

MILITARY & VETERAN SERVICES

QUINCY COLLEGE

GENERAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Am I Eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill®?

You can get these education benefits if you meet at least one of the requirements listed below.

At least one of these must be true. You:

- Served at least 90 days on active duty (either all at once or with breaks in service) on or after September 11, 2001, **or**
- Received a Purple Heart on or after September 11, 2001, and were honorably discharged after any amount of service, **or**
- Served for at least 30 continuous days (all at once, without a break in service) on or after September 11, 2001, and were honorably discharged with a service-connected disability, **or**
- Is a dependent child using benefits transferred by a qualifying Veteran or service member?

Note: If you're a member of the Reserves who lost education benefits when the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) ended in November 2015, you may qualify to receive restored benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill®.

2. How do I apply for benefits?

You'll need to apply.

[Apply for education benefits](#)

The benefit amount depends on which school you go to, how much active-duty service you've had since September 10, 2001, and how many credits or training hours you're taking.

3. Can I transfer my Post 9/11 Bill® benefits?

You may be able to transfer education benefits if you're on active duty or in the Selected Reserve and you meet the following requirements.

All of these must be true:

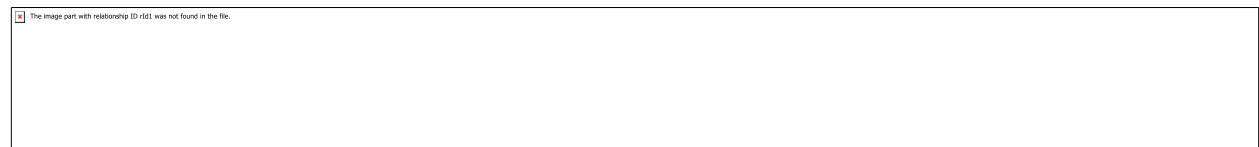
- You've completed at least 6 years of service on the date your request is approved, **and**
- You agree to add 4 more years of service, **and**
- The person getting benefits has enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

Who's covered?

Qualified dependents

For more information on Transfer of Entitlement please visit

<https://www.va.gov/education/transfer-post-9-11-gi-bill-benefits/>



4. What Benefits do I receive through the Post 9/11 GI Bill®?

- **Tuition and fees.** If you qualify for the maximum benefit, the VA will cover the full cost of public, in-state tuition and fees. They cap the rates for private and foreign schools, and update those rates each year.
[View current rates](#)
- **Money for housing (if you're in school more than half time).** The VA will base your monthly housing allowance on the cost of living where your school is located.
- **Money for books and supplies.** You can receive up to \$1,000 per school year.
- **Money to help you move from a rural area to go to school.** You may qualify for this one-time payment of \$500 if you live in a county with 6 or fewer people per square mile and you're either moving at least 500 miles to go to school or have no other option but to fly by plane to get to your school.

The specific amount you'll receive will depend on how much active service you've had since September 10, 2001. The VA will calculate this amount based on a percentage of the maximum benefit.

5. What is the Location-Based Housing Allowance (Section 107)?

What is Section 107 (Location-Based Housing Allowance)?

Previously, GI Bill® beneficiaries were paid Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) based on the main or branch campus of the school they were enrolled. If a student attended classes at more than one location, they were paid the rate that was most advantageous.

Now, MHA is based on the campus location **where the student physically attends the majority of their classes.**

VA's campus definitions:

- **Main campus:** A location where the *primary teaching facilities* of an educational institution are located.
- **Branch campus:** A location of an educational institution that is *geographically apart* from and *operationally independent* of the main campus of the educational institution.
- **Extension campus:** A location that is *geographically apart* from the main or branch campus but is *operationally dependent* on that campus for the performance of administrative tasks.

6. Does this Benefit expire?

This depends on when you were discharged from active duty.

If your service ended before January 1, 2013, your Post-9/11 GI Bill® (Chapter 33) benefits will expire 15 years after your last separation date from active service. You must use all of your benefits by that time or you'll lose whatever's left.

If your service ended on or after January 1, 2013, your benefits won't expire thanks to a new law called the Forever GI Bill - Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act. Some letters you receive from us may not yet reflect this change. Thank you for your patience as we work to update our systems.

[Learn more about this new law](#)

7. How do I check the remaining benefits I have?

If you already applied for and were awarded Post-9/11 GI Bill® education benefits, your GI Bill® Statement of Benefits will show you how much of your benefits you've used and how much you have left to use.

[View your GI Bill Statement of Benefits](#)

8. Will I Owe any Balance when using Post 9/11 GI Bill®?

It will depend on your entitlement percentage. If you are at 100% entitlement you will not have any out of pocket expenses.

If you are below 100% then you will have a balance every semester. To give you an example: If you are at 80% and your tuition/fees for Spring are \$3500 the VA will only pay 80% of that which leaves a 20% unmet portion of your tuition/fees that you will need to pay for or have Federal Financial Aid in place to cover this unmet balance.

