ARIZONA

Veterans Information Directory

Douglas A Ducey - Governor

Wanda Wright - Director
Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

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Dear Arizona Veterans,

You are an important asset to the State of Arizona. After taking the uniform off, many continue to serve our state and communities in numerous ways. We owe it to you, our veterans, to ensure that you receive the benefits that your service has earned.

The Arizona Department of Veterans' Services is a vital link in connecting our veterans with their benefits. One of its main missions is to help you navigate the maze of veterans' benefits available and to be your advocates in ensuring you receive all the benefits to which you are entitled.

This book highlights some of the most common benefits that are available

On behalf of the citizens of the State of Arizona, thank you for your service.

Sincerely

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona

Arizona Department of Veterans' Services
3839 N. 3rd Street, Suite 209
Phoenix, AZ 85012

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Arizona Veterans Donation Fund
(602) 255-3373

A BRIEF GUIDE FOR VETERANS

Your honorable service in the U.S. Armed Forces entitles you to a number of benefits from the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and, in certain cases, from the State of Arizona. The purpose of this guide is to provide you with an overview to get you started in the right direction.

Refer to www.azdvs.gov for additional information.

WHO CAN YOU CALL FOR ANSWERS AND ASSISTANCE?

ADVS helps veterans and their dependents navigate federal and state programs of benefits and entitlements from their date of discharge until providing benefits for their last dependent. In Arizona, there are Veterans Benefits Counselors (or VBCs) stationed in or traveling to all population centers of the state. These individuals serve as the local contact person for veterans and provide assistance in applying for the various benefits and programs that are available for veterans. The agency has been committed to providing VBC services within a one-hour drive of all veterans. See the listing in the back of this booklet for locations and phone numbers.

The mission of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services is:
"Enriching and honoring Arizona's veterans and their families through education, advocacy and service."

The Veterans Benefits Counselor (or VBC) serves as an advocate for veterans and provides assistance with claims.

Proudly serving Arizona's veterans as they have served us.

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www.azdvs.gov

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICES
1-800-852-8387

BULLHEAD CITY
2249 Clearwater Dr., Unit A
Bullhead City, AZ 86442
(928) 763-9401 Fax: (928) 763-9424

CASA GRANDE
401 N. Marshall St.
Casa Grande, AZ 85222
(520) 510-5142

CHANDLER
3130 N. Arizona Ave., Ste 114
Chandler, AZ 85224
(480) 558-2052

CHINLE
PO Box 880
Chinle, AZ 86503
(928) 674-8332

FLAGSTAFF
2705 N. 4th St., Suite B
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 779-4166

KINGMAN
2301 Harrison St.
Kingman, AZ 86401
(928) 718-7621 Fax: (928) 718-7634

LAKE HAVASU CITY
2160 McCulloch Blvd N suite 105
LHC, AZ 86403
(928) 505-4616 Fax: (928) 505-4622

PHOENIX
(National Guard Papago)
5636 E. McDowell, Bldg. M5710
Phoenix, AZ 85008
(602) 629-4380

MARICOPA COLLEGE
17945 N Regent Drive
Bldg. A, Room A106
Maricopa, AZ 85138
(520)-510-5142
Efax #(520) 300-8403

PHOENIX

3333 N Central Ave Suite 1052

(602) 627-3261

PRESCOTT
240 S. Montezuma St. suite 208
Prescott, AZ 86303
(928) 443-0167

SAFFORD
624 S. 5th Ave.
Safford, AZ 85546-2716
(928) 428-3403

SHOW LOW
5171 Cub Lake rd. C 380
Show Low, AZ 85901-7927
(928) 537-2044

SIERRA VISTA
1300 Buffalo Soldier Trail
Sierra Vista, AZ 85365
(520) 458-7144

SURPRISE
13985 W. Grand Ave., RM 1052
Surprise, AZ 85374
(623) 583-1025

Mail to—P.O. Box 9380

Surprise, AZ 85374

TUCSON
1661 North Swan rd. Suite 128
Tucson, AZ 85712
(520) 207-4960

YUMA
2811 S. 4th Ave., Suite D
Yuma, AZ 85364
(928) 726-2851

Community Based Outpatient Clinics Continued

Phoenix (Thunderbird VA Clinic) 9424 N 25th Ave Phoenix, AZ 85021
(602) 633-6900

S E Clinic—3285 S Val Vista dr. Gilbert, AZ 85297
(480) 397-2800

Tucson—7395 S. Houghton Road Suite 129 Tucson, AZ 85747
(520) 664-1831

Yuma 3111 S 4th Avenue, Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-9973

VETERANS BENEFITS - FEDERAL

DD FORM 214

Your Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty is one of the most important documents you will ever receive and should be kept in a safe place. If you wish to apply for one or more of the veterans' benefits you have earned through your military service at any time, you will be required to submit a copy of your DD-214. You may request a duplicate DD214 by requesting it online at www.vetrecs.archives.gov.

SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITIES

Service Connected Disability compensation is payable to wartime or peace-time veterans who incur or aggravate a disability while on active military service. Active military service may also include any period of active or in-active duty for training.

Some important things to remember for establishing service connection:

- It is the veterans' responsibility to file a claim for SC.
- Those on active duty should be advised to get treatment for any injury or illness and request copies of their service medical records.
- Claims for SC should be filed immediately following discharge, (if not filed while on Active Duty and have less than 60 days until separation or retirement). Have less than 180 days until separation or retirement
- Once SC is established, the VA will provide free medical treatment for the condition or conditions.

The VA rates disabilities from 0% to 100% (In 10% increments) disabling, depending upon the severity of the condition(s). If at any time the service connected condition(s) worsen, the veteran may request an increased rating.

COMPENSATION RATES 12-01-2014(for a single veteran)

10%	20%	30%	40%	50%
$133.17	**$263.23**	**$407.75**	**$587.36**	**$836.13**
60%	**70%**	**80%**	**90%**	**100%**
$1,059.09	**$1,334.71**	**$1,551.48**	**$1,743.48**	**$2,906.83**

Any veteran entitled to compensation and whose disability is rated not less than 30% shall be entitled to additional compensation for dependents.

See http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/ for current rates.

DEPENDENCY & INDEMNITY COMPENSATION (DIC)

Effective December 1, 2012, the monthly rate of DIC payable to a surviving spouse is $1,215, if the veteran's death was on or after January 1, 1993. Additional allowance of $258 is payable where the veteran was rated totally disabled for at least 8 years prior to death. For each dependent child under the age of 18, add $301.

VA MEDICAL CARE

Generally speaking, all veterans are eligible to apply for medical treatment at a VA Medical Center. Under the current eligibility criteria, those who do not have any service connected disabilities are subject to a 'Means Test' to determine which Priority Group they fit into and whether or not they will have to make a co-payment for their care.

Important note: Military personnel who recently served in a Post 911 combat zone are eligible for free medical care at a VA Medical facility for a period of five years following discharge from active duty, for conditions possibly related to their military service. This does not include medical problems such as a common cold or injuries from an accident which happened after the service member was discharged from Active Duty.

HOME LOAN GUARANTY

VA guaranteed loans are made by private lenders such as banks, savings & loans and mortgage companies. A major advantage of the VA Home Loan Guaranty is that it often eliminates the need for making a large down payment that is generally required in the purchase of a home. To use this program, the veteran must first apply for a Certificate of Eligibility from the VA.< with an original or certified copy of DD-214

Veterans of the Gulf War era — August 2, 1990 to a date to be determined, must generally complete 24 months of continuous active duty service or the full period (at least 90 days) for which they were called to active duty, and be discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

PENSION

Veterans who served during wartime and have a financial need may apply to the VA for a non-service-connected, income based pension.

