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National Service - Volume 1 - G.I.Bill: History/Publicity [binder]

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GI Bill: History / Publicity

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Veterans
Administration

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VA OBSERVES 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF GI BILL

Forty years ago the 78th Congress unanimously passed legislation that changed the entire concept of adult education in this nation and started the greatest home construction boom in history. The legislation, signed by President Roosevelt on June 22, 1944, 16 days after D-Day, was the GI Bill of Rights.

VA Administrator Harry N. Walters in marking the observance of the GI Bill's 40th anniversary said that the GI Bill has had a tremendously positive impact on veterans, just as it has had a powerful effect on all America.

"The past 40 years have given us enough facts, figures and highlights to render an obvious verdict," Walters said. "The GI Bill has been good for veterans and good for America."

Forty years later the GI Bill is still making an impact on the academic, economic, government, entertainment, sports, social and cultural scene that is America.

"Unquestionably, the quality of American life has been improved by the GI Bill," Walters said. "Higher education and training for millions and unequalled housing opportunities have helped raise the standard of living to the benefit of all Americans."

Since 1944, more than 18 million persons have received some form of training under the GI Bill. This includes almost 8 million World War II veterans, 2.4 million Korean Conflict veterans, and 8 million Post-Korean and Vietnam Era veterans and active-duty service personnel. This program is still in existence today and runs through 1989.

-more-

GI Bill 40th Anniversary -2-

About 45 percent of GI Bill education entitlement has been used to attend college. The remaining veterans — almost 10 million — received technical, farm and other training.

Proportionally, Vietnam Era veterans have been the greatest participants in GI Bill training. More than 70 percent of those eligible have received training compared with 50 percent for World War II and 43 percent for Korean Conflict veterans.

In 1944, only a quarter of the people in the U.S. had graduated from high school. But now, 40 years later, more than half the population are graduates. Starting with those born since the signing of the GI Bill, 90 percent of Americans have finished high school, and 25 percent have finished college.

The GI Bill, which has been amended and extended since its inception, transformed something as ephemeral as an American dream into something as solid as a house on a plot of land with a mortgage.

By backing loans of \$225 billion for homes, farms, and businesses, the GI Bill has been a way of American life for more than 11 million veterans. For millions more, it promises to be a way to secure dreams in the future.

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Fact Sheet attached

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40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GI BILL

FACT SHEET

Sixteen days after the D-Day invasion of Europe, President Roosevelt signed, on June 22, 1944, the GI Bill of Rights (Public Law 78-346)

There was little realization then of the impact this legislation would have on life in America. The program, amended and extended to the present by the Korean Conflict and the Post-Korean Conflict GI Bills, changed the entire concept of adult education in this nation and started the greatest home construction boom in history.

1984 marks the 40th anniversary of passage of the original GI bill.

A 40-YEAR OVERVIEW

On June 22, 1944, President Roosevelt signed the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (Public Law 346, passed unanimously by the 78th Congress) which gave "emphatic notice to the men and women of our Armed Forces that the American people did not intend to let them down."

During the past 40 years, the American people have invested over \$55 billion in GI Bill education and training for 18.2 million World War II, Korean Conflict, Post-Korean, and Vietnam Era veterans.

They also have made possible more than \$225 billion in GI Bill home loans for more than 11 million veterans, guaranteed by the VA since 1944.

More than half of the home loans guaranteed by the VA have already been repaid in full. And with a 40-year record of fewer than four out of 100 veteran home owners defaulting on their VA-guaranteed loans, it seems certain that the vote of confidence which the American people have given our veterans will have proven to be more than merited.

A CLOSER LOOK

The GI Bill story is yet to be completed, of course. Still to be felt is the final impact of this revolutionary veteran's benefit on the American academic, economic, government, entertainment, sports, social, and cultural scene.

But the past 40 years have given us enough facts, figures and highlights to render an obvious verdict.

The GI Bill has been good for America as well as for America's veterans.

What follows is an impersonal, historical compilation of facts and figures about the GI bill, from its beginning 40 years ago to the present time.

WORLD WAR II GI BILL

Education payments were made by VA, up to a maximum of \$500 a year, to the educational or training institution for tuition, books, fees, and other training costs. VA also paid the veteran with no dependents taking full-time training a subsistence allowance of up to \$50 a month. This was increased to \$65 a month in 1946, and to \$75 a month in 1948. Allowances for veterans with dependents were higher.

There was a \$210 a month limit on the single World War II veteran's combined VA subsistence allowance and earnings. Neither of the subsequent GI Bills has had a limit on income, except for job training under the Korean conflict GI Bill.

The more than 15 million eligible veterans of the 1941-1945 global conflict were entitled to one year of full-time training plus a period equal to their time in service, up to a maximum of 48 months of training.

This program ended July 25, 1956. During its 12-year existence, 7.8 million World War II veterans (slightly more than 50 percent of those eligible) received training; 2.2 million in institutions of higher learning, nearly 3.5 million vocational technical schools, 1.4 million on the job, and almost 700 thousand in institutional on-farm courses.

Total cost of the World War II GI Bill education and training program was \$14.5 billion.

KOREAN CONFLICT GI BILL

Public Law 550, the "Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952," passed by the 82nd Congress, was approved by President Truman on July 16, 1952.

Like the World War II program, it provided education and training benefits as well as home, farm, and business loans. But unlike the federally funded readjustment allowance for World War II veterans, it made payment of unemployment compensation a state function.

A veteran with no dependents taking full-time training in an educational institution received a direct payment from VA of \$110 a month, out of which he had to pay for tuition, books, fees, supplies and other training costs. Allowances for veterans with dependents were higher.

The decision to have veterans pay for their tuition and books was made after congressional hearings disclosed widespread abuse by colleges and other institutions under the World War II GI Bill.

Korean Conflict veterans were entitled to GI Bill education and training for a period equal to one and one-half times their active service, up to a maximum of 36 months of training. This program ended on January 31, 1965.

During its 12 1/2 year history, 2,391,000 out of 5,509,000 (or 43 percent) eligible Korean Conflict veterans received training; 1,213,000 in institutions of higher learning, 860,000 in vocational/technical schools, 223,000 on the job, and 95,000 in institutional on-farm training.

Total cost of the Korean Conflict GI Bill education and training program was \$4.5 billion.

VIETNAM ERA - POST-KOREAN GI BILL

The "Post-Korean Period" extended from February 1, 1955, to August 4, 1964, while the "Vietnam Era" ran from August 5, 1964, to May 7, 1975.

Public Law 358, the "Veterans Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966," was passed by the 89th Congress and approved by President Johnson on March 3, 1966. The education and training program under this GI Bill went into effect on June 1, 1966. Home and farm loans, job counseling, and an employment placement service are other benefits provided by the current GI Bill.

Public Law 93-337, enacted in July 1974, extended the eight year delimiting date to ten years.

Originally, this GI Bill provided one month of education and training for each month of service, with a maximum of 36 months entitlement. This was changed, effective December 1968, to one and one-half months of entitlement for each month of service, with 18 continuous months of service after January 31, 1955, qualifying a veteran for the full 36 months, if the veteran had satisfied his or her military obligation. Effective in October 1976, maximum entitlement was extended to 45 months.

As under the Korean Conflict GI Bill, payment of the VA education and training assistance allowance is made directly to the veteran, out of which the veteran pays his or her tuition, fees, books, and other training costs.

A veteran with no dependents in full-time institutional training received \$100 a month from VA under the Bill as first passed. This was increased to \$130 a month in 1967; to \$175 a month in 1970; to \$220 a month in 1972; \$270 a month in 1974; \$292 a month in 1976; \$311 a month in 1977; \$327 in 1980; and to the present \$342 in January 1981.

At the end of Fiscal Year 1983, nearly 6.6 million out of 9.1 million (72 percent) eligible Vietnam Era veterans have entered training under the current GI Bill. Altogether, including 661,592 servicemen and women and nearly 1.4 million Post-Korean veterans, approximately 8 million Americans have trained under the present program. A record-setting total of nearly 4.9 million trained in institutions of higher learning, 2.5 million in vocational/technical schools, 591,000 on the job, and 56,000 in institutional on-farm training.

GI Bill usage peaked in 1976 when 2,822,000 trained.

To date, the VA has spent about \$37 billion to provide educational assistance to 8 million participants in the current GI Bill education and training program.

Public Law 94-502, the "Veterans' Education and Employment Assistance Act of 1976," generally barred from eligibility for the GI Bill, as it was known by 17.6 million veteran-students since 1944, those initially entering active service after Dec. 31, 1976.

Eligible veterans who were in active service before Jan. 1, 1977, have 10 years after their last separation from active duty or until Dec. 31, 1989, whichever is earlier, to complete GI Bill training.

Those who entered the Armed Forces on or after January 1, 1977, are eligible for the "Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Program" established by Public Law 94-502. This program calls for monthly contributions to a fund by servicemembers choosing to participate.

At the time the eligible participant elects to use the benefits to pursue an approved course of education or training, the United States matches the contribution at the rate of \$2 for every \$1 contributed by the participant. (The Government may also make additional contributions to the fund.) A maximum of \$2,700 can be set aside by the participant.

VA HOME LOAN GUARANTY PROGRAM

The VA has guaranteed more than 11 million home loans for veterans valued at over \$225 billion. In recent years most have gone to Vietnam Era veterans. Last year, VA guaranteed more than 300,000 loans -- 56 percent of them to Vietnam Era veterans -- valued at almost \$10 billion. The 1982 total was 103,000 loans guaranteed.

The peak of the VA loan program was reached in 1955 when 649,000 loans were guaranteed.

Veterans have proved to be good credit risks. Only 3.9 percent of the loans guaranteed by VA have resulted in foreclosure. The direct loan record is even better.

