



# VA BENEFIT INFORMATION HANDBOOK

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**UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN-WHITENATER STUDENT SERVICES  
VA BENEFIT INFORMATION HANDBOOK**

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## VA BENEFIT INFORMATION HANDBOOK

This issue of the “V.A. Benefit Information Handbook” will cover topics for the continuing vet at **UW-Whitewater** as well as some general information for vets who are planning to enroll at **UW-Whitewater**.

### EDUCATION RATES

As of October 1, 2018

	<b>CH30-3 or more year obligation</b>	<b>Ch 30 Less than 3 year obligation</b>	<b>Chapter 1606 Selected Reserve</b>	<b>Chapter 35 Survivor &amp; Dependents</b>
<b>Full Time 12 Credits or more</b>	<b>\$1,994.00</b>	<b>\$1,619.00</b>	<b>\$384.00</b>	<b>\$1,224.00</b>
<b>Three-Quarter 9-11 Credits</b>	<b>\$1,495.00</b>	<b>\$1,214.25</b>	<b>\$287.00</b>	<b>\$967.00</b>
<b>One-Half 6-8-Credits</b>	<b>\$997.00</b>	<b>\$809.50</b>	<b>\$191.00</b>	<b>\$710.00</b>
<b>Less than half-time more than 1/4 time</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$997.00</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$809.50</b>	<b>\$96.00</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$710.00</b>
<b>1/4 time or less</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$498.50</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$404.75</b>	<b>\$96.00</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$306.00</b>
<b>App/OJT 1st 6 Months</b>	<b>\$1,495.00</b>	<b>\$1,214.25</b>	<b>\$288.00</b>	<b>\$ not available yet</b>
<b>App/OJT 2<sup>nd</sup> 6 Months</b>	<b>\$1,096.70</b>	<b>\$890.45</b>	<b>\$211.20</b>	<b>\$ not available yet</b>
<b>App/OJT Remainder</b>	<b>\$697.90</b>	<b>\$566.65</b>	<b>\$134.40</b>	<b>3rd 6 mo - \$ not available Remainder - \$ yet</b>

**CHAPTER 1607 (REAP)**  
As of October 1, 2018

	90 days but less than one year	Service of 1 year +	Service of 2 years +
<b>Full Time</b>	<b>\$797.60</b>	<b>\$1,196.40</b>	<b>\$1,595.20</b>
<b>¾ Time</b>	<b>\$598.20</b>	<b>\$897.30</b>	<b>\$1,196.40</b>
<b>½ Time</b>	<b>\$398.80</b>	<b>\$598.20</b>	<b>\$797.60</b>
<b>&lt; ½ time &gt; ¼</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$398.80</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$598.20</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$797.60</b>
<b>¼ Time or less</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$199.40</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$299.10</b>	<b>Tuition &amp; fees not to exceed \$398.80</b>

**PLEASE NOTE:** DVA is not accepting any new applications for the Ch 1607 (REAP) program. On November 25, 2015 the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2016 sunset the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP). Veterans currently using REAP *at the same school* may continue to do so while continuously enrolled; students transferring to a different school may elect to switch to Ch 33 – Post 9/11, if eligible.

**CHAPTER 31 – VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION STANDARD RATES**  
As of October 1, 2018

	No Dependents	One Dependents	Two Dependents	Each Additional
<b>Full Time</b>	<b>\$631.85</b>	<b>\$783.75</b>	<b>\$923.60</b>	<b>\$67.31</b>
<b>¾ Time</b>	<b>\$474.76</b>	<b>\$588.67</b>	<b>\$690.52</b>	<b>\$51.77</b>
<b>½ Time</b>	<b>\$317.66</b>	<b>\$393.59</b>	<b>\$462.64</b>	<b>\$34.50</b>
<b>Less than ½ Time</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

## POST 9/11 GI BILL® BENEFIT INFORMATION

As of August 1, 2018

The Post-9/11 GI Bill® is for individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill®. The Post-9/11 GI Bill® went into effect on August 1, 2009. This program will pay eligible individuals:

- tuition & fees directly to the school not to exceed the in-state tuition & fees at the public Institution of Higher Learning. Those students attending private or foreign schools, tuition & fees are capped at \$23,671.94 per academic year.
- a monthly housing allowance based on the Basic Allowance for Housing for an E-5 with dependents at the location of the school. The BAH for UW-Whitewater is currently \$1,436.00. You must be enrolled greater than half-time for the full term and enrolled in at least one in-residence course. Active duty students and their spouses cannot receive the BAH. See additional notes below.
- a maximum annual book & supply stipend of \$1,000 or 24 credits paid proportionately based on enrollment. The stipend will be paid at a rate of \$41.67/credit to the maximum of \$1,000.00 per academic year. Students should be aware that if they take a higher credit load one term, they may not receive as much the second term. Effective October 1, 2011, individuals on active duty will be eligible for the book and supply stipend.
- a one-time rural benefit payment of \$500.00 for eligible individuals.

Note 1: This benefit is payable only for training at an Institution of Higher Learning (IHL) (See comparison chart for more information).

Note 2: **If you are enrolled *exclusively* in online training the housing allowance payable is equal to one-half the national average MHA for an E-5 with dependents (\$825.00 for the 2018 academic year). Additionally, the eligibility percentage for the Post 9/11 will be included in the BAH.**

Note 3: You must be enrolled greater than half-time in order to receive the BAH; additionally, training time less than full-time will be calculated at the rate of pursuit rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent by the VA.

Note 4: This benefit provides up to 36 months of education benefits; generally benefits are payable for 15 years following your release from active duty.

Note 5: Information on transferring benefits to a dependent can be found on the VA's website ([www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)).

Note 6: Foreign School Monthly Housing Allowance will be \$1,650.00.

### RATE OF PURSUIT

Rate of Pursuit applies specifically to Post 9/11 (Ch 33). It differs from training time, which is used for all other G.I. Bill programs (1606, 30, 31, 35). The school certifies the actual credit taken each term. VA calculates rate of pursuit by dividing the number of credits being pursued by the number of credits considered to be full-time by the school (12 credits for undergraduate; 9 credits for graduate). The resulting percentage is the student's rate of pursuit.

The housing allowance is paid if the rate of pursuit is more than 50%. If pursuit is 50% or less, then a housing allowance will not be received.

## **FRY SCHOLARSHIP**

The Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship provides Post 9/11 GI Bill® benefits to the children and surviving spouses of Servicemembers who died in the line of duty while on active duty after September 10, 2001. Eligible recipients attending school may receive up to 36 months of benefits at the 100% level. For more information, please see the VA website.

## **YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAM**

UW-Whitewater participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program. We currently have ten (10) slots available for qualified non-resident, undergraduate students. This program is available on a first-come, first-serve basis and students need to apply each school year for the next school year. Further information on this program can be found on our website at: <http://www.uww.edu/registrar/veterans-services/yellow-ribbon-program>.