BURIAL BENEFITS

Burial benefits for veterans and their dependents may be available. Contact a VBC for additional information on burial, headstones, and survivors' benefits.

VETERANS BENEFITS - STATE OF ARIZONA

Arizona State Veteran Home

The Arizona State Veteran Home is located in Phoenix at 4141 N Herrera Way It is a 200 bed, skilled care nursing facility operated and maintained by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services. For more information, contact the Admissions Coordinator of the Veteran Home at (602) 248-1550.

Tucson State Veteran Home

The Tucson State Veterans Home is located at 6th avenue and Ajo Way, adjacent to the VA Hospital in Tucson For more information, contact the Admissions Coordinator of the Veteran Home at (520) 638-2155

VAMC COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS

Call before going to the facility.
Emergency or walk-in appointments may not be available.

Anthem	3618 W. Anthem Way, BLDG D-120 Anthem, AZ 85086	(623) 551-6092 1-800-949-1005, ext. 7200
Buckeye	213 E. Monroe Ave. Buckeye, Arizona 85326	(623) 386-6093
Casa Grande	1876 E Sabin Dr. Bldg. A Casa Grande, AZ 85222	(520) 836-2536
Cottonwood	501 S Willard Cottonwood, AZ 86326	(928) 649-1532
Flagstaff	1300 W University Flagstaff, AZ 86001	1-800-949-1005 ext. 7820
Globe	5860 S. Hospital Dr., Suite 111 Globe, AZ 85501	(928) 425-0027/8
Green Valley	380 West Hermosa Drive # 140 Green Valley, AZ 85614	(520) 629-4952 1-800-470-8262
Page	801 B Navajo Dr. North, Page, AZ	(928) 776-6013
Kingman	1726 Beverly Avenue Kingman, AZ 86409	(928) 692-0080
Lake Havasu	2035 Mesquite Suite D Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403	(928) 680-0090
Mesa	6950 E. Williams Field Rd, Bldg. 23 Mesa, AZ 85212-6033	(602) 222-6568
Payson	1106 N. Beeline Hwy. Payson, AZ 85541	(928) 472-3148
Safford	711 S 14th Ave, Safford, AZ	(928) 428-3403
Show Low	5171 Cub Lake Road Show low, AZ 85091	(928) 532-1069
Sierra Vista	101 N Coronado dr. Suite A Tucson, AZ 85635	(520) 629-4952
Surprise	13985 W. Grand Avenue Surprise, AZ 85374	623) 251-2884
Tucson	2945 W. Ina Road Tucson, AZ 85741	(520) 297-2418

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Arizona Department of Veterans Services

Office of the Director (602) 255-3373
3839 N Third St. Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Arizona State Veteran Home (602) 248-1550
4141 North Third St. (Herrera Way) 1 (800) 406-3373
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Tucson State Veteran Home
555 East Ajo Way (520) 638-2155
Tucson, AZ 85713

Fiduciary Division (602) 234-8425
3839 N Third St. Suite 209
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Veterans Education & Training Approving Agency (602) 255-5359
3839 N Third St, Suite 209
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Veterans Service Offices **(see page 28 for statewide listing)**

Cemeteries

National Cemetery (480) 513-3600
23029 N Cave Creek Road
Phoenix, AZ 85024

Southern Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery (520) 458-7144
1300 Buffalo Soldier Rd. 1 (800) 952-4700
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REGIONAL OFFICE

3333 N. Central Avenue 1-800-827-1000
Phoenix, AZ 85012

VA MEDICAL CENTERS

Phoenix VA Medical Center	650 E. Indian School Road Phoenix, AZ 85012	(602) 277-5551 1-800-359-8262
Prescott VA Medical Center	500 N. Highway 89N Prescott, AZ 86313	(928) 445-4860 1-800-949-1005
Tucson VA Medical Center	3601 S. 6th Ave Tucson, AZ 85723	(520) 792-1450 1-800-470-8262

DOCUMENTS

RECORDING OF DISCHARGES

Any county recorder, free of charge shall record military discharge papers. Discharge information may not be disclosed to the general public if stored in electronic format. Location of each County Recorder's Office may be found in the blue pages of your area telephone directory. A.R.S. § 11 - 465.

PUBLIC RECORD CERTIFICATION

Public officials shall issue without charge, certified copies of public records for use in making a claim for pension, compensation, allotment allowance, insurance, or other benefits from the United States. A.R.S. § 39 -122(A).

EDUCATION

TUITION AND FEES-DEFERRED PAYMENT

A veteran or eligible dependent who has applied for educational benefits under the G.I. Bill state-supported community colleges, colleges and universities may defer payment of tuition, fees and required books for a period of 120 days with no interest charges. If, at the end of such period, the person has not received from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs the initial benefit monies for tuition and fees, an extension may be granted until such time benefits are received. A.R.S. § 41 - 611.

TUITION WAIVERS FOR WAR-WOUNDED AND DEPENDENTS OF KILLED IN ACTION

A former member of the Arizona National Guard who received a purple heart citation on or after September 11, 2001 (who was medically discharged because of a service-connected injury) is eligible for a tuition waiver. A tuition waiver for Arizona community colleges and universities is also available to a dependent of the national guard member or member of the United States armed forces who was a resident of the state of Arizona or stationed in Arizona and who was killed in the line of duty or who died from injuries suffered in the line of duty while traveling to or from duty. A.R.S. § 15-1808).

EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCES

AGE LIMIT

An honorably discharged veteran shall be eligible for employment preference, rights, and privileges under any merit system in the state or any political subdivision thereof, regardless of age, if otherwise qualified. A.R.S. § 38 - 491

CIVIL SERVICE

Veterans who pass an examination for employment by the state, county or city will have 5 points added to their certification score. The veteran must have served for more than six (6) months and be separated under honorable conditions. Veterans entitled to compensation for a service-connected

disability will have 10 points added to their certification score. Certain spouses or surviving spouses shall be given a 5 point preference if the veteran died of a service-connected disability: or as a member of the armed forces serving on active duty is (a) missing in action, (b) captured, or (c) forcibly detained or interned by a foreign power; or has total and permanent service-connected disability, or who died while such disability was in force. A.R.S. § 38 - 492.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members of any fire company inducted into the military establishment of the United States for military training are authorized reinstatement to their previous rating after discharge from military service. A.R.S. § 9 - 971. The period of military service shall be included in computing the length of service of the fireman to determine eligibility for retirement. A.R.S. § 9 - 970.

POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT

The period of military service shall be included in computing the length of service of the employee to determine eligibility for retirement. A.R.S. § 9 - 933.

RESERVE STATUS/WAR EMERGENCY

Appointive officers or employees of the state or of a political subdivision will be reinstated to their former positions upon completion of military service to which they were inducted or ordered during time of war or was called to service because of their status as an active or inactive member of the Reserves. A.R.S. § 38 - 298.

CREDIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE FOR STATE RETIREMENT BENEFITS

A participant of the state system or plan may receive credited past service or future service for active military service if the participant was honorably discharged from service. The period of military service for which the participant receives credited service is not on account with any other retirement system. Contact the nearest state personnel office for additional information and eligibility. A.R.S. § 43 -1022(2)(a).

FIDUCIARY SERVICES

If fiduciary services as guardian of a veteran, conservator of a veteran's estate or both is needed; the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services is authorized by A.R.S. § 41-605 to provide these services. For more specific information regarding veteran fiduciary programs, contact the Fiduciary Division at (602) 248-1554.