Downpayment on GI loans was required by law from July 1950 to April 1953, and again from July 1955 to April 1958. On September 8, 1982, Public Law 97-253 established the requirement that VA collect a funding fee of 1/2 of one percent of the loan amount in connection with guaranteed or direct loans closed on or after Oct. 1, 1982. The only exceptions are loans made to veterans with a compensable service-connected disability and loans made to surviving spouses of veterans who died in service or from a service-connected disability.

VA has guaranteed more than 71,000 farm loans valued in excess of \$283 million and nearly 230,000 business loans, valued at more than \$652 million. These farm and business programs are no longer active.

Since October 1, 1980, funds for direct loans have been suspended, except in connection with specially adapted housing for certain severely disabled veterans.

Since the program has no terminating date and can be used by any veteran of the World War II, Korea, Post-Korea, Vietnam, or Post-Vietnam Era, it will be a major VA benefit activity for years to come.

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Home Loan Mortgage Rates

<u>%</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	6/22/44	8-1/2	4/28/75	17-1/2	9/14/81
4-1/2	5/5/53	9	9/2/75	16-1/2	10/12/81
4-3/4	4/4/58	8-3/4	1/5/76	15-1/2	11/16/81
5-1/4	7/2/59	8-1/2	3/30/76	16-1/2	1/25/82
5-1/2	3/3/66	8	10/18/76	15-1/2	3/2/82
5-3/4	4/12/66	8-1/2	5/31/77	15	8/9/82
6	10/4/66	8-3/4	2/28/78	14	8/24/82
6-3/4	5/7/68	9	5/23/78	13-1/2	9/24/82
7-1/2	1/24/69	9-1/2	6/29/78	12-1/2	10/13/82
8-1/2	1/5/70	10	4/23/79	12	11/15/82
8	12/2/70	10-1/2	9/26/79	11-1/2	5/9/83
7-1/2	1/13/71	11-1/2	10/26/79	12	6/8/83
7	2/18/71	12	2/11/80	12-1/2	7/11/83
6	7/1/73	13	2/28/80	13-1/2	8/1/83
7-3/4	7/26/73	14	4/3/80	13	8/23/83
8-1/2	8/25/73	13	4/28/80	12-1/2	11/1/83
8-1/4	1/22/74	11-1/2	5/15/80	13	3/21/84
8-1/2	4/15/74	12	8/20/80	13-1/2	5/8/84
8-3/4	5/13/74	13	9/22/80	14	5/29/84
9	7/8/74	13-1/2	11/24/80		
9-1/2	8/14/74	14	3/9/81		
9	11/25/74	14-1/2	4/13/81		
8-1/2	1/21/75	15-1/2	5/8/81		
8	3/3/75	16-1/2	8/17/81		

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES — HOME LOAN GUARANTY PROGRAM

To meet the changing needs of veterans, the VA home loan guaranty program has undergone changes.

Following is a summary of the originating law and principal legislative changes:

PL 78-346 (June 22, 1944 - World War II GI Bill)

- ° Granted VA home loan guaranty entitlement to World War II veterans.
- ° Established interest rate at 4 percent, maximum maturity at 20 years, with no down payment required by VA.
- ° Set VA maximum guaranty at 50 percent, not to exceed \$2,000.
- ° Gave veterans two years after separation or the end of the war, whichever was later, to use their GI home loan entitlement.

PL 79-268 (December 28, 1945)

- ° Increased guaranty on real estate loans to \$4,000 - still 50 percent.
- ° Extended maximum maturity to 25 years.
- ° Established terminal date for using entitlement at 10 years after the end of the war.

PL 80-901 (August 10, 1948)

- ° Authorized 4-1/2 percent interest rate.

PL 81-475 (April 20, 1950)

- ° Authorized maximum \$10,000 direct loans in rural areas.
- ° Increased maximum guaranty to 60 percent and \$7,500 ceiling.
- ° Extended maximum maturity on home loans to 30 years.
- ° Made unmarried widows of veterans killed in World War II, or who died of a service connected disability, eligible for GI home loans. This entitlement was later extended to cover the Korean Conflict and Post-Korean period.

PL 81-774 (September 8, 1950)

- ° Established credit controls, required down payments and reduced loan maturity maximum as part of the Defense Production Act. Last of these restrictions lifted in April 1958.

PL 82-550 (July 16, 1952) - Korean Conflict GI BILL

- ° Established Korean veteran eligibility.
- ° Set terminal date for use of entitlement at 10 years after the end of the conflict as determined by the President and/or Congress.

PL 85-364 (April 1, 1958)

- ° Authorized 4-3/4 percent interest rate which had to be 1/2 percent below FHA rate.
- ° Increased maximum direct loan to \$13,500

PL 86-72 (June 30, 1959)

- ° Authorized 5-1/2 percent interest maximum.

PL 87-84 (July 1, 1961)

- ° Increased direct loan maximum to \$15,000.

PL 89-358 (March 3, 1966) Post-Korean GI Bill

- ° Authorized continuance of direct loan program only to January 31, 1975.
- ° Increased direct loan maximum to \$17,500.
- ° Entitled Post-Korean veterans (those separated from service after January 31, 1955) to VA guaranteed home and farm — but not business loans.
- ° Provided that GI interest rate could not exceed rate on FHA loans. GI interest rate increased to 5-1/2 percent, later adjusted to 5-3/4 and 6 percent.

PL 90-77 (August 31, 1967)

- ° Extended eligibility for GI home loans for certain World War II veterans from July 25, 1967, to July 25, 1970.
- ° Raised direct loan maximum to \$25,000 where Administrator determines cost levels require it.

PL 90-301 (May 7, 1968)

- ° Increased loan guaranty maximum from \$7,500 to \$12,500, but kept 60 percent ceiling.
- ° Authorized 6-3/4 percent interest rate.
- ° Permitted veterans to pay more for a home than the VA reasonable value appraisal, but provided that the loan could not exceed the reasonable value.

Administrative Action (January 24, 1969)

- ° Increased interest rate from 6-3/4 to 7-1/2 percent, announced by Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and Administrator of Veterans Affairs.

PL 91-506 (October 23, 1970)

- ° Remove the delimiting date on veterans entitlement.
- ° Authorized loan guaranty program for new mobile homes and new mobile homes with lots.
- ° Authorized direct loans for veterans qualified for specially adapted housing grants irrespective of property location.
- ° Eliminated the terminal date of the direct loan program.
- ° Eliminated the one half of one percent funding fee for Post-Korean veterans.
- ° Authorized loans on certain condominium units.
- ° Authorized loans for refinancing liens of record on a veteran's home.

PL 91-584 (December 24, 1970)

- ° Extended home loan benefits to spouses of members of the Armed Forces who are missing in action (MIA), captured by a hostile force, or interned by a foreign government or power (POW).

PL 93-75 (July 26, 1973)

- ° Authorized the Administrator to independently establish the interest rates on VA loans after consulting with the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

PL 93-569 (December 31, 1974)

- ° Relaxed requirements for restoration of loan guaranty entitlement by eliminating the requirement that veterans dispose of their property for compelling reasons and authorizing restoration of entitlement when no other loan is outstanding.
- ° Authorized the VA to guarantee unit loans in new or existing condominium projects which were built and sold as condominiums and eliminated the requirement that at least one loan in the project must be insured by the Federal Housing Administration.
- ° Liberalized mobile home program by increasing loan maximums, and authorizing loans on used mobile homes and lots.
- ° Increased loan guaranty maximum from \$12,500 to \$17,500.
- ° Specially adapted housing grant for severely disabled veterans raised from \$17,500 to \$25,000.

PL 94-324 (June 30, 1976)

- ° Extended eligibility to veterans with peacetime service between World War II and the Korean Conflict.
- ° Increased the guaranty on mobile home loans from 30 percent to 50 percent.
- ° Separated the benefits for education purposes from housing eligibility thus expressing the intent of Congress to continue loan benefits for future veterans.
- ° Increased the maximum direct loan amount from \$25,000 to \$33,000.

PL 95-476 (October 18, 1978)

- ° Increased loan guaranty maximum from \$17,500 to \$25,000, but kept 60 percent ceiling.
- ° Cut from 180 days to 90 days the minimum amount of active duty time for eligibility for veterans of Vietnam Era, August 5, 1964 through May 7, 1975, to match World War II and Korean Conflict provisions.
- ° Specially adapted housing grants for severely disabled veterans raised from \$25,000 to \$30,000.
- ° Authorized guaranteed loans on converted condominiums as of July 1, 1979.
- ° Established that veteran may use no more than \$17,500 of his or her entitlement for mobile home purposes, abolished mobile home loan maximums, extended the maximum term for single-wide mobile homes to 15 years and 32 days, liberalized restoration of loan guaranty entitlement provisions for mobile homes, and authorized purchase of a mobile home by veterans using remaining entitlement.
- ° Authorized VA to guarantee loans for energy conservation home improvements including solar energy systems.
- ° Authorized the Administrator of Veterans Affairs to establish a separate interest rate for home improvement loans for alterations, improvements, or repairs and home improvement loans for energy conservation improvements.

PL 96-342 (September 8, 1980)

- ° Increased the minimum length of service requirement to two years for enlisted personnel who entered on active duty after September 7, 1980. Previously, minimum length of service requirements to establish Loan Guaranty entitlement for post-Vietnam veterans were met when the veteran had served 181 days of active duty.
- ° New law did not apply to individuals still on active duty or to warrant officers or commissioned officers.
- ° Increased requirements also did not apply to those individuals discharged for disability or hardship, or those individuals suffering from a service-connected disability.

PL 96-385 (October 7, 1980)

- ° Increased loan guaranty maximum entitlement from \$25,000 to \$27,500.
- ° Established that veteran may use up to \$20,000 of his or her entitlement for manufactured home purposes.
- ° Authorized a new eligible purpose for guaranteed home and manufactured home loans to enable a veteran to refinance his or her existing VA loan to obtain a lower interest rate. This type of loan may be guaranteed without the use of any additional entitlement.
- ° Established specially adapted housing benefits for veterans with permanent and total service-connected disability for blindness in both eyes or the anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands. Benefits of up to \$5,000 may be payable for necessary home adaptations.