## **VETERANS CHOICE ACT**

Section 702 of the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014 (Choice Act), requires public institutions of higher learning (IHL) to charge qualifying Veterans and dependents, using Ch 30 – Montgomery GI Bill® or Ch 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill®, resident tuition and fees. A qualifying (covered individual) is defined in the Choice Act as follows:

- A Veteran who lives in the state in which the IHL is located (regardless of his/her formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school within three years of discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more.
- A spouse of child using transferred benefits who lives in the state in which the IHL is located (regardless of their formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school within three years of the transferor's discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more.
- A spouse or child using benefits under the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship who lives in the state in which the IHL is located (regardless of their formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school within three years of the Servicemember's death in the line of duty following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more

NOTE: In order for UW-Whitewater to determine eligibility for the resident tuition requirement under the Choice Act, veterans and dependents will be required to submit the proper documentation (i.e., DD214, member 4, showing dates of service, discharge, etc.). Without proper documentation, the school will not be able to assess resident tuition.

## **National Testing Programs/Licensing & Certification Tests**

You can be reimbursed up to \$2,000 per test. Your entitlement will be charged one month for every \$1,972.66 paid to you rounded to the nearest non-zero whole month; this means even low-cost tests are charged one month of entitlement per test.

## TO CERTIFY YOUR VETERANS STATUS AND OBTAIN BENEFITS

- 1) If you are a new veteran (or dependent), and never used benefits before, you will need to complete the following:
  - a) VA Form 22-1990 (or 22-5490 or 1990e), Application for Education Benefits, from the on-line application on the VA website (can complete in our office) [www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov)
  - b) UW-W Information Sheet
  - c) If applying for Ch. 33 Transfer of Entitlement, complete VA Form 22-1990e, Application for Benefits
  
- 2) You must provide our office with:
  - a) the *DD-214*, member 2 or 4, Discharge Form, **if Ch. 30 - active duty; Ch. 33 – Post 9/11; Ch. 1606 - Reserves/National Guard (Ch 30 & 33, in order to determine eligibility for resident tuition, you need to turn this form in as soon as possible)**
  - b) a copy of your Kicker contract, if you have the kicker benefit
  - c) a copy of the \$600 additional contribution paperwork, if applicable
  - d) a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) or Award Letter from the VA or, if Ch 33 – Post 9/11, a printout from eBenefits showing eligibility
  
- 3) If you are a new veteran/dependent to UW-W, but used benefits elsewhere you will need to fill out and submit the following:
  - a) VA Form 22-1995 (or 22-5495), Request for Change of Program/Place of Training
  - b) UW-W Information Sheet
  - c) DD214, member 2 or 4 copy, if a veteran
  
- 4) If you are a continuing, or returning student to UW-W and used VA benefits before, you will need the following:
  - a) UW-W Information Sheet only.
  - b) If changing to the Ch 33 Post 9/11 benefit program, we will need an updated DD214, a copy of the orders showing the military call-up and you will need to complete a new 22-1990, Application for Education benefits
  
- 5) If you are a continuing or returning student but have not used VA benefits before, please see (1) above.
  
- 6) All students, whether you are continuing, new or transfer, must provide us with a copy of your class schedule(s) for the term(s) you are requesting benefits. (We cannot use the class schedule grid; it must be the regular schedule).
  
- 7) If an eligible Wisconsin Veteran, or a Spouse or Dependent of an eligible Veteran from another state and have lived in Wisconsin for 5 years prior to application, complete the paperwork (2029 and 2030) for the Wisconsin GI Bill.

### \*WHERE DO I OBTAIN THE NECESSARY FORMS?

\*VA FORMS: All VA Forms, unless otherwise noted above, are available from the veteran's certifying official or your County Veteran Service Office (addresses on page 17) or from the US Dept of Veterans Affairs. (<http://www.gibill.va.gov>). The DVA encourages using the Veterans On-Line Application (VONAPP); you may want to print a copy of the confirmation page for yourself. If printing paper copies, you will need Adobe Acrobat.

\*DD FORMS: Check the VA website for information on how to receive copy ([www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov))

\*UW-WHITEWATER FORMS: The UW-Whitewater Information Sheets are available at the Registrar's Office (Roseman Bldg, Rm 2032) or on their web page. ([www.uww.edu/registrar/veterans-services](http://www.uww.edu/registrar/veterans-services))

## VA ON-LINE APPLICATION ([www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov))

Although you can fill out a paper application, the simplest and fastest method is to apply on-line through the DVA website (<http://www.vets.gov>). Click on **Apply for Education Benefits** for access and follow the instructions. We have also set up a computer in our office to use when applying for this benefit; staff is available to assist you. You will want to have your dates of service and bank account information handy when completing the application.

## ADVANCE PAYMENT INFORMATION

UW-Whitewater has opted out of the advance payment option and will not process requests for advance payments.

## REGULAR PAY

The first check is deposited or mailed within four to six weeks from the first day of class. Subsequent checks are delivered to the students' homes the first part of each month for the preceding month. You can also have the checks sent right to your bank if you select the Electronic Pay option. Remember:

1. In order to continue receiving education benefits for any semester, the appropriate forms must be completed and returned to the Veterans Benefits Coordinator located in the Registrar's office prior to the start of each semester.
2. Students receiving Ch. 30 or Ch. 1606, benefits must submit monthly verifications of enrollment to the VA. The verifications can be made on or after the last day of each month by either phone: 1-877-823-2378 or the internet at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill> (follow the link to the WAVE). You cannot verify your enrollment prior to the last day of the month.

## CREDIT & CLOCK HOUR REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL VA BENEFITS

<b>Undergraduate</b>		
<b>*Regular Academic session</b>		
VA BENEFIT RATE	CREDITS Each Semester	ADJUSTMENT TO BENEFITS
Full Time	12 or More	None
3/4 Time	9, 10, 11	75%
1/2 Time	6, 7, 8	50%
Less than 1/2	Less than 6	Less than 50%

<b>Graduate</b>		
<b>*Regular Academic session</b>		
VA BENEFIT RATE	CREDITS Each Semester	ADJUSTMENT TO BENEFITS
Full Time	9 or More	None
3/4 Time	5, 6, 7, 8	75%
1/2 Time	4	50%
Less than 1/2	Less than 4	Less than 50%

\*Please contact your Veteran's Benefits Coordinator for Summer and Winterim Session requirements.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** A standard term is considered to be 16 weeks long. Training time for courses that are offered for a shorter or longer period (non-standard term) is determined by using a training time equivalency table. Contact our office to determine benefits for non-standard terms.



## ADVANCE CREDIT FOR VETERANS

UW-Whitewater is approved by the State Approval Agency. Veterans and Service Members may receive a minimum of 4 elective units, including PEGNRL 192 (Personal Health and Fitness) if they received an honorable discharge after six months or more of service or if they were discharged into the National Guard or Reserves. The discharge certificate (DD214) must be submitted to the Admissions Office to obtain these units. Credit may be granted for military training and experience if the guide compiled by the American Council on Education so recommends. Students should consult the Admissions Office about this type of credit. Students submitting the **Joint Forces Transcripts or Community College of the Air Force** transcripts may be evaluated to receive additional degree or elective credits.

## PAY RULES

### MONTHLY VERIFICATION

All students who are receiving the Montgomery GI BILL® Active duty or Montgomery GI Bill® Selected Reserve MUST verify their enrollments monthly to receive payments. This verification can be done either by using the Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE) application on the VA web site (<http://www.benefits.va.gov>) or by telephoning 1-877-823-2378 and following the prompts.

