

Benefit Comparison Chart

A Comparison of VA Education Benefit Programs

	Post-9/11 GI Bill® (Chapter 33)	Montgomery GI Bill/Active Duty (Chapter 30)	Montgomery GI Bill/Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606)	DEA (Chapter 35)
Minimum Length of Service	90 days active aggregate service (after 9/10/01) or 30 days continuous if discharged for disability ¹	2 yr. continuous enlistment (minimum duty varies by service date, branch, etc.) Must have paid \$1200.00 (\$100 per month during 1 st year of service)	Completion of initial active duty for training. Must be active reservist with a 6 yr. commitment (after 6/30/85)	Not applicable
Maximum # of Months of Benefits ²	36	36	36	45
How Payments Are Made	Tuition & fees: Paid directly to school Housing stipend: Paid monthly to student Books & Supplies: Paid to student for the first 24 credits taken each year from August 1 st through July 31 st . Amount paid per credit hour is based on student's percentage of eligibility	Paid to student & student pays all associated costs (tuition, fees, books, etc.)	Paid to student & student pays all associated costs (tuition, fees, books, etc.)	Paid to student & student pays all associated costs (tuition, fees, books, etc.)
Duration of Benefits	Generally 15 years from last day of active duty	Generally 10 years from last day of active duty	Ends the day you leave Selected Reserve	Spouse: 10 - 20 years ³ Child: Ages 18-26
Degree Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non College Degree Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
On-the-Job & Apprenticeship Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Flight Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Correspondence Courses	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Licensing & Certification	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
National Testing Programs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Work-Study Program	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tutorial Assistance ⁵	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Monthly Benefit Payment⁶ (Full Time Student)	40-100% of the cost of the student's tuition and fees, up to \$1000 per year to help pay for textbooks & school supplies and a monthly living stipend of up to \$1,138.00 per month	\$1789.00	\$368.00	\$1021.00

1. Active duty and Veterans can be anywhere from 40% to 100% eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill/Chapter 33. Percentage of eligibility is based on number of months of credible service as determined by VA.
2. You may be eligible for a maximum of 48 months of benefits combined if you are eligible for more than one VA education program.
3. Spouses are generally eligible to receive benefits for 10 years. However, spouses of individuals rated total and permanent within 3 years of discharge and spouses of individuals who die on active duty are granted a 20 year eligibility period. Children are generally eligible between the ages of 18 and 26. Questions on eligibility should be referred to the VA.
4. The Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) is a category of the Ready Reserve of the Reserve Component of the Armed Forces.
5. Students receiving Chapter 30, 33, 35 and 1606 benefits can request reimbursement of up to \$100 per month from the VA to help pay for a qualified tutor.
6. Regardless of the number of days in a month, all benefit payments are based on a 30 day month and are only paid while school is in session. No benefit payments are made for the periods between terms.