PL 97-66 (October 17, 1981)

- ° Authorized the guaranty of loans with provisions for various rates of amortization corresponding to anticipated variations in family income. The lower initial payments of these Graduated Payment Mortgages are of benefit to those veterans who otherwise could not afford to finance suitable housing.
- ° Extended the maximum term for a loan to purchase a single-wide manufactured home, with or without a lot to 20 years and 32 days. Loan terms for the purchase of a double-wide manufactured home was increased to 23 years and 32 days while the term for a loan to purchase a double-wide manufactured home with a lot was extended to 25 years and 32 days.
- ° Amended the minimum service requirements for Loan Guaranty entitlement for those persons who enlist after September 7, 1980, or who enter on active duty after October 16, 1981 to require the completion of the lesser of 24 months of continuous active duty or the full period for which the person was called or ordered to active duty. Exceptions were provided for certain individuals, including those still on active duty, those with a compensable service-connected disability or those who are discharged or released from active duty for convenience of the government, hardship, or disability.

PL 97-72 (November 3, 1981)

- ° Authorized VA to establish and operate a business loan program. However, this program has never been funded by Congress.

PL 97-253 (September 8, 1982)

- ° Established the requirement that VA collect a funding fee of 1/2 of one percent of the loan amount in connection with guaranteed or direct loans closed on or after October 1, 1982. The only exceptions are loans made to veterans with a compensable service-connected disability and loans made to surviving spouses of veterans who died in service or from a service-connected disability.

PL 97-306 (October 14, 1982)

- ° Authorized VA to guarantee a new type of loan which would enable a veteran who owns a manufactured home which is subject to a purchase money lien to refinance that lien in order to buy a lot on which the home is or will be located.

PL 98-223 (March 2, 1984)

- ° Expanded VA's authority to restore a veteran's previously used loan guaranty entitlement. Previously, to qualify for substitution of entitlement, the veteran-assume must have been the "immediate" transferee. Now, any qualified veterans-assumer of a VA-guaranteed loan may substitute entitlement for that of the original veteran borrower, even though title to the property has been conveyed to an intervening buyer.
- ° Authorized manufactured homes which are permanently affixed to lots to be recognized as real property. Recognition of a manufactured home as real property rather than personal property provides more favorable loan terms, including a lower interest rate and longer repayment period.

COMPARISON OF GI BILL BENEFITS BETWEEN
WORLD WAR II, KOREAN, AND VIETNAM ERA PROGRAMS

BENEFIT	WORLD WAR II	KOREA	POST KOREA AND VIETNAM ERA
Authority	Public Law 78-346, 78th Congress, June 22, 1944	Public Law 82-550, 82 Congress, enacted July 15, 1952, effective August 20, 1952	Public Law 89-358, 89th Congress, enacted March 3, 1966, effective June 1, 1966
Service Period	Sept. 16, 1940 - July 25, 1947	June 27, 1950 First discharge date after January 31, 1955	February 1, 1955- December 31, 1976 — unless in service on that date or in a Delayed Entry Program.
Total Veterans	15,440,000	5,714,000	8,844,000 3,064,000 (PK) <u>11,908,000</u>
Veterans Using GI Bill for Training	7,800,000	2,391,000	5,926,000 1,398,000 (PK) 662,000 (Servicepersons) <u>7,986,000</u>
Total Cost to Government to September 1983	\$14.5 Billion	\$4.5 Billion	\$36.9 Billion
Service Requirement a. Veteran (Minimum unless released for service- connected disability) b. Serviceperson	90 Days Not eligible	90 Days Not eligible	181 Consecutive Days or discharge or release because of service-connected disability 181 Consecutive Days

BENEFIT	WORLD WAR II	KOREA	POST KOREA AND VIETNAM ERA
Entitlement	1 Year plus active duty time — not to exceed 48 months entitlement	1 1/2 times active duty time not to exceed 36 months entitlement	1 1/2 times each month active duty not to exceed 45 months entitlement (18 continuous months that satisfy active duty requirement earns 45 months entitlement)
Maximum Entitlement	48 Months	36 Months	36 Months - June 1, 1966 45 Months - October 1, 1976
Tutorial Assistance	Not Provided	Not Provided	\$50/Month - Max.Total, \$450: 3/26/70 \$60/Month - Max.Total, \$720: 12/3/74 \$65/Month - Max.Total, \$780: 10/1/76 \$69/Month - Max.Total, \$828: 10/1/77 \$72/Month - Max.Total, \$869: 10/1/80 \$76/Month - Max.Total, \$911, 1/1/81
Training Must Begin By	4 Years after Separation	3 Years After Separation	No Time Limit
Delimiting Period for Completion of Training	9 Years after Separation (Program Terminated)	8 Years After Separation (Program For All Terminated January 31, 1965)	10 Years (limited extension for certain veterans) after separation (Program For All Terminates December 31, 1989)

BENEFIT	WORLD WAR II	KOREA	POST KOREA AND VIETNAM ERA
Allowances (Institutional Training a. Single, full-time veteran student (Additional benefits for dependents) b. Tuition, fees, books, and supplies c. Statutory ceiling - allowance plus earnings (monthly)	\$50/Month, 1944 \$65/Month, 1946 \$75/Month, 1948 Actual cost up to \$500 for ordinary school year August 8, 1946 - \$175 a month if no dependents April 1, 1948 - \$210 a month if no dependents	\$110/Month All costs paid by veteran out of allowance Job Training Only \$310	\$100/Month, June 1, 1966 \$130/Month, October 1, 1967 \$175/Month, February 1, 1970 \$220/Month, October 1, 1972 \$270/Month, September 1, 1974 \$292/Month, October 1, 1976 \$311/Month, October 1, 1977 \$327/Month, October 1, 1980 \$342/Month, January 1, 1981 All costs paid by veteran out of allowance None
Vocational Counseling	Provided on Request	Provided on Request	Provided on Request — More extensive counseling services, November 23, 1977
Changes of Program Permitted	Before commencement cut-off, one optional change to different field; other changes with counseling	One change if failure to progress was not veteran's fault and new program was normal progression from original program	One option (except where interruption or discontinuation due to veteran's fault)

BENEFIT	WORLD WAR II	KOREA	POST KOREA AND VIETNAM ERA
Avocational and Recreational Courses	Permitted June 22, 1944; not permitted June 30, 1948	Not Permitted	Not Permitted
Elementary and High School Entitlement Charge	Yes	Yes	No - veterans (tuition and fees) No - for servicepersons October 1, 1980
Farm Training a. Type Program b. Basic allowance-no dependents	Added September 1, 1947; Institutional-on-farm \$67.50/Month	Institutional-on-farm \$95.00/Month	October 1, 1967 Farm cooperative \$105/Month - October 1, 1967 \$141/Month - February 1, 1970 \$177/Month - October 1, 1972 \$217/Month - September 1, 1974 \$235/Month - October 1, 1976 \$251/Month - October 1, 1977 \$264/Month - October 1, 1980 \$276/Month - January 1, 1981
Job Training a. Basic allowance-no dependents b. Cost of tool payment	\$50/Month - June 22, 1944 \$65/Month - January 1, 1946 Yes (usually limited to \$100)	\$70/Months No	\$ 80/Month - October 1, 1967 \$108/Month - February 1, 1970 \$168/Month - October 1, 1972 \$189/Month - September 1, 1974 \$212/Month - October 1, 1976 \$226/Month - October 1, 1977 \$237/Month - October 1, 1980 \$249/Month - January 1, 1981 (Rates are for first 6 months of training with decreases at months 7, 13, 19)

BENEFIT	WORLD WAR II	KOREA	POST KOREA AND VIETNAM ERA
Flight Training Basic Allowance	Same as institutional	None	90 percent with entitlement charge at the rate of 1 month for: each \$130 paid - October 1, 1967 each \$175 paid - February 1, 1970 each \$220 paid - October 1, 1972 each \$260 paid - September 1 1974 each \$270 paid - January 1, 1975 each \$288 paid - October 1, 1977 60 percent with entitlement charge at rate of 1 month for each \$302 paid - October 1, 1980 each \$317 paid - January 1, 1981 Benefits for flight training terminated effective October 1, 1981; those enrolled in approved vocational flight training programs on August 31, 1981, may use their benefits as long as they remain continuously enrolled.
College Level Full-time	12 semester hours	14 semester hours	14 semester hours -OR- 12 semester hours if considered full time by school

BENEFIT	WORLD WAR II	KOREA	POST KOREA AND VIETNAM ERA
Education Loan	Not provided	Not provided	Not to exceed in any one academic year: \$ 600 - January 1, 1975 \$1,500 - October 1, 1976 \$2,500 - January 1, 1978 Terminated as of October 1, 1981, with two exceptions: 1. Loans for flight training reimbursed at 60 percent, and 2. Loans for veterans having unused entitlement and continuing full-time training in the first two years after expiration of their GI Bill expiration date
Work Study	Not provided	Not provided	Maximum payable \$250 for 100 hours worked - October 24, 1972 \$625 for 250 hours worked - December 3, 1974 \$662.50 for 250 hours worked - January 1, 1978 \$725 for 250 hours worked - January 1, 1979 \$775 for 250 hours worked - January 1, 1980 \$837 for 250 hours worked - January 1, 1981



Veterans
Administration

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW GI BILL TO BEGIN JULY 1, 1985

The Veterans Administration is preparing to implement a new version of the GI Bill on July 1.

The bill -- the Veterans' Educational Assistance Act of 1984 -- was enacted last year and establishes a program of education benefits for individuals initially entering military service from July 1, 1985 through June 30, 1988.

