

**Post-9/11 GI Bill  
Veterans Act Of 2010  
Omnibus Health Services Act  
of 2010**

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# Purpose of Class

To review and learn the benefits in which the Chapter 33 benefit offers to eligible Veterans. We will also discuss recent changes and improvements made to this Education Benefit that will be introduced throughout 2011.

# Post-9/11 Topics

Veteran Eligibility

Program Eligibility

Entitlement

Service Requirements

Housing Allowance

New Improvements

Books and Supplies

Tuition and Fees

Transferability

Yellow Ribbon

Kickers and Buy Ups

# Eligibility

- 15 Years from the last discharge is the lifespan of the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- Veterans who served 30 continuous days active duty and were released due to a S/C disability.
- Veterans must receive an Honorable Discharge.

# Eligibility

- The Veteran must have served 90 days to 3 or more years of cumulative active duty service.
- \* Active duty National Guard now qualify. These jobs include organizing, training, administrating, recruiting, or instructing members of the NG. The recent change also includes A school retroactive to 08/01/2009

# Program Eligibility

- Degree programs at an Institute of Higher Learning.
- Non-College Degree Programs
- \* Can now be used for half-time or less (W/O BAH)

# Program Eligibility

- \* The Post-9/11 can now be used for on-job training, flight schools, apprenticeships, correspondence, and for distance learning programs.
- \* Now includes Certification Exams and Career Licenses.

# Entitlement

- A Veteran can only use 36 total months of Post-9/11, but they may receive a total of 48 months of education benefits in all. (< 48 months in rare circumstances)
- A Veteran can't flip-flop from one program to another.

# Entitlement

- Expiration is 15 years from his/her discharge.
- You may inform the Veteran of their options, but do not advise them to make their decision one way or the other.

# Service Requirements

Amount of Service After 9/11      % of Approved Tuition and BAH

- At least 36 Months      100%
- At least 30 Days W/SC Discharge      100%
- At least 30 Months, but less than 36 Months      90%
- At least 24 Months, but less than 30 Months      80%
- At least 18 Months, but less than 24 Months      70%
- At least 12 Months, but less than 18 Months      60%
- At least 6 Months, but less than 12 Months      50%
- At least 90 Days, but less than 6 Months      40%

# BAH

- BAH is paid at the E-5 W/Dependants rate.
- The BAH rate is determined on the zip code of the schools location.
- The BAH rate amount is determined on January 1<sup>st</sup> of that calendar year.

# BAH

- Active Duty cannot receive BAH payments.
- Veterans with half-time enrollment or less will not receive BAH.
- \* BAH will now be paid at a rate of \$1,333.00 for both foreign schools and distance learning programs.

# Books and Supply Stipend

- Full-time students may receive up to \$1,000 a year for books and supplies.
- Less than full-time students can receive \$41.67 per credit hour through the academic year.

# Books and Supply Stipend

- The stipend is paid in a lump sum prior to the start of each semester.
- \* Active duty members will now receive this benefit quarterly, effective as of October 1, 2011.

# Tuition and Fees (T&F)

- T&F will be paid directly to the school.
- The T&F limit is \$17,500 or the lesser amount of that schools T&F amount.
- The T&F can vary due to the Veterans length of service and by a state to state basis.

# Tuition and Fees (T&F)

- The Veterans school is paid the T&F at the beginning of the semester in a lump sum, after the Veterans enrollment has been verified.
- Veterans moving from a rural community to attend a college, may be eligible for a one time payment of \$500.

# Transferability

- Only active duty (AD) members with 10 or more years of service may transfer this benefit to their spouse or child, except for AD soldiers with 6 years served, who also reenlist for an additional 4 years.
- AD members must submit their requests for this transfer with the DOD.
- Overpayments for failed course work and withdrawals will be the responsibility of both the Veteran and the student.

# Scenario 1

- OB is a veteran who served 3 years in the US Army. OB served from 03/15/00 until 03/15/03 and received an honorable discharge. Over the course of his BA, he exhausted his entire 36 month chapter 30 benefit. Today, OB is considering graduate school as a full-time student to get his MBA. Will OB be able to use the Post 9/11, and if so, what amount of this benefit would he be entitled to?