TAX AND LICENSE FEE EXEMPTIONS

STATE INCOME TAX EXEMPTIONS

To the extent not already excluded from Arizona gross income under sec. 112 of the Internal Revenue Code, compensation received for active service as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States for any month during any part

- ⇨ Labor Market Information
- ⇨ Access to our current job listings
- ⇨ Computer Resource room available to all job seekers
- ⇨ Job Development -Promote the hiring of a specific veteran to an employer
- ⇨ Screening for employer incentive programs such as Work Opportunity Tax Credit and the Federal Bonding Program Referrals to support services such as the VA, Family Assistance, State Vocational Rehabilitation and many others as needed
- ⇨ Veterans focused career fairs
- ⇨ Plan, organize, and participate in Stand Downs to reach out to homeless veterans
- ⇨ Community outreach to promote training and career opportunities for all Veterans

There are 18 locations throughout Arizona to help veterans with their employment needs. Call (520) 628-6810 to find the office closest to you or visit www.azjobconnection.gov

What job protections are provided under USERRA?

In October of 1994, the President signed the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). This law is the latest version of a series of statutes since the 1940's intended to give protection for civilian jobs to those individuals who serve their country in the Armed Forces. USERRA is administered by the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) of the United States Department of Labor.

USERRA ensures that eligible persons, including members of the uniformed services, do not lose their jobs or employment benefits because of their military service.

A person who leaves a civilian job for the purpose of determining fitness for or performing service in the uniformed services, voluntarily or involuntarily, is entitled to return to his or her job if the eligibility criteria of USERRA are met.

- Give advance written or verbal notice of the service to the person's employer (exceptions exist).
- Not exceed a cumulative length of uniformed service of five years with any one employer (exceptions exist).
- Report to work or submit an application for reemployment to such employer within the required time frame.
- Be released from the military under conditions other than those listed in USERRA as disqualifying (applies to all types of service).

If the service period was longer than thirty days, and if the employer requests, the service member must provide documentation that shows the timeliness of the application, that the service limitations were not exceeded, and the character of service is not disqualifying. The employer cannot delay reemployment in the absence of this documentation.

Dental Benefits for Standard, Prime, Remote
No Government dental benefits unless you enroll in TRICARE Dental Program
Enrollment is voluntary; must fill out enrollment form – get from TSC, web site, or by mail

- Pay monthly premium
- Separate from the TRICARE Medical program
- If you chose participating dentist, your cost-shares may be less and they file claim

Impact of Other Health Insurance
TRICARE Standard, Prime or Prime Remote -- If you keep Other Health Insurance (OHI), TRICARE pays second to OHI. Think twice before dropping it and thoroughly investigate coverage of each plan.

Web Sites

TRICARE	http://www.tricare.mil
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	http://www.va.gov

TriWest Healthcare Alliance administers the TRICARE program for military Service members and their families in the 21-state West Region, which includes Arizona. **http://www.triwest.com**

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

Department of Labor

The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) offers employment and training services to eligible veterans through a non-competitive Jobs for Veterans State Grants Program. Under this grant program, funds are allocated to state Workforce Agencies in direct proportion of veterans seeking employment within their state. The grants support two principal positions:

- Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialist (DVOP)
- Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVER)

Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists provide intensive services to meet the employment needs of disabled veterans and other eligible veterans.

Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVER) conduct outreach to employers and engage in advocacy efforts with hiring executives to increase employment opportunities for veterans, and generally assist veterans to gain and retain employment. Services provided:

- ⇨ Advocacy for hiring of Veterans to our employer community
- ⇨ Case Management
- ⇨ Creating or updating resumes
- ⇨ Referrals to employment and training opportunities that may include apprenticeships and or on-the-job training
- ⇨ Referrals for employment related workshops at the local One Stop Career Centers

of which members served in a combat zone is exempt. A.R.S. § 43 -1022 (19).

Federal (Civil Service or Military Retirement) payments up to $2,500.00 per year are exempt. A.R.S. § 43-1022 (2) (a). **NOTE:** Contact the Arizona Department of Revenue (1-602-255-3381) for any veteran tax issues.

PROPERTY TAX
Exemption for property of widows, widowers, and disabled persons is outlined in A.R.S. § 42 -11111 as follows:

A. The property of widows, widowers and disabled persons who are residents of this state is exempt from taxation to the extent allowed by article IX, sections 2, 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3, Constitution of Arizona, and subject to the conditions and limitations prescribed by this section.
B. Pursuant to article IX, section 2.3, Constitution of Arizona, the exemptions from taxation under this section are allowed in the amount of:
   1. Three thousand dollars if the person's total assessment does not exceed twenty thousand dollars.
   2. No exemption if the person's total assessment exceeds twenty thousand dollars.
C. On or before December 31 of each year, the department shall increase the following amounts based on the average annual percentage increase, if any, in the GDP price deflator in the two most recent complete state fiscal years:
   1. The total allowable exemption amount and the total assessment limitation amount under subsection B of this section.
   2. The total income limitation amounts under subsection E, paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section. For the purposes of this subsection, "GDP price deflator" means the average of the four implicit price deflators for the gross domestic product reported by the United States department of commerce or its successor for the four quarters of the state fiscal year.
D. For the purpose of determining the amount of the allowable exemption pursuant to subsection B of this section, the person's total assessment shall not include the value of any vehicle that is taxed under title 28, chapter 16, article 3.

NOTE: The exemption is applied to real estate first, then to a mobile home or an automobile. Please call your County Assessor in your county for assistance.

VEHICLE LICENSE TAX AND REGISTRATION FEES

A veteran residing in Arizona shall be exempt from a vehicle license tax (VLT) on a vehicle acquired by the veteran through financial aid from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. A.R. S. § 28 - 5802(A)(1).

No VLT or registration fee shall be collected from any veteran for a personally owned vehicle if such veteran is certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to be one hundred percent service-connected disabled and drawing compensation on that basis. A.R.S. § 28 - 5802(A()(2).

Until the surviving spouse of a 100% disabled veteran remarries or dies, the law also applies to the survivor. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will provide the attached certification letter to all eligible spouses upon request. To

receive the VLT and registration fee exemptions, the eligible spouse must present this certification letter to the Division at the time of vehicle registration. A new certification will be required each year.

A veteran claiming an exemption prescribed shall present satisfactory proof of such U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs financial aid or government compensation and certificate of determination of one hundred percent disability, as applicable. Such exemption may be claimed and granted during each 12-month period for only one vehicle or any replacement of such vehicle owned by the veteran. A.R.S. § 28 - 5802(B).

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

Complimentary Licenses

- **Pioneer—**A pioneer seventy years or older who has been a resident of this state for 25 or more consecutive years immediately preceding application for the license.
- **Disabled Veteran—**A Veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been a resident of this state for one year or more immediately preceding application for the license and who is receiving compensation from the United States government for permanent service connected disabilities rated on a schedule as 100% disabling.

ARIZONA STATE PARKS

Arizona State Parks Offers provides Arizona's 100% permanently disabled veterans with a complimentary "Disabled Veterans Annual Day Use pass". The pass allows qualified veterans with day use access to all twenty-seven State Parks. The Disabled Veterans Annual Day Pass covers the park entrance fee, and is available to veterans who reside in the state of Arizona, are certified by the Veteran's Administration as one hundred percent disabled, and draw compensation on that basis. For Parks and Camping for the National Parks, please call (620) 640-5250. Eligible veterans may request the application form from Arizona State Park's central office at 1300 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, (602) 542-4174, (toll free 1-800-285-3703) or fill out a registration form at www.azstateparks.com.

PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES

Every funeral director, embalmer, or apprentice embalmer who serves in the armed forces during a time of war is exempt from paying renewal license fees for the duration of the war and six months thereafter or for a period of six months following discharge from the armed forces. A.R.S. § 32 -1335.