Recruits entering the military during that period will participate in the program unless they decline in writing. To participate, the recruit's basic pay will be reduced by \$100 a month for the first 12 months of service. In return for a two-year enlistment, the government will pay a basic benefit of \$250 a month in educational assistance for up to 36 months following the active duty commitment.

For a three-year enlistment, the government will pay \$300 a month for up to 36 months. In addition, the Secretary of Defense may provide up to a \$400 a month "kicker" on top of the basic benefit for those in critical skill areas. The Secretary also has the authority to provide another \$300 a month to those members who serve an additional five years following their original three-year enlistment.

Members of the Armed Forces who have no break in active duty service since Dec. 31, 1976, and serve on active duty for at least three years after June 30, 1985, may take part in the new program with no reduction in their basic pay.

-more-

The current education benefit program is the Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP), a contributory plan that allows the recruit to voluntarily participate in a plan for future education or training. Those enrolled in this program are not affected by the new GI Bill.

Below are some frequently asked questions about the new educational assistance program:

Q — I joined the Army after Jan. 1, 1977, and I am not eligible for the old GI Bill nor am I enrolled in VEAP. Am I eligible for the new GI Bill?

A — No. The only option for anyone who enlisted in the military after Jan. 1, 1977, or one who will enlist prior to July 1, 1985, is VEAP. In order to have educational benefits of any kind, one must enroll in VEAP prior to June 30 of this year.

Q — I am eligible for the old GI Bill. Will I lose any of my benefits?

A — No, if anything you can gain more educational benefits. If you have no break in service since Dec. 31, 1976, continue to serve three years beyond June 30, 1985, are other than dishonorably discharged after July 1, 1988, and have remaining entitlements, then you can receive the basic benefits of the old GI Bill through Dec. 31, 1989, and after that date, you can receive up to one-half of benefits payable under the old GI Bill in addition to benefits under the new GI Bill.

Q — I plan to join the Army after high school. How do I enroll in the new GI Bill?

A — If you enlist after July 1, 1985, you will be automatically enrolled in the new GI Bill program unless you elect in writing not to enroll.

Q — What are the basic benefits of the new GI Bill?

A -- The recruit's basic pay will be reduced \$100 a month for the first 12 months of service. Three and four-year enlistees qualify for \$300 a month for 36 months, while two-year enlistees qualify for \$250 a month for 36 months after completing their active duty commitment.

Q — Are military academy graduates and ROTC scholarship recipients eligible for the new GI Bill?

A -- No. They may, however, qualify for the old GI Bill if all old GI Bill criteria are met.

#

Contact: VA News Service
(202) 389-2741
After 5PM (ET)
(301) 493-8427

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July 16, 1985

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NEW GI BILL

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CHAPTER 30
NEW GI BILL

1. Purpose. This circular provides information on the new education program under chapter 30, title 38 U.S. Code, established under Public Law 98-525, signed on October 19, 1984. This program is referred to as the New GI bill. Detailed procedures for processing chapter 30 claims will be issued as appendices to this circular.

2. General

a. Purpose of Program. The purpose of the chapter 30 program is to provide educational assistance

(1) To help servicepersons readjust to civilian life after their separation from military service, and

(2) To assist in the recruitment and retention of highly qualified personnel in the active and reserve components in the Armed Forces.

b. Eligible Individuals

(1) The chapter 30 program is focused toward two categories of individuals:

(a) Category I. This category includes those individuals who first become members of the Armed Forces (including Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) or enter on active duty at any time during the 3-year period beginning July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988. Their military pay will be reduced by \$100 each month for the first 12 months of their active duty service. The VA will not keep a record of these pay reductions.

(b) Category II. This category includes those individuals who have chapter 34 eligibility, have been on active duty without break on and after December 31, 1976, and continue on active duty beyond July 1, 1985. This provision allows these individuals to receive chapter 30 benefits beginning January 1, 1990. (December 31, 1989 is the latest date that chapter 34 benefits can be paid.)

(2) A provision of the chapter 30 program allows persons to serve shorter periods of active duty if they subsequently serve in the Selected Reserve. These include reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, and the Army and Air National Guard.

c. Summaries. Exhibits 1 and 2 at the end of this circular provide brief summaries of the eligibility requirements, entitlement, and rates under the different situations a person may be eligible for chapter 30 benefits. Refer to corresponding sections in the circular

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for more detailed information. Do not rely solely on the summaries when processing claims.

3. Effect on Chapter 32 Program

a. No new enrollments in the chapter 32 program will be permitted during the period July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988. Persons who entered active duty between January 1, 1977, and July 1, 1985, are not eligible for assistance under chapter 30. Individuals must have enrolled in and contributed to the chapter 32 program before July 1, 1985, to be eligible for chapter 32 benefits. If no actual contributions are made by July 1, 1985, individuals will not be excluded from the chapter 32 program if they sign an allotment form before July 1, 1985, to have contributions made from their military pay.

b. Persons who are contributing to the chapter 32 program may continue to do so after June 30, 1985.

c. Those who have received refunds of prior chapter 32 contributions or who have suspended their contributions may reopen their accounts or resume contributions, respectively, at any time after June 30, 1985.

d. Benefit payments to those eligible for the chapter 32 program will not be affected by the chapter 30 program.

4. Persons Not Eligible for Chapter 30. There are two groups of persons who are expressly barred by statute from participating in the chapter 30 program.

a. Those who received commissions after December 31, 1976, as officers in the Armed Forces as a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy (Army), Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, or Coast Guard Academy are not eligible for chapter 30 benefits.

b. Those who completed a program of educational assistance under an ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps) Scholarship Program (10 U.S. Code 2107) after December 31, 1976, are not eligible for chapter 30 benefits. However, those completing an ROTC program without a scholarship are not excluded from the chapter 30 program.

5. Processing Overview

a. Individuals will file claims for educational assistance under chapter 30 with the VA. An application form is being developed.

b. The VA will process the applications for eligibility determinations and will determine entitlement and the amount of basic educational assistance.

c. The military services will determine the amount of any supplemental educational assistance and/or kickers that are payable. They will notify the VA of the monthly amount to be paid.

d. The VA will pay all benefits under the chapter 30 program (basic and supplemental educational assistance and kickers) to the eligible person.

6. Determining Eligibility. There are basically five ways persons can become eligible for basic educational assistance under chapter 30. For brevity we have designated these five eligibility categories as follows.

a. Eligibility Category IA. Persons in this category first become members of the Armed Forces or first enter on active duty during the period beginning July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988, complete an obligated period of active duty of less than 3 years, and have no subsequent service in the Selected Reserve. Refer to exhibit 3 for detailed information.

b. Eligibility Category IB. Persons in this category first become members of the Armed Forces or first enter on active duty during the period beginning July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988, and complete an obligated period of active duty of 3 years or longer. Refer to exhibit 3 for detailed information.

c. Eligibility Category IC. Persons in this category first become members of the Armed Forces or first enter on active duty during the period beginning July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988, serve at least 2 years on active duty, and then serve at least 4 years in the Selected Reserve. Refer to exhibit 4 for detailed information.

d. Eligibility Category IIA. Persons in this category serve on active duty without break on and after December 31, 1976, until June 30, 1988, or later. They will be eligible for basic educational assistance under chapter 30 after December 31, 1989, provided they are eligible for chapter 34 benefits on that date. Refer to exhibit 5 for detailed information.

e. Eligibility Category IIB. Persons in this category serve on active duty without break on and after December 31, 1976, until June 30, 1987, or later, and then serve at least 4 years in the Selected Reserve. They will be eligible for basic educational assistance under chapter 30 after December 31, 1989, provided they are eligible for chapter 34 benefits on that date. Refer to exhibit 6 for detailed information.

7. Military Pay Reductions

a. Requirement for Eligibility. Persons in eligibility categories IA, IB, and IC will have their military pay reduced by \$100

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each month for the first 12 months after they enter active duty for a total of \$1,200. Persons in categories IIA and IIB will not have their military pay reduced. A person who is discharged for a service-connected disability or hardship is not required to have a total of \$1,200 in reductions if he or she served less than 12 months. His or her military pay must have been reduced only for the number of months on active duty.

b. Election Not to Participate. Individuals entering active duty from July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988, will have the \$100 withheld each month unless they elect not to participate. If an individual decides not to participate, he or she must elect not to do so to avoid having his or her military pay reduced. Such an individual may not decide at a later date to participate.

c. Amounts Withheld. The reductions from military pay are turned over to the Treasury Department. Unlike contributions to the chapter 32 program, the VA will not keep a record of a person's reductions. There will be no refunds of any portion of these reductions for any reason.

8. Character of Discharge. To be eligible for basic educational assistance, an individual must be discharged from active duty with an "honorable" discharge. A character of discharge of less than "honorable"; e.g., "under honorable conditions," "general," "bad conduct," or "undesirable," will not establish eligibility for chapter 30 benefit purposes. The VA will not make character of discharge determinations for discharges which are less than honorable because the law does not specify "under conditions other than dishonorable."

9. Continuity of Service in Selected Reserve

a. Persons in categories IC and IIB combine at least 2 years of active duty service on or after July 1, 1985, with at least 4 years of continuous service in the Selected Reserve. Frequently members in the reserves will have breaks in reserve service caused by situations such as job transfers to another locality.

b. To make it less difficult for members in the Selected Reserve to accumulate 4 continuous years of reserve service, DOD may specify a maximum period of time during which the member is considered to have continuous reserve service even though he or she

(1) Is not able to locate a unit in the Selected Reserve that he or she is able to join or that has a vacancy; or

(2) Is not attached to a unit for other reasons that DOD considers not to constitute a break in continuity.

10. Period of Eligibility

a. Ten-year Period of Eligibility. A veteran has a period of 10 years to use his or her eligibility. The day following the ending date of this 10-year period is the delimiting date. The delimiting date is the later of the following dates.

