




Department of Veterans Affairs
Post-9/11 GI Bill
Title 38 U.S.C. Chapter 33


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Who is eligible to apply for Post-9/11 GI Bill Benefits?


Individuals with active duty service after 09/10/2001 who:

- Serve a period of at least 90 aggregate days.
- Were also enrolled in earlier programs such as the:
 - Original GI Bill
 - Post-Viet Nam Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP), Chapter 32
 - Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB), Chapter 30
- Also declined to enroll in the VEAP or MGIB.



What are my benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

- Individuals on active duty are eligible for **100% cost of tuition and fees.**
- Fees are defined as mandatory charges (other than tuition, room, and board) that are applied by the institution of higher learning, such as:
 - Health premiums
 - Freshman fees
 - Graduation fees
 - Lab fees



I'm currently enrolled in another education benefit program. How do I **apply** into the Post-9/11 GI Bill program?

- You must permanently dis-enroll from the current program.
- And make application to the Post-9/11 program at the VA Web site www.va.gov.



Can I transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to my dependents?

- **PHS and NOAA officers are not eligible for the part of the Post-9/11 GI bill that allows certain members of the Armed Forces to transfer benefits to their dependents.**
- The Commissioned Officers Association (COA) and other groups are advocating in an effort to get the exclusion of PHS and NOAA officers changed.



How much does it cost to apply for Post-9/11 GI Bill Benefits?

- There is no cost for Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- Benefits under the new program are free, unlike the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) which cost \$1,200 to enroll.




How do I apply for Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits?

- The Post-9/11 GI Bill is administered through the VA. PHS does not enroll you in the Post-9/11 program.
- To apply for benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill you should go to the VA Web site at www.va.gov and follow the links to education benefits and the online application form “VONAPP.”



When should you apply for benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

- Since eligibility for the program benefits is established by serving on active duty, there is no enrollment into the program.
- As such, there is no need to apply for benefits until you have identified a school or program and are ready to enroll.
- Currently, there is no deadline for application.



How much does the Post-9/11 program pay?


- Active duty members may receive **the cost of tuition and fees.**
- The MGIB **caps** the active duty benefit at \$1,321 a month for full time status.



How much does the Post-9/11 program pay?


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- Veterans receive an amount based on the cost of in-state tuition for the state in which the school is located.
- Veterans are also eligible for a monthly Basic Housing Allowance (BAH) benefit.



If you switch from the MGIB to the Post-9/11 can you switch back?

- No.
- You will be permanently dis-enrolled from the MGIB or VEAP when the VA processes your application for Post-9/11 program.




If I have used some of my benefits under the MGIB what benefits will I get under the Post-9/11 program?

- VA education programs provide a total of 36 months of benefits. If you have used 18 months of benefits under the MGIB and enroll in Post-9/11 program you will be eligible for 18 months of benefits.
- However, if you have used all 36 months of your benefits under MGIB you can still enroll in the Post-9/11 GI Bill and received up to 12 additional months of benefits.
- You may wish to exhaust all of your MGIB benefits before enrolling in the Post-9/11 GI Bill.



Is there a refund of the \$1,200 enrollment fee if you switch from MGIB to Post-9/11?

- If you have unused benefits under the MGIB, a portion of the \$1,200 enrollment fee will be refunded to you once you have exhausted your benefits under Post-9/11.
- However, any refund of the \$1,200 will be made as an increase to the last monthly housing allowance payment.
- So you cannot receive a refund of your MGIB contribution until you have separated from active duty.



Can the Post-9/11 benefits be used for vocational training?

- No. The Post-9/11 GI Bill can only be used for programs taken at an institution of higher learning.
- The MGIB benefits include both college programs and vocational programs such as, certificate programs, on-the-job training, apprenticeship training, ect.
- You must consider your personal plans and goals when comparing the programs to make a decision.



Can the Post-9/11 benefits be used for Licensing and Certification Test?

- Eligible individuals may be reimbursed for one licensing or certification test.
- Test must be approved for VA benefits.
- Test must be taken on or after August 1, 2009.
- Reimbursement may not exceed \$2,000.



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You are strongly encouraged to go to the VA Web site www.va.gov and review all information pertaining to the MGIB and the Post-9/11 GI Bill in order to make an informed decision based on your unique circumstances and future plans.

If you have questions please contact

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