### INTERVAL (BREAK) PAY

Effective August 1, 2011, Interval (break) pay is no longer payable under **any** VA Education Benefit program unless under an Executive Order of the President or due to an emergency, such as a natural disaster or strike. This means that your housing will be paid through the last official day of the term only and will not resume until the start of the next term.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITEWATER SCHOOL TERMS</b>	
Summer Term 2018	May 29, 2018 - Aug 18, 2018
Fall Term 2018 (2018-2019 year)	Sept 4, 2018 – Dec 21, 2018
Winterim 2019	Jan 2-5, 7-12, 14-18, 2019
Spring Term 2019 (2018-2019 year)	Jan 22, 2019 – May 21, 2019
Summer Term 2019	May 28, 2019 – Aug 17, 2019
Fall Term 2019 (2019-2020 year)	Sept 3, 2019 – Dec 23, 2019
Winterim 2020	Jan 2-3, 6-10, 13-17, 2020
Spring Term 2020 (2019-2020 year)	Jan 21, 2020 – May 19, 2020
Summer Term 2020	May 26, 2020 – Aug 15, 2020

## **VOC-REHAB (CHAPTER 31): A GOOD BET FOR THE DISABLED VET**

The Vocational Rehabilitation program of the Veterans Administration deserves investigation by any veteran who is now or is planning to be in school and has a service-connected disability.

This program is a viable alternative to the GI Bill® for disabled vets. If you currently have a disability rating of 20% or more, you are eligible to be considered for vocational rehabilitation. If you think you have a service-related disability but don't have a VA rating, you should call the Milwaukee VA on their toll-free line, 1-800-442-3477 or visit your County Veterans Services Office to get an application or more information.

Voc-Rehab offers educational benefits similar to those provided by the regular GI Bill®. Participants receive a monthly stipend in addition to receiving their tuition, fees, and books, and a supplies allowance. Under certain circumstances, help may also be available for medical and dental care and financial emergencies.

### **DISABILITY - THE HOW AND WHY**

Disability. What comes to mind? Most of us think of the physically handicapped, the visibly impaired person. However, did you know most disabilities are not nearly so obvious? For example, if a soldier broke his/her arm in service, was given a cast, was discharged and later on developed arthritis in the area of the break, he/she might be eligible for a disability claim. Another common misconception, which many veterans have, is that a claim must be filed within a year after discharge. The truth is that the time frame varies depending on the particular condition. In some cases, (special presumptive periods) as much as seven years may pass between discharge and filing a claim. According to the Disabled American Veteran Service Officer's Guide, "Evidence proving a service-connected disability can be a major problem. After the veteran has been discharged a few years, the situation becomes more difficult. That is why it is very important to file a claim as soon after discharge as possible."

It is important to file a claim for any injury or ailment incurred during service. The result is that the process of claiming is expedited and the veteran may avoid unnecessary "red tape". One last point: certain conditions such as high blood pressure, hearing loss, and hemorrhoids are often not thought of as disabilities. If a service connection can be proven, the veteran should file. The application process begins at the nearest Veterans Services Office.

### **VA REACHING OUT TO PERSIAN GULF VETERANS**

The VA's Persian Gulf Registry, Medical Examination Program may be for you!

#### **WHAT IS THE PERSIAN GULF REGISTRY?**

The VA Persian Gulf Registry program was established to help veterans who served in the first military conflict in the Persian Gulf and who are now concerned about the possible long-term health consequences of exposure to various environmental hazards. Veterans who participate in this voluntary program are given a comprehensive medical examination. Data gathered during these examinations will be carefully analyzed by scientists searching for clues about any medical problems experienced by Persian Gulf veterans.

#### **WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU FEEL YOU MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO ANY ENVIRONMENTAL OR CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS DURING YOUR SERVICE IN THE PERSIAN GULF?**

Seek medical care at the nearest VA medical center. A Veterans Benefits Counselor at the medical center may be available to assist you with VA benefits information and claims assistance. If he or she is not available when you visit, you may also contact your local VA Regional Office toll free at 1-800-827-1000 for more information.

## COMPENSATION BENEFITS

### I. PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE-CONNECTED CONDITIONS FOR VETERANS WHO SERVED IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR (SYMPTOMS MUST MANIFEST PRIOR TO SEPT. 30, 2011)

1. Amytropic Lateral Sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's Disease)
2. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
3. Fibromyalgia
4. Irritable Bowel Syndrome
5. Chronic, undiagnosed illness which may include such symptoms as:
  - Fatigue
  - Signs or symptoms involving skin
  - Headaches
  - Muscle Pain
  - Joint Pain
  - Neurological signs or symptoms
  - Neuropsychological signs or symptoms
  - Signs or symptoms involving the respiratory system (Upper or Lower)
  - Sleep disturbances
  - Gastrointestinal signs or symptoms
  - Cardiovascular signs or symptoms
  - Abnormal weight loss
  - Menstrual disorder

### II. COMPENSATION BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO VIETNAM VETERANS BASED ON AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE

Veterans who served in Vietnam between 01/09/62 – 05/07/75 are considered as having been exposed to Agent Orange. The Department of Veterans Affairs provides presumptive disability compensation to Vietnam veterans who are diagnosed with the following conditions based on this exposure:

1. Type II Diabetes
2. Prostate Cancer
3. Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia
4. Respiratory Cancers of the lung, bronchus, larynx, or trachea
5. Hodgkin's Disease
6. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
7. Multiple Myeloma
8. Porphyria Cutanea Tarda (Manifest within one year)
9. Acute & subacute peripheral neuropathy (Manifest within one year)
10. Chloracne (Manifest within one year)
11. Soft Tissue Sarcoma (Other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma or mesothelioma)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE IN FILING A CLAIM, CONTACT THE COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICES – NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS ARE LISTED ON PAGE 17.

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS (WDVA) BENEFITS

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

(The following information has been obtained from the Wisconsin Department of Veteran's Affairs website.)  
To qualify for most Wisconsin state veterans' benefits, programs, or services, a veteran must first establish general eligibility for Wisconsin state veterans' benefits. Eligibility criteria for Wisconsin state veterans' benefits, programs, and services, including exceptions to minimum military service requirements, are set in state law (Wis. Stats. Ch. 45). General eligibility consists of two broad requirements:

1. Military service (Character; Type; Duration), and
2. Wisconsin state residency

### A. QUALIFYING SERVICE

In order to fulfill the military active duty service requirements for most Wisconsin state veterans' benefits, programs and services, a veteran must have served for **two (2) continuous years of "active duty"** as defined above. Benefits and services with special military service requirements are listed under "Eligibility requirements for special benefits and services."

*Exceptions* to the two-year "active duty" requirement are as follows. A veteran need only satisfy one of the following in order to meet general state eligibility requirements for military service:

- **Short Initial Service Term.** Veterans who have completed their full initial "active duty" service obligation that was less than two years-regardless of when they served.
- **90 Days "active duty" Service During a Statutorily-Designated Wartime Period.** Veterans who accumulate 90 days or more of "active duty" service (other than for training) during one of the statutorily-designated Wartime Periods:
  - **World War I**, between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918. Extended to April 1, 1920, if service was in the Soviet Union, or
  - **World War II**, between August 27, 1940, and July 25, 1947, or
  - **Korean War**, between June 27, 1950, and January 31, 1955, or
  - **Vietnam War**, between August 5, 1964, and January 1, 1977, or
  - **Persian Gulf War**, between August 1, 1990 and [an ending date yet to be established], or
  - **Afghanistan War**, between September 11, 2001, and [an ending date yet to be established], or
  - **Iraq War**, between March 19, 2003, and [an ending date yet to be established].
- **Expeditionary Medal.** Veterans who received, or are qualified to receive, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (established by executive order 10977 on December 4, 1961), the Navy Expeditionary Medal, the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or equivalent expeditionary or service medal.