(1) Ten years and 1 day from the date of last discharge or release from active duty; or

(2) Ten years and 1 day from the first day the person becomes eligible for benefits.

EXAMPLE: A veteran is eligible for chapter 30 benefits based on chapter 34 eligibility by having served on active duty without break on and after December 31, 1976, until September 30, 1988, when he was discharged. He can receive chapter 34 benefits (only) through December 31, 1989. After that date only chapter 30 benefits can be paid. His delimiting date for chapter 30 benefits is January 2, 2000, 10 years and 1 day from January 1, 1990, the date he first became eligible for chapter 30 benefits.

b. Extension of 10-Year Period of Eligibility. A delimiting date may be extended for the following reasons:

(1) Disability. A veteran's delimiting date may be extended if a physical or mental disability prevented the individual from initiating or completing a chosen program of education before his or her delimiting date. The disability must not have been caused by the individual's willful misconduct. The veteran must apply for such an extension within

(a) One year after his or her basic delimiting date; or

(b) One year after the date that he or she became able to initiate or continue training following recovery from the disability.

(2) POW/MIA Status. If an eligible person was detained by a foreign government or power after his or her last discharge or release from active duty, his or her basic delimiting date may be extended by the length of time he or she was detained and by any period immediately following release from such detention during which the veteran was hospitalized at a military, civilian, or VA medical facility.

c. Upgrade of Character of Discharge. If a military service upgrades a discharge that previously prevented a veteran from receiving educational assistance under chapter 30, his or her delimiting date will be 10 years from the date of the decision to upgrade the character of discharge.

11. Entitlement to Basic Educational Assistance. The method of determining entitlement depends on whether an individual's eligibility is based solely on active duty service (categories IA, IB, & IIA) or based on a combination of active duty and reserve service (categories IC & IIB).

a. Active Duty Service Only

(1) Persons in categories IA, IB, and IIA who are eligible for basic educational assistance will receive 36 months of entitlement unless they are discharged early for a service-connected disability or for hardship.

(2) Persons in categories IA, IB, and IIA who are discharged early for convenience of the government will receive 36 months of entitlement to basic educational assistance provided they have served the required time for eligibility.

EXAMPLE: A veteran entered active duty on August 20, 1985, and was discharged for convenience of the government on January 15, 1986, before completing his 2-year obligation. His military pay was reduced by \$100 each month he was on active duty. He is not eligible for, and, therefore, has no entitlement to, basic educational assistance because he served less than 20 months on active duty. The \$100 monthly reductions in his military pay may not be refunded. (If he had served at least 20 months he would be entitled to 36 months of basic educational assistance.)

(3) Persons in categories IA, IB, and IIA who are discharged early for a service-connected disability or for hardship will receive entitlement equal to 1 day of basic educational assistance for each day served on active duty on and after July 1, 1985.

EXAMPLE: After completing 9 months and 20 days of a period of active duty beginning August 3, 1985, a veteran was discharged for a service-connected disability. His military pay had been reduced by \$100 for the number of months he was in service. He is entitled to 9 months and 20 days of basic educational assistance.

b. Combination Active Duty and Reserve Service. Persons in categories IC and IIB who are eligible for basic educational assistance will earn 1 day of entitlement for each day of active duty service on and after July 1, 1985, and 1 day for each 4 days of service in the Selected Reserve. Total entitlement may not exceed 36 months.

c. Charges to Entitlement. A full day of entitlement will be charged for each day for which benefits are paid at the full-time rate.

d. Limitations on Entitlement. Except as provided in subparagraph e, a veteran may not receive basic educational assistance under chapter 30 for more than 36 months for full-time training or the

equivalent for less than full-time training. The aggregate entitlement to educational benefits for those having entitlement under two or more VA education programs may not exceed 48 months.

e. Extensions of Entitlement. The limitations on entitlement in paragraph d above may be exceeded in the following situations.

(1) Enrollments in Schools Regularly Operated on a Quarter or Semester Basis. If a veteran's entitlement expires during a quarter or semester, an extension of entitlement may be granted to the end of the quarter or semester.

(2) Enrollments in Schools Not Regularly Operated on a Quarter or Semester Basis. If a veteran's entitlement expires after he or she completes one-half of the course, an extension of entitlement may be granted for 12 weeks (84 calendar days) or to the end of the course, whichever is less.

12. Monthly Rates of Basic Educational Assistance. The monthly rate of basic educational assistance varies according to a person's eligibility category. The rate table shown in exhibit 7 provides an overview of the possible combinations of rates.

a. Rates for Persons in Category IA. Veterans in this category who are training at least one-half time will be paid basic educational assistance as follows:

<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Training Time</u>
\$250	Full
187.50	Three Quarter
125	One Half

b. Rates for Persons in Eligibility Categories IB and IIA. Veterans in these eligibility categories who are training at least one-half time will be paid basic educational assistance as follows:

<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Training Time</u>
\$300	Full
225	Three Quarter
150	One Half

c. Rates for Persons in Categories IC and IIB. Veterans in these categories who are training at least one-half time will be paid the rates shown in subparagraph b provided they complete the required active duty and then become obligated for at least 4 years in the Selected Reserve. If these persons do not have such an obligation in the Selected Reserve, they will be paid at the rates shown in subparagraph a.

d. Additional Amounts for Persons in Categories IIA and IIB. Veterans in these eligibility categories will be paid $\frac{1}{2}$ of the

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chapter 34 monthly rate applicable to their training time and number of dependents over and above the rates shown in subparagraph b above.

(1) This additional amount is not considered a payment of chapter 34 benefits after December 31, 1989. Only chapter 30 benefits are payable after that date.

(2) This additional amount may be paid only to the extent of the veteran's chapter 34 entitlement remaining as of January 1, 1990. Refer to exhibit 8 for details on entitlement calculations.

EXAMPLE 1: A veteran is eligible for chapter 30 benefits by having entered active duty before January 1, 1977, and having served on active duty without break until March 31, 1990, when he was honorably discharged. He applies for chapter 30 benefits in 1991. He used none of his 45 months of chapter 34 entitlement while in service. His chapter 30 entitlement is 36 months. He is entitled to the additional amount ($\frac{1}{2}$ of the chapter 34 rate in effect on December 31, 1989) in addition to the basic rate of chapter 30 benefits for 36 months.

EXAMPLE 2: Using similar facts as in the example above, a veteran used 30 of his 45 months of chapter 34 entitlement while on active duty. is entitled to 18 months of chapter 30 benefits. (48 months maximum under both chapters 30 and 34 minus 30 months used under chapter 34 equals 18 months available under chapter 30.) His basic chapter 30 benefit can be increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ of the chapter 34 rate for only the first 15 months (the remaining chapter 34 entitlement) he is paid chapter 30 benefits.

(3) If a veteran gains or loses a dependent while receiving this additional amount, benefits will be adjusted to reflect the correct amount payable based on the new number of dependents.

e. Servicepersons and Those Training at Less than One-Half Time. For these individuals, the maximum rate payable is the charge for tuition and fees or the amount of basic educational assistance otherwise payable for his or her training time, whichever is less. When a serviceperson completes 2 years of an obligated period of active duty service of at least 3 years, the monthly rate will be based on the rates shown in subparagraph b above, or the charge for tuition and fees, whichever is less.

13. Supplemental Educational Assistance. Supplemental educational assistance is a monthly amount that may be paid over and above the amount of basic educational assistance if DOD provides for payment of this additional amount and if the person meets the eligibility criteria described below.

a. Eligibility Based on Active Duty Service Only

(1) Persons in eligibility categories IA, IB, and IIA must serve at least 5 more continuous years of active duty after serving the number of years of active duty required for eligibility for basic educational assistance.

(2) When the person completes the additional 5 years of active duty, he or she must be discharged with an honorable discharge; be placed on the retired list or on the TDRL (temporary disability retired list); be transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; be released from active duty with an honorable discharge to a reserve component; or continue on active duty.

b. Eligibility Based on Combination of Active Duty and Reserve Service

(1) Persons in eligibility categories IC and IIB must serve

(a) At least 2 consecutive years of additional active duty, and

(b) At least 4 consecutive years of additional service in the Selected Reserve. Continuity of service in the Selected Reserve is not broken by any period discussed in paragraph 9.

(2) When the person completes all of the service discussed in subparagraph (1), he or she must be discharged with an honorable discharge; be placed on the retired list or on the TDRL; be transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; or continue on active duty or in the Selected Reserve.

c. Monthly Rates

(1) Basic educational assistance for those individuals who meet the eligibility requirements for supplemental educational assistance will be increased by the amounts shown below if this additional amount is authorized by DOD. Supplemental educational assistance is payable only as an additional amount to basic educational assistance; it may not be paid by itself. (See exhibit 7.)

<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Training Time</u>
\$300	Full
225	Three Quarter
150	One Half

(2) For veterans training at less than one-half time, the maximum rate is the charge for tuition and fees or the total educational assistance otherwise payable, whichever is less.

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14. Kickers. Persons who have skills critical to the military may be paid additional amounts which are referred to as "kickers." Kickers are payable at the discretion of DOD. They may be paid as an additional amount to an individual's basic educational assistance, to supplemental educational assistance, or to both. (See exhibit 7.) DOD will determine the monthly amount of kicker payable and will notify the VA of that amount. Kickers may not exceed

a. \$400 monthly as an additional amount to basic educational assistance for full-time training; or

b. \$300 monthly as an additional amount to supplemental educational assistance for full-time training.

15. Types of Training

a. Approved Types of Training. Benefits under chapter 30 may be paid for programs in institutions of higher learning and courses in non-college degree schools. Benefits may be paid for courses taken by independent study and open-circuit television to the extent they are allowed under chapter 34, title 38, U.S. Code. The State approving agency must approve all courses before payment may be made for any enrollments.

b. Types of Training Not Approved. Benefits under chapter 30 will not be paid for the following types of training: Correspondence or flight training, apprenticeship, or on-the-job training, elementary or secondary courses, cooperative training, or farm cooperative courses.