9. What is the Dependent Educational Assistance benefit for survivors and dependents?

If you're the child or spouse of a Veteran or service member who has died, is captured or missing, or has disabilities, you may be able to get help paying for school or job training through the DEA program—also called Chapter 35. This benefit pays a monthly stipend to the student to help cover expenses associated with their education. Students who use this benefit do pay up front for their tuition and fees charges.

10. Am I eligible for education benefits through the DEA program?

You may be able to get these benefits if both you and the Veteran or service member meet certain eligibility requirements.

One of the descriptions below must be true. The Veteran or service member:

- Is permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability, **or**
- Died while on active duty or as a result of a service-connected disability, **or**
- Is missing in action or was captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, **or**
- Was forcibly detained (held) or interned in the line of duty by a foreign entity, **or**
- Is in the hospital or getting outpatient treatment for a service-connected permanent and total disability and is likely to be discharged for that disability (effective December 23, 2006)

If you're the child of a Veteran or service member

- You can get benefits if you're between the ages of 18 and 26, except in certain cases. You may be married or unmarried.
- If you're over 18 years old and using DEA, you can't get Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) from the VA.
[Learn about DIC](#)
- If you join the military, you can't use this benefit while on active duty. And if you want to use this benefit after you leave the service, you can't have a dishonorable discharge. Military service can extend your eligibility, but this increase doesn't usually go past your 31st birthday.

If you're the spouse of a Veteran or service member

- Your benefits start on the date we conclude that you qualify or on the date of the Veteran's death, and last for 10 years.
- If the VA rated the Veteran as permanently and totally disabled, with an effective date that's 3 years after discharge, you'll qualify for benefits for 20 years from that effective date. This new policy began on October 10, 2008. The VA won't pay benefits for training you started before this date.
- If the service member died on active duty, your benefits end 20 years from the date of death.
- You can get DIC payments from us and use DEA benefits.

To learn more about the benefits and to apply visit

<https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/dependents-education-assistance/>

11. Do I have to use Federal Financial Aid

No, you do not need to use federal financial aid. However, if you do qualify for the federal Pell grant you may want to apply for federal financial aid. In order to be awarded the Pell Grant you must apply for Federal Aid.

When your application is processed and you are awarded aid, you most likely will have an award comprised of the grants and loans. If you only want the grants you were awarded, and you do not wish to have the loans you can reach out to the Financial Aid office to find out the process to cancel the loans.

12. Can I take any course I want, or does it have to be specific for the VA to pay?

The Post 9/11 GI Bill® will only apply to courses that are a requirement for the degree. If you take courses outside of your degree requirements, you will be responsible for those charges.

13. What happens if I drop a course during the drop period?

- If you are dropping the course within the 100% refunding period, then you will not be charged for the course. When we terminate the enrollment with the VA the VA will assign a Debt for any housing or book stipend payments. The VA will mail you a letter informing you of this debt. DO not pay the debt until you receive the actual Debt letter from the Debt Management Center
- If you are dropping the course during the 50% refunding time frame you will be charged for 50% of the course and will be responsible for paying the tuition. QC veteran and Military Service s office waits to report the tuition/fee charges until after the add/drop period. When we terminate the enrollment with the VA the VA will assign a Debt for any housing or book stipend payments. The VA will mail you a letter informing you of this debt. DO not pay the debt until you receive the actual Debt letter from the Debt Management Center
- If you drop after the 50% refunding time frame you then will be charged for the full cost of the course and will be responsible for paying the tuition for this course. QC veteran and Military Service s office waits to report the tuition/fee charges until after the add/drop period. When we terminate the enrollment with the VA the VA will assign a Debt for any housing or book stipend payments. The VA will mail you a letter informing you of this debt. DO not pay the debt until you receive the actual Debt letter from the Debt Management Center

14. What happens if I withdraw from a course?

If you withdraw from a course after the drop period, you will be charged for the tuition/fees for the course by QC. When we terminate the enrollment with the VA the VA will assign a Debt for any housing and tuition/fees payments for the remaining portion of the course that was not completed. The VA will mail you a letter informing you of this debt. Do not pay the debt until you receive the actual Debt letter from the Debt Management Center.

- If the tuition/fees debt is assigned to QC, when we receive the debt letter, we will take the debt portion of the VA tuition/fee payment we received and return it to the VA. Once we process the debt to the VA, it will create a balance for tuition/fees that will be your responsibility to pay.

15. How do receive credit for my military service and how do I order the Joint Military Transcripts?

You can submit your Joint Military Transcripts to our admissions office to review for any transfer credits that would apply to your degree. You will need to visit the [Joint Military Transcript Request](#) website to start the ordering process.

The transcripts can be sent electronically to Quincy College at admissions@quincycollege.edu

16. Why do I have a VA registration hold on my account?

We ask that all students who use Veteran Education benefits to come or contact the Veteran and Military Services office to register for courses each semester. We do this to ensure that the courses you are registering for are a degree requirement. The VA will not pay for courses that are not a requirement for the degree.

We take this time as well to check in with you and see how you are doing. In addition, to see if there is something, we can do to help make your experience better.