- If you do not choose a PCM—one will be assigned to you
- May change your PCM if more than one PCM is available in your area
- If a network PCM is not available, you may choose a "certified/authorized" TRICARE provider
- Use PCM for all primary care

TRICARE Prime Remote Specialty Care

- If you need specialty care, your PCM seeks pre-authorization from the regional Health Care Finder
- If you must travel more than 100 miles one way to get this specialty care, you may qualify for the Travel Reimbursement Program; contact your TPR POC for more information

TRICARE Standard/Extra

- Automatically enrolled with activation
- No premium payment
- Greater flexibility in provider choice
- Cost share:
- 20% non-network
- 15% network (Extra)
- Annual deductible is presently waived

TRICARE Standard/Extra Family Demonstration Project

- Eliminates deductibles
- Implements 20% cost share for both participating and non-participating providers
- TRICARE pays up to 115% of allowable charge
- Patient will still save 5% on co-pay for a networked provider

Mental Health Benefits for Standard, Prime, Remote

- May self-refer to NETWORK provider for urgent or non-emergency counseling
- For first 8 visits only
- Network provider responsible for/must have authorized Treatment Plan for 9(+) visits
- If the person is Active Duty he/she must have a referral from their PCM. Only family members can go for the first 8 visits without a referral.

Pharmacy Benefits for Standard, Prime, Remote

- MTF—No charge (must be in inventory)
- TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy (TMOP)
- 90-day supply; mailed to your home address
- $3 generic, $9 brand-name
- Use for "maintenance" prescriptions
- Network retail pharmacy
- 30-day supply
- $3 generic, $9 brand-name
- Non-network pharmacy
- $9 or 20%, whichever is higher; plus a deductible

- Reimbursement check is sent to you for you to pay provider; give provider check and copy of EOB (Explanation of Benefits)
- Does not accept what TRICARE allows for payment
- Can collect 15% more than TRICARE allowable; Standard pays out of own pocket; Government pays for Prime
- Must sign a specific waiver to collect more than the extra 15% or must write-off

Participating Provider

- Normally does not ask for payment at time of visit
- Files the claim for you
- Reimbursement check is sent to the provider
- Accepts what TRICARE allows for payment
- Has to write-off "non-covered" amount
- Must have a signed waiver to collect the rest of what TRICARE does not pay

Network Provider

- If TRICARE Standard, you save 5% on your cost-share payment (15% vs. 20%)
- If PRIME, you are referred to this provider first before non-network
- Will file the claim for you
- Will accept what TRICARE allows for payment

TRICARE Prime

- No co-payments, except for pharmacy
- Must complete enrollment process for TRICARE Prime
- No cost to enroll in TRICARE Prime for AD dependents—
- Must obtain all routine care from your Primary Care Manager (PCM)
- All specialty care must be pre-authorized by the TRICARE Service Center (TSC)

TRICARE Prime Remote Benefits

- Benefits similar to TRICARE Prime
- For AD members and families who reside and work 50 miles or more from an MTF
- Determined by zip code
- No cost to enroll
- Dependents must show same address in DEERS in order for AD family member to qualify

TRICARE Prime Remote Enrollment

- Must complete enrollment form: by 20th of month for next month start
- Sponsor's unit and Home Address
- Call 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378) M–F 8:00 am–6:00 pm

TRICARE Prime Remote PCM Choice

- Choose a Network Primary Care Manager (PCM) from an available listing

VETERAN'S EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

VA education benefits are authorized to veterans and qualified dependents under specific chapters of Title 38, US Code. Eligibility for benefits can only be determined by the US Department of Veterans Affairs, except with individuals eligible for Chapter 30 or Chapter 1606, Department of Defense determines eligibility. Benefits can be received from only one VA educational chapter at a time, even if there is eligibility under multiple chapters. Before benefits can be received the program will need to be approved by the Arizona State Approving Agency, which is part of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services. The following is a listing of the various chapters and their general eligibility requirements:

MONTGOMERY GI BILL - ACTIVE DUTY (CHAPTER 30)

This educational entitlement provides up to 36 months of education benefits to eligible veterans. You may use this education entitlement program for degree programs, certificate or correspondence courses, independent study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job training, and vocational flight training programs. Remedial, refresher and deficiency training are available under certain circumstances.

Eligibility Requirements

You may be an eligible veteran if you have an honorable discharge, and you have a High School Diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or, in some cases 12 hours of college credit, and you meet the requirements of one of the categories below:

CATEGORY I

- Entered active duty for the first time after June 30, 1985
- Had military pay reduced by $100 a month for first 12 months
- Continuously served for 3 years, *OR* 2 years if that is what you first enlisted for, *OR* 2 years if you entered Selected Reserve within a year of leaving active duty and served 4 years ("2 by 4" Program)

CATEGORY II

- Entered active duty before January 1, 1977
- Served at least 1 day between 10/19/84 and 6/30/85, and stayed on active duty through 6/30/88, (or 6/30/87 if you entered Selected Reserve within 1 year of leaving active duty and served 4 years)
- On 12/31/89, you had entitlement left from Vietnam Era GI Bill

CATEGORY III

- Not eligible for *MGIB* under Category I or II
- On active duty on 9/30/90 *AND* separated involuntarily after 2/2/91,
- *OR* involuntarily separated on or after 11/30/93,
- *OR* voluntarily separated under either the Voluntary Separation Incentive (VSI) or Special Separation Benefit (SSB) program
- Before separation, you had military pay reduced by $1200

CATEGORY IV

- On active duty on 10/9/96 *AND* you had money remaining in a VEAP (Veteran Education Assistance Program) account on that date *AND* you elected MGIB by 10/9/97
- *OR* entered full-time National Guard duty under title 32, USC, between 7/1/85, and 11/28/89 *AND* you elected MGIB during the period 10/9/96, through 7/8/97
- Had military pay reduced by $100 a month for 12 months or made a $1200 lump-sum contribution

The monthly benefit paid to you is based on the type of training you take, length of your service, your category, and if DOD put extra money in your *MGIB* Fund (called "kickers"). You usually have 10 years to use your *MGIB* benefits, but the time limit can be different in some cases. One example would be: If the veteran was ordered to active duty and served the full period to which activated, the veteran would have a new 10 years from the date of the last period of service as long as individual has entitlement remaining.

CHAPTER 30 RATES - EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014 **MONTHLY RATES FOR PERSONS WHOSE INITIAL OBLIGATED PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY IS MORE THAN THREE YEARS**

TYPE OF TRAINING	FULL TIME	THREE QUARTER-TIME	HALF-TIME
INSTITUTIONAL	$1,717.00	$1,287.75	$858.50
LESS THAN HALF TIME	Tuition and Fees, not to exceed the rate of $858.50 for less than half-time but more than one quarter-time and $429.25 for one quarter-time or less.		
COOPERATIVE	$1,717.00 (Full-Time Only)		
CORRESPONDENCE & FLIGHT	Entitlement charged at the rate of one month for each $1,717.00 paid.		
APPRENTICESHIP/OJT	First 6 Months, $1,287.75; Second 6 months, $944.35; Remainder of program, $600.95.		

MONTHLY RATES FOR PERSONS WHOSE INITIAL OBLIGATED PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY IS LESS THAN THREE YEARS

TYPE OF TRAINING	FULL-TIME	THREE QUARTER-TIME	HALF-TIME
INSTITUTIONAL	$1,395.00	$1,046.25	$697.50
COOPERATIVE	$1,395.00 (Full-Time Only)		
CORRESPONDENCE & FLIGHT	Entitlement Charged at rate of one month for each $1,395.00 paid.		
APPRENTICESHIP/OJT	First 6 months, $1,046.25; Second 6 months, $767.25; Remainder of Program, $488.25.		