16. Certifications of Attendance

a. Monthly Certifications. Attendance and/or pursuit for all individuals receiving monthly payments of chapter 30 benefits will be certified monthly by the student and the school.

b. Certifications Required for Payment. Benefits for any month will not be paid until the monthly certification is received for that month.

17. Program Administration

a. The following provisions of chapter 34, title 38, U.S. Code, apply to chapter 30:

- (1) Section 1663 - Educational and vocational counseling
- (2) Section 1670 - Selection of program
- (3) Section 1671 - Applications; approval
- (4) Section 1673 - Disapproval of enrollment in certain courses

(5) Section 1674 - Discontinuance for unsatisfactory conduct or progress

(6) Section 1676 - Education outside the United States

(7) Section 1682(g) - Computation of educational assistance allowance - incarcerated veterans

(8) Section 1683 - Approval of courses

b. All of the provisions of chapter 36, title 38, U.S. Code, apply to chapter 30 except for the following:

(1) Section 1777 - Approval of training on the job

(2) Section 1780(a)(5) - Payment of educational assistance - Correspondence or combination correspondence residence

(3) Section 1780(b) - Payment of educational assistance - Correspondence training certifications

(4) Section 1786 - Correspondence courses

(5) Section 1787 - Apprenticeship or other on-job training

(6) Section 1792 - Advisory committee

18. Prohibition of Duplication of Benefits

a. An individual may not receive benefits under chapter 30 concurrently with benefits under another law (chapter 31, 34, or 35 of title 38, U.S. Code; chapter 106 of title 10, U.S. Code; or section 901 or 903 of Public Law 96-342). The person must elect which benefit he or she will receive.

b. An individual who qualifies for assistance under chapter 30 based on eligibility for chapter 34 benefits may not receive benefits under chapter 30 before January 1, 1990.

19. Educational Leave of Absence

a. DOD may grant a leave of absence to an individual to pursue education or training. To be eligible for a leave of absence, the individual must be eligible for basic educational assistance under chapter 30 and

(1) If he or she enlisted, must have reenlisted after having completed his or her first term of enlistment; or

(2) If an officer, must have completed his or her initial period of obligated active duty service.

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b. If a leave of absence is granted, the individual must agree to serve 2 months for each month of leave.

c. While a person is on a leave of absence, he or she will receive basic military pay. The time on leave will not count toward entitlement to supplemental educational assistance.

20. Preseparation Counseling. Upon discharge or release from active duty, the individual's branch of service will provide counseling to inform him or her of the benefits under chapter 30 and the advantages of serving in the Selected Reserve.

21. Funding of Program

a. Basic Educational Assistance. Basic educational assistance will be paid from funds appropriated to the VA.

b. Supplemental Educational Assistance and Kickers. Supplemental educational assistance and kickers will be paid from the Department of Defense Education Benefits Fund or from appropriations made to the Department of Transportation for the Coast Guard. Funds will be transferred to the VA as necessary for payment of benefits.

22. Reports. Both the DOD and the VA are required to submit to Congress periodic reports on the use of the chapter 30 program. Also, DOD is required to submit to Congress a report on the desirability/feasibility of transferring entitlement to dependents of eligible persons.

23. Administration. Refer any questions concerning this circular to VA Central Office Education Service (225B), FTS 389-3150.



R. J. VOGEL
Chief Benefits Director

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SUMMARY FOR PERSONS INITIALLY ENTERING ACTIVE DUTY DURING PERIOD JULY 1, 1985, THROUGH JUNE 30, 1988

ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE ONLY (CATEGORIES IA & IB)		ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE FOLLOWED BY SERVICE IN SELECTED RESERVE (CATEGORY IC)	
<u>BASIC EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE</u>			
Eligibility	Veterans with less than 3-year obligation must serve 2 years. Veterans with 3-year or longer obligation must serve 3 years. Those on active duty must complete 2 years. Veterans must be honorably discharged after completing initial obligated period of service; or discharged for service-connected disability or hardship; or discharged for convenience of government if served at least 20 months of 2-year obligation or at least 30 months of 3-year or longer obligation. Military pay reduced by \$100 monthly for first 12 months of active duty. Must have secondary school diploma or equivalent before completing initial obligated period of active duty.	Must serve 2 years honorable active duty and then serve 4 years in Selected Reserve with satisfactory participation. Must be honorably discharged. If 4 years in Selected Reserve not completed, must be discharged for disability or hardship; or for convenience of government if completed at least 42 months in Selected Reserve. Military pay reduced by \$100 monthly for first 12 months of active duty. Must have secondary school diploma or equivalent before completing initial obligated period of active duty.	
Entitlement	36 months if honorably discharged or if discharged for convenience of government; or 1 day for each day served on active duty if discharged for service-connected disability or for hardship.	1 day of entitlement for each day of active duty service and 1 day for each 4 days of service in Selected Reserve.	
Rates	Veterans training at $\frac{1}{2}$ time or more: \$250 monthly full-time if initial obligation is less than 3 years; \$300 monthly full-time if initial obligation is 3 years or more. Servicepersons or veterans training at less than $\frac{1}{2}$ time: The lesser of cost of tuition and fees or rate otherwise payable.	Veterans training at $\frac{1}{2}$ time or more: \$300 monthly full-time when becomes obligated for at least 4 years in Selected Reserve. Veterans training at less than $\frac{1}{2}$ time: The lesser of cost of tuition and fees or rate otherwise payable.	
<u>SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE</u>			
Eligibility	Must serve 5 years in addition to initial obligated period of active duty. Payment is discretionary with DOD.	Must serve 2 additional years of active duty and 4 additional years in Selected Reserve. Payment is discretionary with DOD.	
Rates	\$300 monthly for full-time training in addition to Basic Educational Assistance.	\$300 monthly for full-time training in addition to Basic Educational Assistance.	
<u>KICKERS</u>			
Eligibility	Eligibility is based on military skills. Payment is discretionary with DOD.	Eligibility is based on military skills. Payment is discretionary with DOD.	
Rates	Monthly rate determined by DOD not to exceed: \$400 monthly full-time over Basic Educational Assistance; \$300 monthly full-time over Supplemental Educational Assistance.	Monthly rate determined by DOD not to exceed: \$400 monthly full-time over Basic Educational Assistance; \$300 monthly full-time over Supplemental Educational Assistance.	

Exhibit 2

SUMMARY FOR PERSONS WHO ENTERED SERVICE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1977, AND WHO SERVED BEYOND JUNE 30, 1985

	PERSONS SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY THROUGH 6/30/88 (CATEGORY IIA)	PERSONS SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY THROUGH 6/30/87, AND THEN SERVING IN SELECTED RESERVE (CATEGORY IIB)
	<u>BASIC EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE</u>	
Eligibility	Must be eligible to receive chapter 34 benefits on 12/31/89. Must serve on active duty without break on and after 12/31/76 until 6/30/88. Must be honorably discharged on or after 6/30/88; or discharged for service-connected disability or hardship; or discharged for convenience of government on or after 12/31/87. Must have secondary school diploma or equivalent before 6/30/88 (or date discharged for disability, hardship, or convenience of government).	Must be eligible to receive chapter 34 benefits on 12/31/89. Must serve on active duty without break on and after 12/31/76 until 6/30/87 or later. Must be honorably discharged on or after 6/30/87. If 4 years in Selected Reserve not completed, must be discharged for disability or hardship; or for convenience of government if completed at least 42 months in Selected Reserve. Must have secondary school diploma or equivalent before 6/30/87 (or date discharged for disability, hardship, or convenience of government).
Entitlement	36 months if honorably discharged or if discharged for convenience of government; or 1 day for each month served on or after 7/1/85 if discharged for disability or hardship.	1 day of entitlement for each day of active duty service and 1 day for each 4 days of service in Selected Reserve, not to exceed 36 months.
Rates	Before 1/1/90, only chapter 34 benefits are payable. On or after 1/1/90, chapter 30 is payable as follows: Veterans training at $\frac{1}{2}$ time or more: \$300 monthly full-time plus $\frac{1}{2}$ of applicable chapter 34 rate. Servicepersons or veterans training at less than $\frac{1}{2}$ time: The lesser of cost of tuition and fees or rate otherwise payable.	Before 1/1/90, only chapter 34 benefits are payable. On or after 1/1/90, chapter 30 is payable as follows: Veterans training at $\frac{1}{2}$ time or more: \$300 monthly full-time plus $\frac{1}{2}$ of applicable chapter 34 rate. Servicepersons or veterans training at less than $\frac{1}{2}$ time: The lesser of cost of tuition and fees or rate otherwise payable.
	<u>SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE</u>	
Eligibility	Must remain on active duty until at least 6/30/93. Payment is discretionary with DOD.	Must serve on active duty an additional 2 years plus an additional 4 years in the Selected Reserve. Payment is discretionary with DOD.
Rates	\$300 monthly for full-time training in addition to Basic Educational Assistance.	\$300 monthly for full-time training in addition to Basic Educational Assistance.
	<u>KICKERS</u>	
Eligibility	Eligibility is based on military skills. Payment is discretionary with DOD.	Eligibility is based on military skills. Payment is discretionary with DOD.
Rates	Monthly rate determined by DOD not to exceed: \$400 monthly full-time over Basic Educational Assistance; \$300 monthly full-time over Supplemental Educational Assistance.	Monthly rate determined by DOD not to exceed: \$400 monthly full-time over Basic Educational Assistance; \$300 monthly full-time over Supplemental Educational Assistance.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE ENTERING ACTIVE DUTY
ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1985

These requirements are focused toward persons who either complete an initial obligation of less than 3 years and have no subsequent service in the Selected Reserve (category IA) or complete an initial obligation of 3 years or longer (category IB).

a. Entry on Active Duty. An individual must first enter on active duty or first become a member of the Armed Forces at some time during the period from July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988, inclusive. A person who contracts before July 1, 1985, under a delayed entry program but does not go on active duty until on or after that date (but before July 1, 1988), is eligible for basic educational assistance.

b. Period of Service

(1) An individual must

(a) Serve at least 2 years of continuous active duty if his or her initial obligated period of service is less than 3 years or if applying as a serviceperson; or

(b) Serve at least 3 years of continuous active duty if his or her initial obligated period of service is 3 years or more.

