate of Eligibility in the mail in 4-6 weeks. You will need to turn in a copy of the certificate along with your DD-214 to the VA Certifying Official.

### I am a transfer student, what do I need to do start my benefits at CTC?

If you have used your benefits at another school, please visit the Department of Veterans Affairs website at <a href="www.gibill.va.gov">www.gibill.va.gov</a>. Click on "Apply for Benefits" and use the VONAPP portal to fill out a Change of Program or Place of Training form. Print out a copy of the completed online form and turn in a copy to the VA Certifying Official.

# I'm logged into VONAPP, which form should I fill out?

The following is a list of commonly used forms:

**22-1990** – *Application for VA Education Benefits* (use this form if you are the veteran or have had Post 9/11 benefits transferred to you by a parent/spouse)

**22-5490** – *Application for Survivor's and Dependent's Educational Assistance* (use this form if you are a dependent of a veteran that is 100% service-connected disabled or deceased)

**22-1995** – *Request for Change of Program or Place of Training* (use this form if you are the veteran and you are transferring to another school or changing your program of study)

**22-5495** – Request for Change of Program or Place of Training for Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (use this form if you are the dependent of a veteran and you are transferring to another school or changing your program of study)

I have registered for classes and turned in all of my documents. When will I be certified? The certification process begins approximately 30 days before the start of any given term. Once you are certified, you should receive an email confirmation.

#### Do VA benefits affect HOPE?

VA benefits only affect HOPE if you are receiving the Post 9/11 GI Bill and receiving both at the same time. HOPE pays first and the remaining balance is reported to the VA.

I want to know how much my monthly payments will be. Can you tell me? Any questions concerning entitlement should be directed to the VA at 1-888-442-4551.

# Do I have to verify my enrollment each month to receive a payment from the VA? The following VA chapters are required to verify monthly attendance via the Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE) or by calling 1-877-823-2378 to avoid payment delays.

Chapter 30 (MGIB Active Duty)
Chapter 1606 (Selective Reserve)
Chapter 1607 (REAP)
VRAP (Veteran's Retraining Assistance Program)

# Am I required to pay my tuition/fees/books out-of-pocket?

With the exception of some Chapter 33 students and Chapter 31, all students are required to pay tuition/fees/books out of pocket. If a Chapter 33 student is not covered at 100% or is considered out-of-state, they will be required to pay the difference before the fee payment deadline. Chapter 31 students are part of 3<sup>rd</sup> party billing and will need to speak to their Voc-Rehab counselor to request a Form 1905 to be sent to the Certifying Official. *Effective* 8/1/2011, VA only covers the in-state portion of tuition and fees. If you are classified as an out-of-state student, you are responsible for the out-of-state portion of tuition.

#### I haven't received my payment yet? When can I expect it?

Payments begin the month after the beginning of each semester. If you have not received your monthly payment and it has been at least 30-45 days since you were notified by CTC that your enrollment certification has been submitted to the Department of Veteran Affairs for processing, please call the VA directly at 1-888-442-4551.

I received a letter from the VA stating that CTC did not report tuition and fees? Why is that? Due to issues with overpayments, the VA Certifying Official reports credit hours separately from tuition and fees. Credit hours are reported before the start of the term. However, to ensure that tuition and fees are reported accurately to the VA, they are submitted after the add/drop period is over.

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