- **Other periods of eligible active duty service:**
  - **Berlin Crisis Service.** For members of the Reserve or National Guard who were called to “active duty” under Section 1 of Executive Order 10957 dated August 10, 1961 and served at least 90 days on “active duty”, or if having served less than 90 days was honorably discharged for a service-connected disability or for a disability subsequently adjudicated to have been service-connected or died in service.
  - **Vietnam Service.** Veterans who received, or are qualified to receive the Vietnam Service Medal (established by executive order 11231 on July 8, 1965).
  - **Lebanon Service.** Veterans who served at least one day of “active duty” in Lebanon between August 1, 1982, and August 1, 1984.
  - **Grenada Service.** Veterans who served at least one day of “active duty” in Grenada between October 23, 1983, and November 21, 1983.
  - **Middle East Crisis: Iran Hostage Crisis.** Veterans who were awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal for the attempt to rescue American hostages in Iran; OR who were held hostage in Iran AND awarded the Valor Ribbon.
  - **Middle East Crisis: Libya.** Veterans who participated in military action against Libya on April 14, 1986.
  - **Middle East Crisis: USS Stark.** Veterans who served on the USS Stark on May 17, 1987.
  - **Panama Service.** Veterans who served at least one day of “active duty” in Panama between December 20, 1989, and January 31, 1990.
  - **Gulf War Service.** Veterans who served at least one (1) day of “active duty” in support of Operation Desert Shield or Operation Desert Storm may be eligible if the veteran served:
    - In the Middle East or in adjacent territorial or international waters, and
    - In support of Desert Shield or Desert Storm under an active-duty order, unit assignment order, or an involuntary extension of an active-duty order, and
    - Between August 1, 1990 and [an ending date yet to be established].
  - **Somalia Service.** Veterans who served at least one day of “active duty” in Somalia or in territorial waters adjacent to Somalia between December 9, 1992, and [an ending date yet to be established].
  - **Bosnia Service.** Veterans who served at least 90 days in Bosnia or other statutorily designated areas between December 1, 1995, and [an ending date yet to be established].
  - **Operation Enduring Freedom Service.** Veterans who served for 90 days or more in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or an operation that is a successor to Operation Enduring Freedom or served in the theater of operations:
    - Under an active duty order, a unit assignment order, or an involuntary extension of an “active duty” order, and
    - Were discharged under honorable conditions, and
    - Whose service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom was between September 11, 2001 and [an ending date yet to be established].
- **Qualifying Early Discharge.** Veterans who were discharged from “active duty” due to:
  - A service-connected disability (or during a wartime period, a disability subsequently adjudicated to have been service-connected), or
  - Hardship, or
  - A reduction of forces (RIF).
- **Death in Service.** A servicemember on “active duty” (including federal military “active duty” service under Title 10 U.S. Code by members of the Reserve or National Guard) who is killed in action or who otherwise dies while on “active duty” is considered to have satisfied the military service requirements for eligibility for Wisconsin state veterans benefits, programs, and services for themselves and any eligible dependents.

## **WISCONSIN RESIDENCY FOR ELIGIBILITY**

In general, to be eligible for Wisconsin state veterans' benefits, programs, and services, a veteran must meet at least one of the following:

- Wisconsin Resident before Entering "Active Duty". Was a resident of Wisconsin at the time of entry or reentry into active duty; or, his or her selective service local board, if any, and home of record at the time of entry or reentry into active service as shown on the veteran's report of separation from the U.S. armed forces for a qualifying period were in Wisconsin, or
- Moved to Wisconsin and taken an affirmative action to secure their resident status as well as residing in Wisconsin for any consecutive 12-month period after entry or re-entry into the service and before the date of his or her application or death.

If the person had more than one qualifying term of service, at least one term of service must have met the residency requirements for the purpose of establishing eligibility.

Veterans who are otherwise eligible and who are serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces need not be living in this state on the date of application in order to qualify for state veterans' benefits, programs, or services.

### **Wisconsin Residency to Receive Benefits or Services**

The Wisconsin G.I. Bill requires the veteran to have been considered a Wisconsin resident at the time of entry onto active service or who has established and maintained status as a Wisconsin resident for at least 5 consecutive years immediately preceding the beginning of any semester or session. Character of service and active duty service requirements apply.

The benefit recipient must reside in Wisconsin.

Members of the military serving on "active duty" need not be living in Wisconsin at the time of application if they have retained their Wisconsin residency for income tax purposes, with the exception of the Personal Loan Program. All applicants for the Personal Loan Program must be a resident of and living in Wisconsin, regardless of current military duty status.

## **THE WISCONSIN G.I. BILL**

Effective with the Fall 2005 semester, the Wisconsin G.I. Bill provided a waiver ("remission") of tuition for eligible veterans and their dependents for up to 8 full-time semesters or 128 credits, whichever is the greater of the two, at any University of Wisconsin System or Wisconsin Technical College System institution. Effective January 1, 2014, recipients must maintain a ***cumulative*** grade point average (gpa) of 2.0 in order to receive the Wisconsin GI Bill. Those recipients below a 2.0 gpa on January 1, 2014, will not be eligible to receive the Wisconsin GI Bill until their gpa rises to a 2.0 or above and will need to complete the WDVA 2029 again to re-establish eligibility.

### **Wisconsin GI Bill Tuition Remission Program for Veterans**

Effective Fall 2007, qualifying veterans received a 100% remission.

Effective with the 2010 Spring term, the State requires veterans eligible for Post 9/11 to use that benefit. Ch 30 – Montgomery veterans who have 12 months or less of remaining benefits will be allowed to exhaust their Ch 30 benefits first in order to qualify for the additional 12 months of eligibility under Post 9/11. If a veteran does not qualify for the full 100% of the Post 9/11 GI Bill, the Wisconsin GI Bill would cover the remainder of the tuition at the school. Students can choose not to switch benefits; however, those who do not switch to Post 9/11 will not be able to use the WI GI Bill. Information on this is available at <http://gibill.wisconsin.edu>.

**Effective Fall 2013**, veterans who have established and maintained status as a Wisconsin resident for at least 5 consecutive years immediately preceding the beginning of any semester or session for which the student registers at an institution may qualify, even if they were not residents of Wisconsin at the time of entry into a qualified period of

“Active Duty” under Title 10 orders. *NOTE: Effective with the 2017 State budget, the benefit has been extended to the spouse and children. In order to extend the benefit to the spouse and children, both the veteran and the spouse/children must be living in Wisconsin for 5 years prior to the start of the benefit.*

### **Wisconsin GI Bill Tuition Remission Program for Dependents**

A 100% remission is provided to the qualifying unremarried surviving spouse and children of a veteran who died in the line of duty, and to the spouse and children of a veteran with substantial service-connected disabilities (combined VA service-connected disability rating of 30% or greater). For qualifying spouses, the benefit must be used within 10 years of the date of death or the initial disability rating of 30% or greater. For qualifying children, the benefit is available from ages 18 through 25. For the Wisconsin G.I. Bill, the veteran must have entered service as a Wisconsin resident. The benefit recipient must reside in Wisconsin. Please note that not all fees are waived (ie, textbook rental, special course fees, etc.). Information on what programs and the amount of tuition/fees costs that are covered can be found at the following website: [http://www.uwsa.edu/acss/student/WI\\_GI\\_Bill\\_FAQs.htm](http://www.uwsa.edu/acss/student/WI_GI_Bill_FAQs.htm). For additional information, eligibility criteria, instructions on how to apply for the Wisconsin G.I. Bill, and statutory citations for the program and updated information on this program, see the WDVA B0105 brochure (<http://dva.state.wi.us>).