(2) If the individual does not complete the required active duty service above, he or she must have been discharged or released

(a) For a service-connected disability;

(b) For hardship; or

(c) For the convenience of the government if he or she served at least 20 months of an obligation of less than 3 years or 30 months of an obligation of 3 years or longer.

(3) When the individual completes the required period of active duty, he or she must be discharged with an honorable discharge; be placed on the retired list or transferred to the TDRL; be transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; be transferred from active duty with an honorable discharge to a reserve component; or continue on active duty.

c. Pay Reductions. The individual's military pay will have been reduced by \$100 each month for the first 12 months of active duty service.

d. Education. Before completing the required period of service described above, the individual must have received a secondary school diploma or an equivalency certificate.

July 16, 1985

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE ENTERING ACTIVE DUTY ON OR AFTER
JULY 1, 1985, AND THEN SERVING IN SELECTED RESERVE

These requirements are focused toward persons who complete a period of active duty of less than 3 years and then serve at least 4 years in the Selected Reserve (category IC). If a person completes an obligated period of active duty of 3 or more years, refer to exhibit 3; service in the Selected Reserve is not a factor for those with an obligation of 3 years or more.

a. Entry on Active Duty. An individual must first enter active duty or first become a member of the Armed Forces at some time during the period from July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988, inclusive. A person who contracts before July 1, 1985, under a delayed entry program but does not go on active duty until on or after that date (but before July 1, 1988), is eligible for basic educational assistance under chapter 30.

b. Period of Service

(1) An individual must complete at least 2 years of continuous honorable active duty service followed by at least 4 years of continuous honorable duty in the Selected Reserve with satisfactory participation in training. If the individual is applying as a serviceperson, only 2 years of continuous active duty service is required.

(2) If the individual does not complete the required service in the Selected Reserve, he or she must have been discharged or released from the Selected Reserve

(a) For a service-connected disability;

(b) For hardship; or

(c) For convenience of the government if he or she completed 42 months of service in the Selected Reserve.

(3) When the individual completes the required period of active duty and reserve service, he or she must be discharged with an honorable discharge; be placed on the retired list; be transferred to the Standby Reserve or to an element of the Ready Reserve other than the Selected Reserve; or continue on active duty or in the Selected Reserve.

c. Pay Reductions. The individual's military pay will have been reduced by \$100 each month for the first 12 months of active duty service.

d. Education. Before completing the required period of service described above, the individual must have received a secondary school diploma or an equivalency certificate.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE WHO ENTERED ACTIVE DUTY BEFORE
JANUARY 1, 1977, AND SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY UNTIL JUNE 30, 1988

These requirements are focused toward persons who entered on active duty before January 1, 1977, served without break until June 30, 1988, or later, and are eligible to receive chapter 34 benefits on December 31, 1989 (category IIA).

a. Entry on Active Duty. The individual must have entered on active duty before January 1, 1977. A person who entered active duty under a delayed entry program contracted for before January 1, 1977, is not eligible for chapter 30 because he or she must have been on active duty on December 31, 1976.

b. Period of Service

(1) The individual must serve on active duty without break on and after December 31, 1976, through June 30, 1985. For purposes of this provision, a period exceeding 90 days is considered a break in service; a period of 90 days or less is not.

EXAMPLE: A person entered active duty on June 1, 1972, and was honorably discharged on May 31, 1982. He subsequently reentered service on February 1, 1983, and remains on active duty until honorably discharged on August 31, 1989. Although this person is eligible for chapter 34 benefits, he is not eligible for basic educational assistance because he had a break in service exceeding 90 days between December 31, 1976, and June 30, 1985.

(2) The individual must serve on active duty continuously from July 1, 1985, until June 30, 1988. Any day the individual is not on active duty will interrupt the continuity of service.

(3) If the individual does not complete the required active duty service, he or she must be discharged or released

(a) For a service-connected disability;

(b) For hardship; or

(c) For the convenience of the government if he or she served until December 31, 1987, or later.

(4) When the individual completes the required period of active duty, he or she must be discharged with an honorable discharge; be placed on the retired list or transferred to the TDRL; be transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; be released from active duty with an honorable discharge to a reserve component; or continue on active duty.

c. Education. Before completing the required period of service described above, the individual must have received a secondary school diploma or an equivalency certificate.

d. Eligible for Chapter 34. The person must be eligible to receive chapter 34 benefits and must have remaining chapter 34 entitlement on December 31, 1989.

July 16, 1985

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE ENTERING ACTIVE DUTY BEFORE
JANUARY 1, 1977, SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY UNTIL JUNE 30, 1987,
AND THEN SERVING IN SELECTED RESERVE

These requirements are focused toward persons who entered active duty before January 1, 1977, served on active duty without break until June 30, 1987, served in the Selected Reserve, and are eligible to receive chapter 34 benefits on December 31, 1989 (category IIB).

a. Entry on Active Duty. The individual must have entered on active duty before January 1, 1977. A person who entered active duty under a delayed entry program contracted for before January 1, 1977, is not eligible for chapter 30 because he or she must have been on active duty on December 31, 1976.

b. Period of Service

(1) The individual must serve on active duty without break on and after December 31, 1976, through June 30, 1985. For purposes of this provision, a period exceeding 90 days is considered a break in service; a period of 90 days or less is not.

(2) The individual must serve continuously on active duty from July 1, 1985, until June 30, 1987. Any day the individual is not on active duty will interrupt the continuity of service.

(3) The individual must follow this active duty with at least 4 years of continuous honorable duty in the Selected Reserve with satisfactory participation in training.

(4) If the individual does not complete the required service in the Selected Reserve, he or she must have been discharged or released from the Selected Reserve

(a) For a service-connected disability;

(b) For hardship; or

(c) For convenience of the government if he or she completed 42 months of service in the Selected Reserve.

(5) When the individual completes the required period of active duty and reserve service, he or she must be discharged with an honorable discharge; be placed on the retired list; be transferred to Standby Reserve or to an element of the Ready Reserve other than the Selected Reserve; or continue on active duty or in the Selected Reserve.

c. Education. Before completing the required period of service described above the individual must have received a secondary school diploma or an equivalency certificate.

d. Eligible for Chapter 34. The person must be eligible to receive chapter 34 benefits and must have remaining chapter 34 entitlement on December 31, 1989.

RATE TABLE FOR CHAPTER 30 BENEFITS

USING THE TABLE. The rates in column A apply to those persons in eligibility category IA. The rates in column B apply to those persons in eligibility categories IB, IC, IIA, and IIB. However, the rates do not include the additional amount equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the chapter 34 rate payable on or after January 1, 1990, to those in eligibility categories IIA and IIB. The rates for kickers are the maximum monthly rates allowable for each training time.

Type of Chapter 30 Benefit	Training Time	Monthly Rate	
		Col. A	Col. B
Basic	Full	\$250	\$300
	3/4	187.50	225
	1/2	125	150
	Less Than $\frac{1}{4}$		
	But More Than $\frac{1}{4}$	125	150
	$\frac{1}{4}$ or Less	62.50	75
Basic with Basic Kicker	Full	650	700
	3/4	487.50	525
	1/2	325	350
	Less Than $\frac{1}{4}$		
	But More Than $\frac{1}{4}$	325	350
	$\frac{1}{4}$ or Less	162.50	175
Basic with Supplemental	Full	550	600
	3/4	412.50	450
	1/2	275	300
	Less Than $\frac{1}{4}$		
	But More Than $\frac{1}{4}$	275	300
	$\frac{1}{4}$ or Less	137.50	150
Basic with Basic Kicker and Supplemental	Full	950	1000
	3/4	712.50	750
	1/2	475	500
	Less Than $\frac{1}{4}$		
	But More Than $\frac{1}{4}$	475	500
	$\frac{1}{4}$ or Less	237.50	250
Basic with Supplemental and Supplemental Kicker	Full	850	900
	3/4	637.50	675
	1/2	425	450
	Less Than $\frac{1}{4}$		
	But More Than $\frac{1}{4}$	425	450
	$\frac{1}{4}$ or Less	212.50	225
Basic with Basic Kicker, Supplemental, and Supplemental Kicker	Full	1250	1300
	3/4	937.50	975
	1/2	625	650
	Less Than $\frac{1}{4}$		
	But More Than $\frac{1}{4}$	625	650
	$\frac{1}{4}$ or Less	312.50	325

NOTE: The monthly rate for servicepersons and for veterans training at less than $\frac{1}{4}$ time will not exceed the monthly pro rata charges for tuition and fees, or the rates indicated in this table, whichever is the lesser.

July 16, 1985

ENTITLEMENT COMPUTATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR
CHAPTER 30 BY HAVING CHAPTER 34 ELIGIBILITY ON DECEMBER 31, 1989

Use following computations to determine (1) the number of months at which a veteran's chapter 30 monthly rate will be increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ of the chapter 34 monthly rate in effect as of December 31, 1989, and (2) the total number of months of a veteran's chapter 30 entitlement. This computation applies to those veterans in eligibility categories IIA and IIB who will meet the requirements for 36 months of entitlement to chapter 30 as of January 1, 1990.

ENTITLEMENT COMPUTATIONS:

Step 1: Enter the number of months of remaining chapter 34 entitlement as of December 31, 1989, or 36, whichever is less.

This is the number of months at which a veteran's chapter 30 benefits will be increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ of the chapter 34 rate in effect on December 31, 1989.

