



Military Life Cycle (MLC) | VA Education Benefits

VA Education Benefits Online Reference

The Transition Assistance Program (TAP) provides training, information, and services to help Service members and their families transition to civilian life after the military. The goal of the program is to help Service members bridge their military experiences and skills with their post-military goals by planning for transition throughout their Military Life Cycle (MLC).

At key touch points throughout MLC, TAP delivers modules to inform Service members about benefits and services available to support them during their careers and after separation or retirement. The VA Education Benefits module describes Tuition Assistance, Post-9/11 GI Bill, Transfer of Entitlement, and VA Education and Career Counseling benefits and the GI Bill Comparison Tool.

This online reference accompanies the VA Education Benefits module and provides you with the web links to important websites and resources related to VA benefits and services.

VA Home Page

The VA.gov website offers current resources, tools, and contact information for all VA benefits and services that may be available to Service members, Veterans, and their families, caregivers, and survivors.

www.va.gov

Tuition Assistance (TA) Program

TA is a federal education benefit that each branch of service administers and that you can use in conjunction with Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to complete some course work or a full degree program while on active duty.

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/tuition_assistance.asp

Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is a VA education benefit program for individuals who served on active duty after September 10, 2001.

Eligibility and Maximum Benefit Payable

gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/947

Benefit Components

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_gibill.asp

- **Tuition and Fees,**
www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rates/ch33/ch33rates080116.asp#tuition
 - **Tuition Caps for Private and Foreign Education Institutions,**
www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rates/ch33/ch33rates080116.asp#tuition
- **Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA),**
www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rates/ch33/ch33rates080116.asp#housing
- **Books and Supplies Stipend,**
www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rates/ch33/ch33rates080116.asp#books

How to Apply

- **eBenefits,** www.ebenefits.va.gov

- **Regional Office**, www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/regional_processing.asp

Yellow Ribbon Program

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon.asp

Forever GI Bill

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/forevergibill.asp

Options to Pay for Your Education

- **TA**, www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/tuition_assistance.asp
- **Federal Student Aid Information**, studentaid.ed.gov/sa/
Federal Grants, studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/pell
- **Post-9/11 GI Bill**, www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_gibill.asp
- **Scholarships**:
 - explore.va.gov/education-training/scholarships-grants
 - studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships
- **Student Loans**, studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans
- **Private Loans**, studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/federal-vs-private

Transfer of Entitlement (TOE)

TOE allows active duty Service members to transfer unused benefits to their spouse or dependents, usually in exchange for an additional four years of service.

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_transfer.asp

Active Duty Application and Reallocation Submissions

www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect

VA Education and Career Counseling (Chapter 36)

VA Education and Career Counseling (Chapter 36) offers aid and counsel by professional counselors to transitioning Service members, Veterans, and their eligible spouses and dependents to help them identify potential career paths.

- www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/edu_voc_counseling.asp
- **YouTube Video**, www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXtG-LkPqH4&feature=youtu.be

How to Apply

www.ebenefits.va.gov

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)

- www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/
- www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/employment_tracks.asp

GI Bill Comparison Tool

The GI Bill Comparison Tool is a web-based application that is designed to make it easier to calculate Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and to learn more about VA's approved colleges, universities, and training programs across the country.

- **GI Bill Comparison Tool**, www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison
- **GI Bill Feedback Tool**, www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/feedback.asp

Additional VA Education Benefits

State VA Education Benefits

www.va.gov/statedva.htm

Montgomery GI Bills (Chapter 30 and 1606)

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/montgomery_bill.asp