## **VETERANS EDUCATION (VETED) REIMBURSEMENT GRANT**

The Veterans Education (VetEd) grant program provides a reimbursement grant based on a credit-bank system that is based on length of active duty military service to eligible veterans who have not yet been awarded a bachelor’s degree for the reimbursement of tuition and fees following successful course completion at an eligible UW, technical college, or approved private institution of higher learning. Please see <http://dva.state.wi.us> for further requirements on this program.

### **1. How to Apply**

You can apply on-line (see paragraph below) for the Veterans Education (VetEd) Reimbursement Grant or through the County Veterans Offices. Currently, the application must be completed within 60 days after the starting date of the term.

The WDVA has an on-line application for the Veterans Education (VetEd) Reimbursement Grant. The on-line application will expedite the processing time for grant awards. Veterans who have not established eligibility for WDVA benefits must still see their County Veterans Service Officer to establish their eligibility before making an education grant application. Veterans may go to the County Veterans Services Office and submit the on-line application there; they may go to the School Veterans Officer/Coordinator and apply there; or they may go on-line and complete an application by themselves. Please note that veterans must still provide a copy of their previous year’s Federal Income Tax form for income verification. Veterans may send the tax form directly to WDVA or have their County Veterans Service Office send it in for them.

To start the application process themselves, veterans should go to <https://services.dva.state.wi.us/veteran> and fill out the registration information. They will then receive an e-mail from WDVA giving them a password to access the on-line application.

Veterans should then complete the appropriate information and submit the application, which will automatically be e-mailed to the School Veterans Official/Coordinator for their input. Once that information has been completed, the School Veterans Official/Coordinator will submit it to WDVA. When the application is received at WDVA, it is checked to verify eligibility and then processed by the Grants Section. If additional information is required, the veteran or the school, as appropriate, will be sent an e-mail requesting that information. Once all the required information is completed the application is processed for payment.

Restrictions: Reimbursement will only be made for courses which are part of the required curriculum for a particular degree, diploma or certificate, which the veteran identifies on the application as his or her educational objective. Elective courses may be acceptable provided the credits are needed for the degree, diploma or certificate and a school official so certifies. Beginning Fall 2005, graduate study will not be allowed for this grant.

**Fees:** Reimbursement for fees shall be limited to those fees which are mandatory and uniform for the courses in which the veteran was enrolled and which were paid by the veteran to the qualifying school.

**Non Duplication:** Veterans eligible for the Wisconsin G.I. Bill, the National Guard Tuition Grant (NGTG) or Reserve Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) are not eligible for VetEd. A veteran's eligibility for any of these programs is the criterion for VetEd eligibility, not whether the veteran has applied for either.

**Montgomery G.I. Bill and Wisconsin G.I. Bill:** Veterans may currently receive Chapter 30 Montgomery G.I. Bill (VA) benefits and VetEd for the same semester. VetEd reimbursement will be reduced to the extent that tuition and fees have already been paid by other grants, scholarships, and remissions provided for the payment of tuition and fees.

**Satisfactory Completion:** Reimbursement will only be made for semesters which are "satisfactorily completed" as certified by the representative of the institution, center or school. Veterans must achieve at least 2.0 grade point average or an average grade of "C" in the semester for which reimbursement is requested to be eligible for reimbursement. If the semester is not satisfactorily completed, no reimbursement will be made.

**Credit/Semester Limitations:** Veterans may receive grants for up to eight full-time semesters based on their eligibility on the chart below.

**Time Restrictions:** Veterans may use VetEd for full-time or part-time study up to their 10-year anniversary of leaving active duty (delimiting date). Once a veteran reaches their 10-year delimiting date the veteran may be enrolled as a full-time student, but will be reimbursed up to eleven credits for academic periods that begin after May 27, 2010. Also, after the delimiting date, the department will "bank" a maximum of 60 unused credits and track the credits as they are used.

Active Duty Military Service	Credit Bank Credits/Full-Time Semester
0-89 days	No Eligibility (same as current law)
90-180 days	30 credits or 2 semesters
181-730 days (2 years)	60 credits or 4 semesters
731+ days (+2 years)	120 credits or 8 semesters

## QUALIFICATION

**Schools:** All University of Wisconsin System institutions or centers, all Wisconsin Technical College System schools and all private schools (VetEd Grant only) that meet the requirements.

**Income Limit:** The annual income of the veteran and his or her spouse may not exceed the Part-Time Study Grant income limit (s.45.396 (7)(a), Stats.), which is currently \$50,000 plus \$1,000 for each dependent in excess of two dependents.

**How to Apply:** Veterans may apply for VetEd through their County Veterans Service Officer, apply online, or download an application, WDVA 2200.

**Payment Processing Time:** Once final grades are turned in and the School Veterans Official has reviewed and submitted the application to WDVA, checks are normally issued within 5-10 business days - *if the application is complete.*

At the end of semesters, processing times may be longer due to a heavy volume of grants. You can minimize delays by providing a complete application. Items that are often not included are: current address, a source of income verification (e.g., current income tax form) or other acceptable documents, and other financial aid documentation. If payment is not received on an approved grant after ten business days you can contact the WDVA accounting department to determine your check's status at: 1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387).



**WARNING:** The WDVA receives a statewide support lien docket listing all individuals who have a delinquent child-support obligation in Wisconsin. According to state law, the WDVA may not approve a Veterans Education Grant for any applicant on the docket unless the applicant provides one of the following items:

- Provides a statement signed by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development or its designee showing that all delinquent obligations have been paid.
- A copy of a child-support repayment agreement that has been kept current for the six-month period before the date the WDVA receives the application as long as no lien exists.

## 1. WDVA Retraining Grant (RTG): Financial Assistance for Recently Unemployed or Underemployed Veterans

**What is it?** It is a grant to a recently unemployed (or underemployed) Veteran who demonstrates financial need while being retrained for employment. This is a grant, not a loan, and does not have to be repaid.

**What does recently unemployed mean?** The applicant must have become unemployed within the year prior to the date the application is received at the Wisconsin Dept of Vet Affairs (WDVA) or have received a notice of termination of employment.

**How much is available?** Up to \$3000 per year, for a maximum of 2 years. The amount is based on financial need while being retrained for employment.

Other limitations: Veterans are prohibited from receiving the RTG if they receive the VetEd grant during the same semester. To apply, contact the County Veterans Service Office in your county. Addresses and phone numbers are listed below for our counties.