CATEGORY II/CHAPTER 30 RATES - EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

INSTITUTIONAL RATES FOR PERSONS WITH REMAINING ENTITLEMENT UNDER CHAPTER 34 OF TITLE 38, U.S.C.

TIME	NO DEPENDENTS	ONE DEPENDENT	TWO DEPENDENTS	EACH ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT
FULL-TIME	$1,905.00	$1,941.00	$1,972.00	$16.00
THREE-QUARTER TIME	$1,429.25	$1,455.75	$1,479.25	$12.00
HALF-TIME	$952.50	$970.50	$986.00	$ 8.50
LESS THAN HALF-TIME BUT MORE THAN ONE-QUARTER-TIME	TUITION AND FEES, NOT TO EXCEED THE RATE OF $952.50.			
ONE-QUARTER TIME	TUITION AND FEES, NOT TO EXCEED THE RATE OF $476.25.			
COOPERATIVE	$1,905.00	$1,941.00	$1,972.00	$16.00
CORRESPONDENCE	55% of the approved charges			
FLIGHT	60% of the approved charges			

TRICARE

1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378) M-F, 8:00 am–6:00 p.m. (all U.S. time zones)

TRICARE is the health care program serving active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, retirees, their families, survivors and certain former spouses worldwide.

Know Your Program

Q: Does TRICARE pay for anything and everything you want to have done?
A: NO. It has to be an entitlement by law, and has to meet medical necessity. If TRICARE does not allow it as a benefit, then you are responsible for paying for the charges.

Key Questions to ask healthcare providers

Are you a TRICARE authorized or certified provider?
Do you participate and accept assignment?

4 Categories of TRICARE

- **Prime** – users close to military installation (50 mi); have the option to enroll
- **Prime Remote** – saves out of pocket costs; have the option to enroll
- **Standard** – priority use of existing providers; automatically enrolled
- **Extra** – use of network providers saves 5% of co-pay $

TRICARE Eligibility

- TRICARE benefits available during sponsor's active duty status
- Family members' benefits based on service member's length of active duty orders
  - All Orders for 30+ consecutive days or more
  - Effective first day of activation

First Step – Update DEERS (Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System)

- Imperative that personal information is current in DEERS
- Update any change in status, including change of address or name
- Activated reservists will review DEERS info during mobilization process
- DEERS reflects ineligible status until orders are final

How to Contact DEERS

1-800-538-9552 (voice) 1-831-655-8317 (fax)
w http://www.tricare.mil/DEERS or visit nearest military personnel office

Provider's Status

- Seek care from a TRICARE "certified/authorized" provider or the bill will not be paid
- Three types of "certified providers"
  - "Non-participating" provider
  - "Participating" provider
  - "Network" provider

Non-Participating Provider

- Can ask you to pay at time of visit
- Can ask you to file your own claim

Vet Centers

Vet Centers staff respect the privacy of all Veterans. All information disclosed in the counseling process is held in the strictest confidence and does not become a part of the electronic medical records system of the VA Medical Center. No information will be released to any person or agency without the written consent from the client, except in circumstances averting a crisis.

Phoenix Vet Center ,77 E Weldon, Phoenix, AZ 85012
602-640-2981

East Valley Vet Center, 1303 S Longmore, Ste 15, Mesa, AZ 85020
480-610-6727

Tucson Vet Center, 3055 N 1st Ave. Tucson, AZ 85719
520-882-0333

Prescott Vet Center, 3180 Stillwater Dr. Ste. A Prescott, AZ 86303
928-778-3469

Hopi Vet Center, P.O. Box 929, Hotevilla, AZ 86030
928-734-5166

Chinle Vet Center, P.O. Box 1934, Chinle, AZ 86503
928-674-3682

West Valley Vet Center, 14050N 83rd Ave. Ste. 170 Peoria, AZ 85381
623-398-8854

Chinle Mobile Vet Center, Navajo (Indian Route 7) Chinle, AZ 86503
928-674-3682

Yuma Vet Center, 1450 16th st. Yuma, AZ 85364
928-271-8700

AHSC Vets Center, 1640 E Drachman, st. Rm. 2101G,Tucson, AZ 85724
520-626-6125

Vet Center Mission

Vet Centers serve veterans and their families by providing a continuum of quality care that adds value for veterans, families, and communities. Care includes professional readjustment counseling, community education, outreach to special populations, the brokering of services with community agencies, and provides a key access link between the veteran and other services in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

JOB TRAINING (OJT & APPRENTICESHIP) RATES

FOR PERSONS WITH REMAINING ENTITLEMENT
UNDER CHAPTER 34 OF TITLE 38, U.S.C.

TIME	NO DEPENDENTS	ONE DEPENDENT	TWO DEPENDENTS	EACH ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT
FIRST 6 MONTHS	$1,390.75	$1,402.88	$1,413.35	$5.25
SECOND 6 MONTHS	$1000.73	$1010.08	$1017.78	$3.85
THIRD 6 MONTHS	$624.75	$630.88	$635.60	$2.45
REMAINDER	$612.85	$618.63	$623.88	$2.45

See http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/ for current rates.

SELECTED RESERVES EDUCATION BENEFIT (CHAPTER 1606)

Members of the Selected Reserve, including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard Reserves, the Army National Guard, and the Air Guard are eligible for MGIB-SR (chapter 1606). The Reserve and Guard components decide who is eligible for the program. VA makes the payments for training. Eligibility Requirements are:

- Have a six-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve signed after June 30, 1985. If you are an officer, you must have agreed to serve six years in addition to your original obligation. For some types of training, it is necessary to have a six-year commitment that begins after September 30, 1990;
- Complete your initial active duty for training (IADT);
- Meet the requirement to receive a high school diploma or equivalency certificate before completing IADT. You may not use 12 hours toward a college degree to meet this requirement;
- Remain in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit, entitlement ends on the day you leave the Selected Reserve.
- If your Reserve or National Guard unit was deactivated during the period October 1, 1991 through September 30, 1995, or you were involuntarily separated (e.g., reduction in force) from Reserve or National Guard service during this same period, you will retain eligibility for MGIB - SR benefits for the full 14 year eligibility period.
- You will also retain MGIB - SR eligibility if you were discharged from Selected Reserve service due to a disability that was not caused by misconduct.
- Your eligibility period may be extended if you are ordered to active duty.
- If your eligibility to this program began prior to October 1, 1992, your period of eligibility ends 10 years from your beginning date of eligibility, or on the day you leave the Selected Reserve.

If your eligibility to this program began on or after October 1, 1992, your period of eligibility ends 14 years from your beginning date of eligibility, or on the day you leave the Selected Reserve.

CHAPTER 1606 RATES - EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

TYPE OF TRAINING	FULL TIME	THREE QUARTER-TIME	HALF-TIME	LESS THAN HALF-TIME
INSTITUTIONAL	$367.00	$274.00	$182.00	$91.75
COOPERATIVE	$367.00			
CORRESPONDENCE	Entitlement charged at the rate of one month for each $367 paid. Correspondence is paid at 55% of the approved charges.			
APPRENTICESHIP/	First 6 months, $275.25; Second 6 months, $201.85 Remaining $128.45			
FLIGHT	Paid at 60% of the approved charges for the course.			

For additional assistance, call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) or access the VA website for GI Bill information at www.gibill.va.gov.

CHAPTER 1607 - OVERVIEW OF PROVISIONS

Purpose of Chapter 1607 – Chapter 1607 provides educational assistance to members of the reserve components called or ordered to active duty in response to a war or national emergency (contingency operations) as declared by the President or Congress.