Step 2: Add 3 to the number entered in step 1. Enter that sum or 36, whichever is less.

This is the total number of months that chapter 30 benefits can be paid at the full-time rate.

NOTE: This simplified computation does not apply to those who will not have sufficient service on or after July 1, 1985, to have 36 months of chapter 30 entitlement; e.g., those discharged early for service-connected disability.

EXAMPLES:

In these examples, the following rates are used: \$300 monthly basic educational assistance under chapter 30; and \$376 monthly under chapter 34.

EXAMPLE 1: A veteran has used none of his 45 months of chapter 34 eligibility as of December 31, 1989. He served on active duty beyond June 30, 1988. The entry in step 1 above is 36 because it is less than 45. The entry in step 2 is 36 because it is less than 39. This veteran is eligible to receive all of his chapter 30 entitlement with the additional amount of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the chapter 34 rate for a monthly rate of \$488. This amount is obtained by adding $\frac{1}{2}$ of the chapter 34 rate, or \$188, to the chapter 30 rate of \$300.

EXAMPLE 2: A veteran has used 30 of his 45 months of chapter 34 eligibility as of December 31, 1989. He served on active duty beyond June 30, 1988. His remaining chapter 34 entitlement is 15 months. The entry in step 1 is 15 because it is less than 36. The entry in step 2 is 18, the sum of 15 plus 3, because it is less than 36. This veteran's chapter 30 entitlement is 18 months. He is eligible to receive \$488 monthly for first 15 of the 18 months and \$300 monthly for the remaining 3 months of his entitlement.

MONTGOMERY G. I. BILL

The Montgomery G. I. Bill established two education benefit programs. Chapter 30 for persons in the military service and chapter 106 for members of the Selected Reserve (including the National Guard).

The chapter 30 program, for active duty persons, became effective July 1, 1985 (Montgomery G. I. Bill-Active Duty). It was established under Public Law 98-525 signed on October 19, 1984.

. Eligibility: Two groups of persons are potentially eligible:

(1) Those who first entered active duty beginning July 1, 1985. These persons must have their military pay reduced by \$100 monthly for the first 12 months of active duty.

(2) Those who have eligibility to chapter 34 benefits on December 31, 1989, who served continuously for 3 years on active duty after June 30, 1985. These persons must be on active duty on October 19, 1984.

. Entitlement and Payments:

. Basic Educational Assistance is \$300 monthly for veterans training full-time for 36 months based on a 3-year or more obligation, or \$250 monthly for veterans having less than a 3-year obligation. Veterans whose eligibility is based on prior chapter 34 eligibility will have 1/2 of the chapter 34 rate added to their rate of basic educational assistance for training after December 31, 1989.

. Supplemental Educational Assistance of \$300 monthly for veterans training full-time maybe added to basic educational assistance at discretion of DOD for those completing additional periods of active duty.

. Kickers of \$400 maximum monthly may be added to basic educational assistance and \$300 maximum monthly may be added to supplemental assistance at the discretion of DOD based on military skills.

. Period of Service - An individual must serve at least 2 years of continuous active duty if the initial period of service is less than 3 years or if applying as a serviceperson; or serve at least 3 years if the initial period is 3 years or more. If the individual does not complete the required service, he or she must have been discharged for a service-connected disability, or for hardship. If an individual is released for the convenience of the government he or she must have served at least 20 months of an obligation of less than 3 years, or 30 months of an obligation of 3 years or longer.

. Character of Discharge - must be honorable. A character of discharge of less than honorable, e.g. under honorable conditions, general, etc., will not establish eligibility.

. Time Limit - expires at the end of the 10-year period beginning (1) on the date of the last discharge or release., or (2) on the last day on which the individual becomes entitled, whichever is later.

The chapter 106 program is the other program which became effective on July 1, 1985. This education entitlement program, referred to as the Montgomery G. I. Bill-Selected Reserve educational assistance program, is available for members of the Selected Reserve including the National Guard). It is a program of education for those in the Selected Reserve which consists of reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, as well as the Army National Guard and Air National Guard.

. Eligibility: The following persons are potentially eligible for chapter 106:

(1) Those who enlist, reenlist, or extend an enlistment in the Selected reserve for a period of not less than 6 years; and

(2) Those who are appointed or are serving as a reserve officer and agree to serve in the Selected Reserve for a period of not less than 6 years in addition to any other period of obligated Selected Reserve service.

To receive benefits, individuals must:

--Complete their initial period of active duty training and complete 180 days in the Selected Reserve.

-- Have a high school diploma or the equivalent.

-- Not have completed a program of education required for a bachelor's degree.

-- Continue to participate satisfactorily in the Selected Reserve.

. Entitlement - An eligible reservist is entitled to a maximum of 36 months of educational assistance or a combination of 48 months if eligible under more than one law.

. Time Limit - Expires 10 years from the date eligibility began, or the date of separation from the Selected Reserve.

. Monthly Rates The rate for reservists training full-time is \$140; \$105 for 3/4 time; and \$70 for 1/2 time training. No benefits are payable for less than 1/2 time training.

. Program of Education - Educational assistance is payable only for pursuit of undergraduate degree and noncollege degree programs at institutions of higher learning. No benefits are payable after the reservist completes a bachelor's degree or the equivalent. Assistance is not payable for apprenticeship, on-job training, cooperative courses, farm cooperative courses, flight training, correspondence courses, deficiency or remedial courses, elementary or secondary school training, and graduate or postgraduate training.

. Unsatisfactory Participation - A reservist who fails to participate satisfactorily in the Selected Reserve is no longer eligible for educational assistance and may be required to repay a portion of the educational benefits received.

. Types of Training - Benefits are payable for training at institutions of higher learning and noncollege degree courses. Benefits are not payable for flight, elementary or secondary courses, cooperative training, or farm cooperative courses.

. Monthly Certification of attendance signed by the veterans and the school is required before benefits may be paid.

. Effect on Chapter 32 (VEAP): Servicepersons may not initially enroll in chapter 32 after July 1, 1985. Current participants are not affected. A serviceperson who has suspended chapter 32 contributions or has received a refund may reopen a chapter 32 account while on active duty. Servicepersons who were otherwise eligible to contribute to the program had until April 1, 1987, to participate.



Department of Veterans Affairs

Office of Public Affairs
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VA TO PARTICIPATE IN PEARL HARBOR OBSERVANCES NATIONWIDE

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is participating in Pearl Harbor observances nationwide as the nation marks the 50th anniversary of U.S. entry into World War II.

VA Secretary Edward J. Derwinski, who will deliver the keynote address at the Pearl Harbor observance in Honolulu Dec. 7, said that fateful event was "the beginning of a journey toward true world peace." The chief of the federal veterans department also declared that those who lost their lives that day will never be forgotten.

In addition to VA's involvement in the Dec. 7 observances in Honolulu, at 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time, memorial services will be conducted simultaneously at VA medical centers nationwide by VA's Chaplain Service to honor "the men and women whose fate it was to be in Pearl Harbor 50 years ago," Derwinski said.

On Dec. 6, VA medical centers and national cemeteries will be holding public ceremonies, and all VA facilities will fly flags at half-staff through Dec. 8. Also on Dec. 8, VA Assistant Secretary for Congressional Affairs Sylvia Chavez Long will cast a wreath from the deck of an aircraft carrier in Norfolk, Va., in memory of those of all military branches who lost their lives during World War II. She will be accompanied by Warren Landis, a VA chaplain and former World War II prisoner of war.

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Dec. 2, 1991



President Franklin D. Roosevelt signing P. L. 346, 78th Congress, "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944," June 22, 1944.

It's been called America's most significant piece of social legislation. Its impact on veterans and all Americans has been enormous.

June 22, 1994, will mark the 50th anniversary of the GI Bill (the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944), and a group of VA Central Office employees do not intend to let it go unnoticed.

Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) staffers formed a committee already at work planning a year-long celebration of the GI Bill's golden anniversary.

The committee's proposal for a commemorative postage stamp has been signed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, endorsed by a number of congressmen and forwarded to the Postal Service Citi-

zens Advisory Stamp Committee.

The VBA group is looking at other commemoration products, such as print and video informational materials and traveling exhibits. The development of a logo design and thematic slogan for the GI Bill's 50th anniversary is high on the committee's priority list. These would appear on all information products, stationery and such items as pins, plates and even commemorative coins.

The committee would like to see a year-long commemorative celebration beginning Veterans Day, 1993. A major national

event is planned for June 22, 1994.

Also projected are monthly programs related to events such as Black History Month in February.

VA employees wishing to offer their suggestions and ideas to the committee should contact committee coordinator Lee Sherrill, FTS 202/233-2639. □

Quality Leaders Recognized

A VA regional office, a regional office assistant director and a National Cemetery System (NCS) office were honored recently for excellence in Total Quality Management (TQM).

The Philadelphia Regional Office and Insurance Center (VARO&IC) was one of five winners of the 1992 Quality Improvement Prototype Award sponsored by the Federal Quality Institute.

Stewart Liff, assistant director of the New York Regional Office, and the Office of Memorial Programs were two of nine government groups or individuals to receive

Awards for Management Excellence from the President's Council on Management Improvement this year.

Philadelphia VARO&IC, the largest of VA's 58 regional offices, includes the Benefits Delivery Center and the Systems Development Center. The three organizations joined together in the pursuit of excellence in 1989 by applying Total Quality Management. The facility received the prototype award for improved methods of work, increased customer satisfaction and cost-savings by using TQM.

Liff received the Management

Excellence Award for establishing an effective outreach program for New York City's homeless veterans, for his leadership in implementing the office's TQM program and for other activities in service to veterans and VA.

The Office of Memorial Programs, under the direction of Patrick Gartland, was honored for its improved efficiency, timeliness and quality of service to veterans and their families in providing government headstones and markers, and Presidential memorial certificates. □