## 2. WDVA Personal Loan Program

Up to \$15,000 at an annual percentage rate varying from 5 to 6 percent, depending on the type of security. This loan can be used for 1) Debt consolidation; 2) Business related expenses; and, 3) Education expenses of veteran or dependents.

## 5. WDVA Primary Home Loan and Home Improvement Loans

Please consult your local County Veteran Service Office personnel for specific information regarding these loans.

### COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICES: (CVSO)

Elkhorn	Jefferson	Rock
County Veteran Service Office County Courthouse P.O. Box 1001 100 W Walworth Elkhorn, WI 53121 Phone: (262) 741-4222 E-Mail: veterans@co.walworth.wi.us	County Veteran Service Office County Courthouse 320 S Main St Jefferson, WI 53549 Phone: (920) 674-7240 E-mail: yvonned@co.jefferson.wi.us	County Veteran Service Office County Courthouse 51 S. Main Janesville, WI 53545 Phone: (608) 757-5552 E-mail: rockcvso@co.rock.wi.us

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS  
TUITION GRANT PROGRAM**

Former Governor Tommy Thompson signed into law a 100% state tuition reimbursement program for all Wisconsin National Guard (air and army) members. Active Wisconsin Guard members can work toward post-high school education and receive 100% of the tuition costs back from the State of Wisconsin. Guard members are eligible for the tuition grant for up to eight semesters of post-high school schoolwork, which includes technical college and undergraduate degrees, and other advanced degrees. Payment is capped according to the costs of UW Madison courses. (Please note the reimbursement does not cover the segregated fees.)

To apply for the National Guard Tuition Grant, members can pick up the application packet from their unit, from our office, or access it on-line through the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) website. The service member should fill out the top portion of the form and turn it in to the school's Veterans Affairs Office. The form will then be completed and mailed to the Department of Military Affairs for verification of eligibility after grades have been processed for the term. After verification by DMA, the form will be sent to Budget and Finance for payment to the service member at the address in part one.

To receive the benefit of this program, members must apply for the grant within 90 days of completion of the course. Also, the student must earn at least a "C" average (2.0 gpa) for each semester that is claimed.

## **UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WHITEWATER**

### **ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY**

Refer to the latest University catalog for the requirements needed in order to remain in Good Academic Standing and to maintain academic progression.

Student veterans who do not maintain good standing and are academically dismissed will be reported to the VA, as required by Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 21.4253. Student veterans can return to the University after serving their suspension, if readmitted by the Admissions Office.

### **OTHER VA RULES**

Because there are so many ways of receiving VA educational benefits (Chapter 30, Chapter 31 - Voc-Rehab, Chapter 33 – Post 9/11, Chapter 35 -Dependents, and Chapter 1606 – Reservists, it is a good idea to be aware of the rules governing the use of GI Bill Benefits.

The VA initiated the following rules to reduce the risk of entitlement abuses. The restrictions are as follows:

1. A provision regarding course withdrawals requires that mitigating circumstances be automatically considered to exist in the first instance of withdrawal from courses totaling not more than 6 semester hours. *This is a one time only benefit.* This means that the VA will allow you to drop credits (1 to 6 credits) with no questions asked.
2. The VA will require repayment of benefits after the one time only drop benefit has been used. Therefore, dropping credits that could affect your benefit load or withdrawing from school should be carefully considered. (An exception to this would be if called to active duty.)
3. If a vet receives a nonpunitive grade (a grade that does not get averaged into the G.P.A.--grade point average--i.e., “NC” no credit) that affects the benefit rate, they must submit mitigating circumstances to the VA in order to avoid repayment of funds. A punitive grade of "D" or "F" is still considered earned credit and entitlement is not affected.
4. The VA allows a year to make up an incomplete grade; however, please be aware that your instructors set the time limits on incompletes earned at UW Whitewater.
5. The VA allows for repeats of “F” grades but may not allow for repeats of “D” grades with certain exceptions to the “D” grade policy. Always check with the Veterans Benefits Office prior to repeating courses.
6. If receiving Post 9/11, any changes to your class schedule which affect tuition, fees or housing will result in a debt to you by the VA. The VA will notify you of any debt issues.
7. Remedial courses (English 90, Math 41, etc.) may not be taken on-line and count for benefits.

In all of the above cases, the VA will reduce benefits retroactively to the beginning of a semester if mitigating circumstances are not substantiated.

Another important element of VA rules is the School's Standards of Progress that appears above.

GI benefits are a right, but the VA governs how a student uses them. Students with questions should see the veteran’s benefits coordinator on his/her campus.

## **SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT V.A. EDUCATION BENEFITS**

1. V.A. education benefits are **not** taxable.
2. Payments are prorated for the actual period (to the day) that you are enrolled. (Example: Start classes January 19--your January check will be for 13 days, not the full monthly rate.)
3. It normally takes three-six weeks for any changes in course work, dependent status, or address change to be reflected in your benefits check.
4. Attendance only will **not** qualify you for veteran benefits. A veteran must be doing satisfactory work in all classes in order to receive benefits.
5. Students in their last semester **before graduation** can add elective credits to their credit load to become eligible for a higher benefit rate. (Example: A student who needs only six credits to graduate in May of 2018 may add six additional credits to become eligible for full-time V.A. benefits.)
6. Call the National Call Center at 1-888-442-4551 for questions regarding VA educational benefits or use the VA's on-line Right Now Web (Ask a Question) site.
7. Courses offered via the radio **are not** approved for VA educational benefits; however, TV/Cable, most off-campus and Internet courses are approved.
8. The payment received on the first of the month is payment for the **previous** month. (Example: April 1 check is for March 1-31.)
9. If a student training under Chapter 30 (Montgomery GI Bill) or Chapter 33 (Post 911) starts the term with at least one (1) day of entitlement left, he/she will normally be paid to the end of the term, if not using more than 48 total months of benefits.
10. If a student is eligible for more than one VA Education Program (i.e. Chapter 30, 33, 1606) he/she can use only one chapter at a time; the **total** number of months awarded cannot exceed 48 months.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION FOR NEW AND PROSPECTIVE VETS**

### **DIRECT DEPOSIT CHANGES**

Changes to direct deposit should be made directly through the VA. Call their toll-free number (1-888-442-4551) to initiate those requests.

### **ADDRESS / NAME CHANGE**

It is important to inform the Registrar's Office if you change your name, address, or phone number. It is necessary for the school to have current information in case of illness, an emergency, mailing grade reports and other official correspondence. Out-of-town students must decide which address they want on file. Address changes and name changes should be reported directly to DVA at 1-888-442-4551 or through Right Now Web.

## **ACADEMIC OR OTHER HELP**

If you are having academic or other problems, please contact your vet coordinator in the Veterans Lounge or academic advisor for assistance. Tutoring Labs are also a good place to get assistance. Don't wait until the end of the semester when it may be too late.

**FOR APPROVED PROGRAMS AT UW WHITEWATER  
SEE THE SCHOOL VA REPRESENTATIVE  
(OR YOUR COUNTY OR REGIONAL VA REPRESENTATIVE IF YOU ARE CHAPTER 31)**

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

### **FERPA**

FERPA is the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act that sets forth requirements regarding the privacy of student records. FERPA governs:

The release of student education records maintained by the University and access to these records.

Students are afforded certain rights concerning their education records, including:

- The right to inspect and review the education records;
- The right to seek to have the records amended; and
- The right to have some control over the disclosure of the information from the records.