Note: "Contingency operations" as defined in title 10 U.S. Code means "military operations that are designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the armed forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against opposing military force; or results in the call or order to, or retention on active duty of members of the uniformed services under section 688, 12301(a), 12302, 12304, 12305, or 12406 of 10 U.S.C., chapter 15 of 10 U.S.C., or any other provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress."

Educational Assistance Program Under Chapter 1607 – The Secretaries of each military service, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Homeland Security (for the Coast Guard) will establish this program to provide educational assistance to members of the Ready Reserve.

Eligibility – A member of a reserve component who serves on active duty on or after September 11, 2001 under title 10 U.S. Code for a contingency operation and who serves at least 90 consecutive days or more is eligible for Chapter 1607. National Guard members also are eligible if their active duty is under section 502(f), title 32 U.S.C. and they serve for 90 consecutive days when authorized by the President or Secretary of Defense for a national emergency and is supported by federal funds. Individuals are eligible as soon as they reach the 90-day point whether or not they are currently on active duty. DoD will fully identify contingency operations that qualify for benefits under Chapter 1607.

Disabled members who are injured or have an illness or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty and are released from active duty before completing 90 consecutive days are also eligible.

Note 1: *The "reserve components" consist of Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve, and the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard.*

Note 2: *A "member of a reserve component who serves on active duty" includes persons from the Selected Reserve and the IRR (Individual Ready Reserve). "Contingency operation" does not just mean the current Iraq or Afghanistan operations. DoD will advise VA as to what the authorized contingency operations are. The key issue is: Did a person serve in a contingency operation on or after September 11, 2001? Call-up after that date is not necessarily a requirement.*

Benefits Under Chapter 1607. The educational assistance allowance payable under Chapter 1607 is a percentage of the Chapter 30 3-year rate (Category 1B rate) based on the number of continuous days served on active duty. The full-time rate in the table below is the rate for full-time institutional training under Chapter 1607.

Institutional Training - Effective October 1, 2014

Training Time	Consecutive service of 90 days but less than one year	Consecutive service of 1 year +	Consecutive service of 2 years +
Full time	$686.80	$1030.20	$1,373.60
3/4 time	$510.10	$772.65	$1030.20
1/2 time	$343.40	$515.10	$686.80
Less than 1/2 time	$343.40**	$515.10**	$686.80**
More than 1/4 time 1/4 time or less	$171.70**	$257.55**	$343.40**

** Tuition and Fees ONLY. Payment cannot exceed the listed amount.

The Vet Center provides:

- Individual readjustment counseling
- Group readjustment counseling
- Employment counseling, and referral
- Community education
- Substance abuse information and referral
- Referral for benefits assistance
- Liaison with community agencies
- Marital and family counseling
- Sexual trauma counseling

ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES

War Zone Veterans - all eras, including:

- World War II - three eligible categories European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign (7 Dec 1941 - 8 Nov 1945), Asiatic-Pacific Campaign (7 Dec 1941 - 2 Mar 1946), or American Campaign (7 Dec 1941 - 2 Mar 1946).
- Korean War - 27 Jun 1950 - 27 Jul 1954 (eligible for the Korean Service Medal)
- Vietnam War - 28 Feb 1961 - 7 May 1975
- Vietnam Era Non-Theater - 5 Aug 1964 - 7 May 1975
- Lebanon - August 26, 1982, to February 26, 1984
- Grenada - October 23, 1983, to November 21, 1983
- Panama - December 20, 1989, to January 31, 1990
- Persian Gulf (Iraq and the war on terror) - August 2, 1990 to present
- Somalia - September 5, 1992 to present
- Kosovo/Bosnia - November 20, 1995 to present
- WWII Merchant Marines - December 7, 1941 to August 15, 1945

Women and men of all eras who were sexually harassed or assaulted while on active duty.

PTSD

Post Traumatic Stress is a normal set of reactions to a trauma such as war, which could be experienced by almost anyone. Sometimes, it becomes a Disorder (PTSD) with the passage of time when feelings or issues related to the trauma are not dealt with, but are suppressed by the individual. This can result in problems readjusting to community life following the trauma. A delayed stress reaction may surface after many years and include some or all of the following problems:

- ✓ anger, irritability, and rage
- ✓ feeling nervous
- ✓ depression
- ✓ difficulty trusting others
- ✓ feeling guilt over acts committed or witnessed, the failure to prevent certain events, or merely having survived while others did not.
- ✓ hyper alertness and startle reactions
- ✓ feeling grief or sadness
- ✓ having thoughts and memories that will not go away
- ✓ isolation and alienation from others
- ✓ loss of interest in pleasurable activities
- ✓ low tolerance to stress
- ✓ problems with authority
- ✓ problems feeling good about oneself
- ✓ nightmares
- ✓ substance abuse
- ✓ trouble sleeping
- ✓ anxiety
- ✓ paranoia

READJUSTMENT AND COUNSELING

SUICIDE PREVENTION

1 (800) 273-TALK (8255)

Vet Centers and VA Medical Centers stand ready to reach out and help veterans at risk for suicide. Call the toll-free National Suicide Prevention hotline and indicate you are a veteran. You'll be immediately connected to VA suicide prevention and mental health professionals.

If you feel you are in Crisis - Call the Suicide hotline (1-800-273-TALK) and press "1" when the phone is answered to access services available for veterans.

You can also contact your local VA Medical Center or Vet Center for accessible, compassionate mental health care.

VET CENTERS

Vet Centers are community based and have been part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs since 1978. The goal of the Vet Center program is to provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans in order to help them make a satisfying post-war readjustment to civilian life.

Vet Center Values

Trauma Counseling - To ensure the highest quality of counseling for posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms delivered in accessible community settings.

Special Populations - To reach out to disenfranchised and under-served veterans.

Networking - To establish working relationships with local, state, and federal organizations to assist veterans who are readjusting from military to civilian life.

Wellness - To promote wellness activities with veterans to help them reach quality health and life goals and diminish the need for more intensive health care.

Leadership - To serve as the leaders in provision of treatment and outreach for veterans suffering from war trauma and connect veterans to appropriate resources to compassionately heal that trauma.

Management - To provide a cost effective system of community based Vet Centers bringing services to eligible veterans.

Transitional Assistance - To assist transitioning military personnel with professional readjustment services.

Correspondence Training - Effective October 1, 2014

40% level	22% of the approved cost of course
60% level	33% of the approved cost of course
80% level	44% of the approved cost of course

Entitlement is charged based on the rate of one month for a benefit amount equal to the full-time institutional rate.

Flight Training - Effective October 1, 2014

40% level	24% of the approved cost of course
60% level	36% of the approved cost of course
80% level	48% of the approved cost of course

Entitlement is charged based on the rate of one month for a benefit amount equal to the full-time institutional rate.

Cooperative Training- Effective October 1, 2014

Training Time	Service of 90 days but less than one year	Service of 1 year +	Service of 2 years +
Monthly Rates	$688.80	$1030.20	$1,373.60

Apprenticeship and On-Job Training - Effective October 1, 2013

First 6 months	$515.10	$772.65	$1030.20
Second 6 months	$377.74	$566.61	$755.48
Remaining pursuit Of training	$240.38	$360.57	$480.76

Maximum Months of Assistance – The number of months of entitlement under Chapter 1607 is 36 months. A person could earn 36 months of entitlement after serving the minimum 90 days. The 48-month limitation when combining two or more education programs applies to Chapter 1607. The restoration of entitlement provision applies to members under Chapter 1607 who after they become eligible for Chapter 1607, have to discontinue their education and fail to receive credit for coursework due to call-up.

Programs – Approved educational programs under 1607 will include any educational programs approved under Chapter 30 of title 38 U.S.C.

Written Notification –The law requires DoD to provide members a written notice summarizing the provisions of Chapter 1607 upon release from active duty. DoD will provide details as to the type of written notice they will provide.

Bar to Dual Eligibility – A member may not use the same period of service to qualify for benefits under Chapter 1607 and Chapter 30 of 38 U.S.C. The member must make an irrevocable decision as to which program to credit the service.

Bar to Duplication of Educational Assistance Allowance – If a member is qualified for Chapter 1607, Chapter 1606 of 10 U.S.C. or Chapters 30, 31, 32 or 35 under 38 U.S.C., or the Hostage Relief Act of 1980, he or she may not receive assistance under more than one program at one time. The member must elect which program of assistance he or she wishes to receive.

Chapter 1606 Kickers – The Chapter 1606 kicker will be paid to a member who was otherwise entitled to a Chapter 1606 kicker before call-up and will now receive benefits under Chapter 1607.

Duration of Entitlement to Chapter 1607 – In the case of a member called or ordered to active service while serving in the Selected Reserve, this person remains entitled under Chapter 1607 by continuing to serve in the Selected Reserve after being released from active duty. In the case of a member called or ordered to active service while serving in the Ready Reserve, this person remains entitled under Chapter 1607 by continuing to serve in the Ready Reserve after active duty. (The latter provision refers to individuals called up from the IRR. To continue to be eligible after their active duty, they must continue to serve in the IRR. However, they do not have to continue to serve in the Selected Reserve.)

Note: *There is no fixed delimiting period for persons eligible under Chapter 1607 as there is for all of the other VA education programs. There is one exception: If a member is separated from the Ready Reserve for disability which was not the result of the individual's own willful misconduct, the person is entitled to Chapter 1607 benefits for 10-years after the date of entitlement.*

Effective Date of Benefits – Chapter 1607 benefits may be paid before the date of enactment the law. Chapter 1607 benefits are potentially payable from Dec. 9, 2001 (90 days after Sept. 11, 2001) for persons who were serving on a contingency operation on Sept. 11, 2001 and who were in school on Dec. 9, 2001.

Termination of Assistance Under Chapter 1607 – Members receiving assistance under Chapter 1607 will have benefits terminated if they receive financial assistance under section 2107 (ROTC scholarship) of title 10 U.S.C. or when the person separates from the Ready Reserve. This is a permanent termination, but the member could be entitled to a resumption of benefits under chapter 1607 at a later date due to a different qualifying period of service.

VA VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION & EMPLOYMENT (CHAPTER 31)

Veterans and service members who served in the Armed Forces on or after Sept. 16, 1940, are eligible for vocational rehabilitation if three conditions are met:

1. They suffered a service-connected disability or disabilities in active service which entitle them to at least 20% compensation. Veterans with a 10% disability also may be found eligible if they have a serious employment handicap.
2. They were discharged or released under other than dishonorable conditions or are hospitalized awaiting separation for disability.
3. VA determines that they need vocational rehabilitation consistent with their abilities, aptitudes and interests to overcome an employment impairment. Their service-connected disabilities must materially contribute to this handicap.

Generally, the veteran must complete a rehabilitation program 12 years from the date VA provides notice of entitlement to compensation. This period may be deferred or extended if a medical condition prevented the veteran from training for a period or if the veteran has a serious employment handicap.

Disabled veterans may receive services until they have reached their rehabilitation goal, but the duration generally may not exceed 48 months. VA may provide counseling, job placement, and post-employment services for an additional period not to exceed 18 months. A disabled veteran may receive employment assistance, self-employment assistance, training in a rehabilitation facility, and college and other training. Severely disabled veterans may receive assistance to improve their ability to live independently.

CHAPTER 35 RATES – Effective October 1, 2014

TYPE OF TRAINING	FULL-TIME	3/4 TIME	1/2 TIME
INSTITUTIONAL	$1,018.00	$763.00	$506.00
LESS THAN HALF-TIME	$506.00 for less than 1/2 time. Less than 1/4 time $254.50.		
FARM COOPERATIVE	$819.00	$615.00	$408.00
CORRESPONDENCE	Entitlement charged at the rate of one month for each $1018.00 paid.		
APPRENTICESHIP/OJT	First 6 months, $743.00; Second 6 months, $557.00; Third 6 months, $367.00; Remaining pursuit of training $186.00		
SPECIAL RESTORATIVE TRAINING	Full time is $1,018.00; Accelerated Charges - Cost of Tuition and Fees in Excess of $315.00; Entitlement Reduced 1 day for each $33.93 (1/30th of fulltime rate).		
FLIGHT SCHOOL	Not approved for this training.		

VA WORK STUDY PROGRAM

If you're a full-time or 3/4-time student in a college degree, vocational, or professional program, you can "earn while you learn" with a VA work-study allowance.

The VA work-study allowance is available to persons training under; Montgomery GI Bill--Active Duty (Chapter 30), Vocational Rehabilitation (Chapter 31), VEAP (Chapter 32), Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35), Montgomery GI Bill--Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606).

VA will select students for the work-study program based on different factors. Such factors include:

- Disability of the student
- Ability of the student to complete the work-study contract before the end of his or her eligibility to education benefits
- Job availability within normal commuting distance to the student
- VA will give the highest priority to a veteran who has a service-connected disability or disabilities rated by VA at 30% or more

The number of applicants selected will depend on the availability of VA-related work at your school or at VA facilities in your area.

You'll earn an hourly wage equal to the Federal minimum wage or your State minimum wage, whichever is greater. If you're in a work-study job at a college or university, your school may pay you the difference between the amount VA pays and the amount the school normally pays others doing the same work-study job.

You may work during or between periods of enrollment. You can arrange with VA to work any number of hours you want during your enrollment. But, the total number of hours you work can't be more than 25 times the number of weeks in your enrollment period. Services you perform under a VA work-study program must be related to VA work. Examples of acceptable work are:

- Processing VA paperwork at schools or VA offices
- Performing outreach services under the supervision of a VA employee
- Performing services at VA medical facilities or the offices of the National Cemetery Administration

The work you actually do will depend on your interests and the type of work available.

To obtain information on other sources of assistance, contact the financial aid office at your school.

The Post-Vietnam Veterans' Educational Assistance Program, or *"VEAP"* for short, is an education benefit for veterans who paid into *VEAP* while they were in the service. Eligible veterans may be entitled to as much as 36 months of training, depending on the number of monthly contributions. Benefits may be used for degree, certificate, correspondence, apprenticeship/on-the-job training programs, and vocational flight training programs.

Eligibility Requirements
VEAP is available if you elected to make contributions from your military pay to participate in this education benefit program. Your contributions are matched on a $2 for $1 basis by the Government. You have 10 years from your release from active duty to use VEAP benefits. If there is entitlement not used after the 10-year period, your portion remaining in the fund will be automatically refunded.

To qualify, you must meet the following requirements:

- Entered service for the first time between Jan. 1, 1977 and June 30, 1985;
- Opened a contribution account before April 1, 1987;
- Voluntarily contributed from $25 to $2700;
- Completed your first period of service; and
- Were discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable.

If you are currently on active duty and wish to receive VEAP benefits, you must have at least 3 months of contributions available. Contributions may be withdrawn if you do not meet the basic eligibility requirements or if you formally request a refund of the contributions withheld. **CHAPTER 32 RATES – <u>There are no standard monetary rates for Chapter 32. These rates are calculated on an individual basis</u>**

SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATION (CHAPTER 35)

Dependents' Educational Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. If you are a spouse, you may take a correspondence course. Remedial, deficiency, refresher, high school courses may be approved under certain circumstances.