### **RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

Students may authorize release of veterans benefits information to family members upon completion of the Release form available in the Veterans Benefits Office, Roseman 2032.

### **TUTORING CENTER**

If you are smart enough to know when you need help, then this is the place for you! The tutoring service is designed to give individualized attention to students who are experiencing difficulty in specific course work. It offers additional help on a one-to-one basis to enable you to better understand the topics presented in class.

Various study skills workshops are conducted throughout the semester. For a list of services offered at the tutorial center you can call **262-472-1230**. All tutoring and study skill services are offered at no cost to you!

The Tutoring Center is located in Mary Poppe Chrisman Success Center in Laurentide Hall.

## **CAREER PLANNING & COUNSELING**

### **EMPLOYMENT**

**STUDENTS!** Are you aware of UW Whitewater's Career Services Center? The Career Services Center exists to help you, as a UW Whitewater student, to find full-time and part-time employment. If you will be graduating, now is the time to start thinking about employment in the future. If you are not currently registered with the Career Services, and are going to be seeking employment, it is in your best interest to get registered with the Career Services Center as soon as possible. This can be done by calling the Career Services at 262-472-1471.

If you are unsure of your career goals, help is available from a career counselor. The career counseling process stresses personal assessment of interests, abilities, and experience through interest inventories, value clarification, and goal setting. Information about educational and training opportunities, including UW Whitewater programs and support services, is provided. Group career counseling situations, utilizing a workshop format, are regularly scheduled to provide career exploration and job seeking assistance including resume preparation and interviewing skills. Information about these services is available from Student Services.

### **WORKING AND GOING TO SCHOOL**

It may be necessary for you to work part-time in order to finance your education. It is an exceptional student who can hold a full-time job and also satisfactorily carry a full schedule at school. A maximum of 20 hours per week is recommended for students enrolled for a full-time program. (This does not include weekends.) UW Whitewater's work-study program only allows 20 hours maximum per week. For assistance with part-time, full-time or summer work, contact the Career Services counselor at your campus Student Services office.

### **FINANCIAL AID**

These are three major types of aid available to UW-Whitewater students. They include:

1. Student loans (must be repaid)
2. Grants (do not have to be repaid)
3. Work-study (student employment on an hourly basis)

Information about the specific types of loans and grants available may be obtained from the Financial Aid Office. You are urged to consult with the staff since financial aids information is subject to change at any time due to changes in federal, state or sponsoring agency regulations.

### **VA WORK-STUDY PROGRAM**

Students receiving VA educational benefits under Chapters 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, or 1606 are eligible to apply for the VA work-study program. Students must be attending school at the 3/4-time or greater rate. Students are assigned to work sites that perform VA related activities. Work site examples are: the School Certifying Office, the County Veterans Office or VA Medical Centers. Pay is based on the Federal or State minimum wage, whichever is higher. Students should contact the work site to check on job openings and to apply for the program.

### **V.A. (FEDERAL) HOME LOAN PROGRAM**

If you are thinking of buying a home in the near future, you should look into the V.A. Home Loan Guaranty Benefit.

The advantages of using this type of loan over a commercial home loan in general are:

1. No down payment is required (if lender agrees)
2. Negotiated with lender
3. No escalator clause
4. No prepayment penalty
5. Loan can be made for a maximum of 30 years and 32 days

The first step in obtaining this type of home loan is to get a Certificate of Eligibility. You may get an application for the Certificate of Eligibility and more information on this benefit from the Veteran Service office in your county.

## VA- OUTPATIENT CLINICS

**Beaver Dam Outpatient Clinic:** is located at 215 Corporate Drive-Suite B, Beaver Dam WI 53916. Phone: 920-356-9415. It is part of the William S Middleton VAMC. Clinic hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm.

**Janesville Outpatient Clinic:** is located at 2419 Morse Street, Janesville WI 53545. Phone: 608-758-9300. It is part of the William S Middleton VAMC. Their hours of operation are Monday – Friday 7:30am – 4:30pm.

**Kenosha VA Clinic:** is located at 8207 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Kenosha WI 53140. Phone: 262-653-9286. It is part of the VA Great Lakes Health Care System. Their hours of operation are Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm. The first step is to complete an application for health care benefits form. You will need to bring any private insurance information, if any, to your first appointment.

**VA Union Grove Clinic:** is located at 21425 Spring Street, Union Grove WI 53182. Phone: 262-878-7000. Their hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm.

## VETERAN HOUSING AND RECOVERY PROGRAM

The Veteran Housing and Recovery Program (VHRP), established in 1994 and run by the WDVA and VAF, helps homeless veterans and those at risk of becoming homeless. The VHRP is designed to help homeless veterans receive the job training, education, counseling and rehabilitative services they need to obtain steady employment, affordable housing and the skills to sustain a productive lifestyle.

The goal of the VHRP is to break the cycle of homelessness and help veterans transition back into the mainstream of society. In order to fulfill this goal, the VHRP has established three transitional Veterans Housing Centers located throughout the state that function as a one-stop shop to veterans and at-risk veterans in need. The VHRP houses over 100 veterans throughout the state. Centers partner with federal, state and local governments, county veterans service offices, and representatives from local communities. The extensive coalition produces outreach and a referral network that allows access for needed services and appropriate assistance, while providing job training and employment referrals. The VHRP program is responsible for conducting outreach to at risk veterans, homeless veterans and those experiencing a housing crisis throughout the State of Wisconsin.

## LOCATIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

VHRP Chippewa Falls	VHRP King	VHRP Union Grove
2820 East Park Avenue, Bldg. 128 Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 Phone: 715.726.2541	N2665 County Road QQ PO Box 51 King, WI 54946 Phone: 715.256.1118	21425 Spring Street, Cottage 16 Union Grove, WI 53182 Phone: 262.878.9151

## NATIONAL TESTING PROGRAM

The VA will reimburse for required testing fees. Any optional fees relating to the testing process will not be eligible for reimbursement. Test fees that VA will reimburse include:

- Registration fees
- Fees for specialized tests
- Administrative fees

Fees the VA will not reimburse include:

- Fees to take pre-tests (such as Kaplan tests)
- Fees to receive scores quickly
- Other costs or fees for optional items which are not required to take an approved test.

Currently the only approved tests are:

- SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test)
- LSAT (Law School Admission Test)
- GRE (Graduate Record Exam)
- GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test)
- AP (Advanced Placement Exam)
- CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)
- ACT (American College Testing Program)
- DAT (Dental Admissions Test)
- MAT (Miller Analogies Test)
- MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test)
- OAT (Optometry Admissions Testing)
- PCAT (Pharmacy College Admissions Test)
- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
- DSST (DANTES Subject Standardized Tests)
- ECE (Excelsior College Examinations)

To apply for Reimbursement:

- You must be eligible for GI Bill Benefits
- Complete a VA Form 22-0810, Application for Reimbursement of National Exam Fee
- Submit a receipt or proof of payment for the following exams (in certain situations)
  - DSST
  - CLEP
  - MAT
  - PCAT

For additional information about this program, go to the GI Bill website and see Resources – Education Resources – Education Programs – National Testing Program.