Eligibility Requirements
You must be the son, daughter, and are between the age of 18 to 26 or spouse and are entitled the award of DIC:

- A veteran who died and was permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability. A veteran who died from any cause of a service-connected disability.
- A service member missing in action or captured in line of duty by a hostile force
- A service member forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power

A son or daughter must be between the ages of 18 and 26 to receive benefits for attending school or job training, In certain instances, it is possible to begin before age 18 and to continue after age 26. Marriage is not a bar to this benefit. If you are in the Armed Forces, you may not receive this benefit while on active duty. To pursue training after military service, your discharge must not be under dishonorable conditions. VA can extend your period of eligibility by the number of months and days equal to the time spent on active duty. This extension cannot generally go beyond your 31st birthday, there are some exceptions. If you are a spouse, benefits end 10 years from the date VA finds you eligible or from the date of death of the veteran.

2014 Vocational Rehabilitation - Monthly Subsistence Allowance Rates

Type of training *	No	One	Two	Each Add 'l.
A - Full Time	$603.33	$748.38	$881.91	$64.28
3/4-time	$453.33	$562.10	$659.36	$49.44
1/2-time	$303.33	$375.82	$441.76	$32.98
1/4 time	$151.64	$187.93	$220.88	$16.45
B	$527.51	$637.92	$735.20	$47.82

*Type of training
A. Institution of Higher Learning, Work Experience, or Independent Living programs. Institutional training also includes unpaid or nominally paid OJT or Work Experience in a Federal, State, local or Indian tribal government agency.
B. Farm cooperative, apprenticeship, on-the-job training, or on-the-job non-farm cooperative. VA payment is based on the wage received.
See http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/ for additional details and for current rates.

POST-9/11 VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2008 (CHAPTER 33)

The Post – 9/11 GI Bill is an education benefit program for individuals who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Benefits are payable for training pursued **on or after Aug. 1, 2009**. No payments can be made under this program for training pursued before that date. You may be eligible if you served at least 90 aggregate days on active duty after Sept. 10, 2001, and you are still on active duty or were honorably-

- discharged from the active duty; or
- released from active duty and placed on the retired list or temporary disability retired list; or
- released from active duty and transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; or
- released from the active duty for further service in a reserve component of the Armed Forces.

You may also be eligible if you were honorably discharged from active duty for a service-connected disability and you served 30 continuous days after Sept. 10, 2001.

Based on your length of active duty service, you are entitled to a percentage of the following:

- Cost of tuition and fees, not to exceed $19,198.31 per an academic year for private or foreign schools. For public institutions, the cap is set at the in state tuition costs. (paid to the school)
- Monthly housing allowance equal to the basic allowance for housing payable to a military E-5 with dependents, in the same zip code as your school (paid to you);
- Yearly books and supplies stipend of up to $1000 per year (paid to you); and
- A one-time payment of $500 paid to certain individuals relocating from highly rural areas.

VEAP – ACTIVE DUTY (CHAPTER 32)

Changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill based on P.L. 111-377

On January 4, 2011, President Obama signed the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Improvements Act of 2010 in to law. The legislation amended the Post-9/11 GI Bill, modifying the rules governing the way the VA makes eligibility, award and entitlement calculations. The provisions vary in their effective dates, with some effective dates of enactment (January 4, 2011) and the later provisions, effective on October 1, 2011.

Effective Date of Enactment (January 4, 2011)

The following types of entry level and skill training are now excluded from the computation of total aggregate services needed to qualify for Post-9/11 benefits.

- Army One Station Unit Training
- Coast Guard Skill Training
- Active Duty Service Obligation (ADSO) associated with Coast Guard academy graduation.

An Honorable character of service is now required for all service periods ending on or after January 4, 2011, including those with the following separation reasons.

- A condition interfering with duty (CIWD)
- A condition prior to service (EPTS)
- A hardship (HDSP)

CIWD, EPTS, and HDSP discharges prior to January 4, 2011, that are not Dishonorable may still be qualifying

Effective immediately but *Not Payable* until October 1, 2011:

Expands the Post-9/11 GI Bill to include National Guard members who are on active service under title 32 U.S.C orders. "*for the purpose of organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training",* or under section 502(f) *" for the purpose of responding to a national emergency".*

Effective 60 after the dates of enactment (March 5, 2011)

Limits active duty members to the net cost of tuition and fees prorated based on the eligibility tiers (40%-100%) previously established for Veterans.

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EXAMPLE: If your semester ends December 15th, your housing allowance is paid for the first 15 days of December only and begins again when your next semester begins on January 10th

- Students using other VA education programs are included in this change and monthly benefits will be pro-rated in the same manner.
- Entitlement that previously would have been used for break pay will be available for use during future enrollment.

Allows reimbursement for more than one license or certification test (previously only one test was allowed)

Allows reimbursement of fees paid to take national exams used for admission to an institution of higher learning (e.g. SAT, ACT, LSAT,) *NOTE: Entitlement will be charged for these fees/tests.*

NOAA and PHS personnel are now eligible to transfer their entitlement to eligible dependents.

Effective October 1, 2011

Allows a student on active duty to receive a books and supplies stipend.
Allows a student to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill for:

- *Non-College degree (NCD) programs:* Pays actual net cost for in state tuition and fees at public NCD institutions. At a private and foreign institutions, pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees or $19,198.31 which ever is less, also pays up to $83. per month for books and supplies.
- *On the job training and apprenticeship training:* Pays a monthly benefit amount pro-rated based on time in program and up to $83 per month for books and supplies
- *Flight Programs:* Per academic year, pays the actual net cost for in state tuition and fees assessed by the school or $10,970.46 which ever is less
- *Correspondence Training:* Per academic year, pays the actual net cost for in state tuition and fees assessed by the school or $9,324.89 which ever is less

Housing allowance is now payable to students (other than those on active duty) enrolled solely in distance learning. The allowance payable is equal to 1/2 the national average BAH for an E-5 with dependents.

- Same limitations apply to transferee spouses of active duty service members
- This will apply to terms beginning on or after March 5, 2011
- Applies to degree programs with a rate of pursuit of more than one and a half time.

Effective August 1, 2011

For Veterans and their transferees: Simplifies the tuition and fee rates for those attending a public school and creates a notional maximum for those enrolled in a private or foreign school. NOTE: The Yellow Ribbon Program still exists for out of state fees and costs above the cap.

- Pays all public school in-state tuition and fees
- Private and foreign school costs are capped at $19,198.31 annually and are pro-rated based on eligibility tiers (40%-100%)
- Pro-rates housing allowance by the students rate of pursuit (rounded to the nearest tenth) *Example: A student training at a rate of pursuit of 75% would receive 80% of the BAH rate.*

For Active Duty Members and their transferees: Creates a national rate for those active duty members enrolled in a private or foreign school pursuing a degree

- Pays all public school in state-tuition and fees
- Private and foreign school costs are capped at $19,198.31 annually and are pro-rated based on eligibility tiers (40%-100%)

Housing allowance rates will change effective August 1 of each year, not Jan 1

Allows those who are eligible for both Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (chapter 31) and Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to choose a higher subsistence allowance equal to the basic allowance payable to an E-5 with dependents based on the zip code area where the school is located.

Allows the VA to pay MGIB (chapter 30) and MGIB-SR (chapter 1606) “kickers” or college fund payments on a monthly basis instead of a lump sum at the beginning of the term. Kickers will be paid regardless of the rate of pursuit or eligibility for the Monthly Housing Allowance. The applicable (MGIB or MGIB-SR) full time kicker rate, will be multiplied by the rate of pursuit.

Break or interval pay is no longer payable under any VA education benefit program unless under an executive order from the President or due to an emergency such as a natural disaster or strike.