## KEY POINTS – FEDERAL GI BILL

- ✓ It takes a minimum 4-6 weeks to set up a new claim
- ✓ Need to fill out Veterans Information Sheet each year/semester to continue receiving benefits
- ✓ The VA post-pays (September's check comes in October, etc)
- ✓ Ch 30 and Ch 1606 need to verify enrollment at end of each month, before check will be released (toll-free number on bulletin board; or WAVE - VA website)
- ✓ VA will pay for repeats of 'F' grades, not repeats of 'D' grades (there can be exceptions if the catalog states the course requires a 'C' to progress – i.e., math)
- ✓ VA will pay for S/NC if the student earns the 'S'. If the student earns 'NC', we must notify the VA and they will require repayment back to beginning of term if it affects the benefit rate
- ✓ Ch 33 – Post 9/11; course changes may require repayment of all tuition/fees and housing back to beginning of term. Students will not be allowed to drop or make changes until they get approval from our office
- ✓ Short courses can affect benefit rate, if student is around the 12-13 credit mark. The VA only pays when courses are in session; when the course is not in session, the VA will not pay for it. If a student is at the 12-13 credits range and has a course that is a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week course, it could affect their full-time standing. Most often, this affects PE majors, graduate business students, and students in summer course
- ✓ Ch 30, Ch 31, Ch 33, and Ch 1606, are eligible for waiver of PEGNRL 192, Personal Health & Fitness. You need to submit a copy of your DD214 to the Admissions Office to get credits for basic training
- ✓ If receiving a 'kicker', we need a copy of the contract to submit along with application
- ✓ Wisconsin veterans – entered service from WI and returned to WI, or other veterans who have lived in Wisconsin for five consecutive years prior to enrolling for classes, may be eligible for Wisconsin GI Bill benefits in addition to federal benefits. (Ch 1606's could become eligible if they had been called to active duty under specific circumstances). The application must be completed by end of term. The WI GI Bill application needs to be submitted during the first 2 weeks of the term.
- ✓ Ch 1606's, if you are Guard, are you submitting NG reimbursement grant? The application must be turned into our office by end of term. Student is reimbursed on tuition only after the term is over and grades have been posted. Student gets reimbursed only on the classes they successfully complete and only if they have a 2.0 semester GPA



It is highly recommended that all Veterans and Service Members sign up for eBenefits. Go to [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) and click on the eBenefits logo from GI Bill the homepage for additional information.

### Veterans

With a Premium Account, Veterans are able to Apply for Veterans' Benefits Online (VONAPP), access VA Payment History, apply for VA Home Loan Certificate of Eligibility, check on Compensation & Pension Claims Status, manage your health care online, and more.

### Service Members

With a Premium Account, Service Members have access to Service Member Civilian Employment Information, Service Member Personnel Information, DoD TRICARE Insurance, Education Benefits and more.

### Family Members

Family Members of Service Members and Veterans can manage their warriors' profiles and claims.

**FEDERAL VETERANS EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS AT A GLANCE**  
**-Administered Through U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs-**

<b>TITLE/CHAPTER</b>	<b>BASIC ELIGIBILITY</b>	<b>MONTHS OF ENLISTMENT</b>	<b>MONTHLY BENEFIT AMOUNT (Note: 1)</b>	<b>TIME LIMIT</b>
<b>1. Active Duty Educational Assistance Program "Montgomery G.I. Bill" (Chapter 30) (Note 2)</b>	a) Service after 6-30-85 b) Serves 2- 3 years of continuous Active duty c) Has GED of High School Diploma or the equivalent of 12 semester credits leading to a college degree d) Contributes \$100/mth for first 12 mths of service	Accrues at the rate of 1 month for each month of Active Duty up to a maximum of 36 months of full-time training	Basic entitlement is \$1321.00/mth for Full Time. \$1073.00/mth if Active Duty was less than 3 years. Some vets are eligible for supplements	10 years and one day from date of release from Active Duty
<b>2. Educational Assistance Program for Service Connected (Disabled) Veterans (Chapter 31)</b>	Vet needs a minimum of 10% service connected disability to apply	As many as 48 months of entitlement	Full - \$541.05 ¾ - \$406.53 ½ - \$272.02 More with Dependents plus tuition, fees, books and supplies are paid for by the V.A.	Usually 12 years from date of disability
<b>3. Veterans Education Assistance Program VEAP (Chapter 32)</b>	A voluntary contributory program for persons in service from 1-1-77 to 6-30-85	Depends on number of months Vet contributed. Minimum participation 12 mths	Amount Vet contributed per month multiplied by 3, if full time	10 years from date of discharge
<b>4. The Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (Chapter 33)</b>	a) minimum 90 days of service after 9-10-01 b) Combines all active duty service c) see VA website for further qualifying service d) qualifying service percentages range from 40% to 100% coverage	At least 90 aggregate days after 9/10/01 or honorably discharged. May be eligible if honorably discharged after 30 days due to service connected disability. May receive up to 48 months combined with prior benefit.	Tuition & fees, not to exceed most expensive in-state undergraduate tuition at public school. Monthly housing allowance equal to E-5 BAH with dependents. (not for strictly on-line courses). Yearly book and supply stipend up to \$1000/school year.	15 years from last date of active duty. (Could be extended with multiple enlistments/deployments).

<b>5. Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance (Chapter 35)</b>	For spouses and children of 100% service connected disabled Vets or spouses/children of Veterans who died in service	Maximum if 45 mths of Full Time training	Full - \$915.00 $\frac{3}{4}$ - \$686.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ - \$456.00 No additional amounts for dependents of payee	For spouses 10 years from the date of Veterans 100% disability or death. Dependents have 8 years form date of 100% rating or death – not to exceed age 31
<b>6. Selected Reserve/Guard Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1606) (Note 3)</b>	Enlists or re-enlists  a) For 6 or more years in the Selected Reserves after 7-1-85  b) Has GED or High School Diploma &  c) Completed Active Duty for training	Maximum of 36 mths of Full-Time training or its equivalent in Part-Time training	Full - \$329.00 $\frac{3}{4}$ - \$246.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ - \$163.00 $\frac{1}{4}$ - \$ 82.25 No additional amounts for dependents	14 years from date of eligibility dates after October 1, 1992
<b>7. Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607 - REAP)</b>	A member of a Reserve component who serves on active duty on or after 9-11-01 under title 10, U.S.C. for at least 90 consecutive days under a contingency operation or a National Guard member who serves 90 consecutive days or more and is authorized under section 502(f), title 32, U.S.C. or other qualifier.	The number of months of entitlement under REAP is 36 months after serving the minimum 90 days. Can be extended to the 48-month limitation when combining two or more education programs.	See chart on page 2	A member remains entitled to benefits under REAP only by continuing to serve in the Selected Reserve.  A member called from the IRR remains entitled for REAP by continuing to service in the Ready Reserve (either SELRES or IRR). See notes 4 & 5

## QUESTIONS?

**FOR PAYMENT PROBLEMS CONTACT DVA FIRST  
TOLL-FREE AT 1-888-442-4551 OR  
VA'S "ASK A QUESTION" (RIGHT NOW WEB)**

If you have more questions, please call or see us:

Amy Moore  
 Veterans Benefits Coordinator  
 Registrar's Office  
 2032 Roseman Hall  
 Whitewater, WI 53190

P: 262-472-1570  
 F: 262-472-1370  
 moorea@uww.edu

General questions email the Veterans Benefits team: vetservices@uww.edu