# Answer

- Yes OB is entitled to Chapter 33
  - ◆ 12 months of Post 9/11
  - ◆ 70% payment of the following
    - ◆ Books and Supplies
    - ◆ Fees and Tuition
    - ◆ BAH

# Yellow Ribbon

- Eligible Veterans must have served a total of 36 months or were discharged because of a S/C disability.
- Most schools that participate in the program will cover up to 50% of the additional costs that the Chapter 33 bill will not.
- Veterans should contact their school's financial aid office to learn more and see if their school participates in the program.

# Kickers and Buy Ups

- Veterans such as myself, will not receive the additional \$150 per month for participating in the \$600 Buy Up program. The Buy Up is only paid to Chapter 30 users.
- Kickers can be paid while using Chapter 33. The amounts of these kickers can vary depending on the Veterans branch of service.
- There are many cases where the Veteran is unaware of his/or her Kicker, so advise these Veterans to look at their education contracts.

# Additional Improvements

- Veterans and transferee spouses and children will receive an extension on their benefits, if they need time off to act as a primary caregiver for a Veteran.
- Dependents will be prohibited from using more than one education benefit, if a service member dies in the line of duty after September 10, 2011.
- The VA education enrollment period for authorized payments has now been reduced, it has gone from 8 weeks to 4 weeks.

# Additional Improvements

- Veterans who qualify for both Voc Rehab and the Post 9/11 may choose to use Voc Rehab and still collect the Post 9/11 BAH.
- This becomes effective August 1, 2011.

# Veterans Act Of 2010

## Important Changes

# Veterans Act Of 2010

## Insurance Matters

Section 401- Increase from \$20,000 to \$30,000 for totally disabled veterans needing VA supplemental insurance, effective October 1, 2011.

Section 404- Veterans using Veterans Group Life Insurance and who are under 60 years of age can now increase their coverage every 5 years, effective April 11, 2011.

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# Veterans Act Of 2010

## Insurance Matters

- Section 405- Eliminates an authorized reduction in the amount of SGLI or VGLI received as an accelerated death benefit by a terminally-ill insured, effective October 13, 2010..
- Section 407- maximum loan guarantee under the Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance program is increased from \$90,000 to \$150,000, and after 01/12/2012 it's \$200,000.

# Veterans Act Of 2010

## Burial and Cemetery Matters

- Section 501- The VA burial and funeral expense payment will increase from \$300 to \$700 effective October 1, 2011.
- Section 502- Burial Benefits will be rewarded to a soldier's parents if the veteran had no other dependents and there is available gravesite space, death on/after October 7, 2001.

# Veterans Act Of 2010

## Compensation and Pension

- Section 601- Higher levels of compensation will be awarded to veterans having difficulty using prostheses, effective October 1, 2011.
- Section 603- All former POW veteran survivors will receive DIC, effective October 1, 2011.

# Veterans Act Of 2010

## Compensation and Pension

- Section 604- All state benefits paid to a veteran for a disability cannot be counted as income for the purpose of pension benefits, effective October 1, 2011.

# Veterans Act Of 2010

## Benefit Matters

- Section 803- Veterans with severe burn injuries can now receive auto and adaptable equipment assistance, effective October 1, 2011..
- Section 804- Severely disabled veterans can now receive up to \$18,900 to purchase or adapt a vehicle, effective October 1, 2011.

# **Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010**

# Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010

## ■ Purpose of this Act

- ◆ To aid and assist veterans and the caregivers of veterans requiring assistance.

# Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010

## Caregiver Support

- Section 101- Establishes a comprehensive program to assist family caregivers of seriously disabled OIF-OEF Veterans.
- Section 102- Provides healthcare for caregivers who are not covered by any other health plan.

# Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010

## Other Health Care Matters

- Section 504- Authorizes disclosure of VA medical information to a representative of a patient who lacks decision-making capacity.
- Section 507- The VA will provide specialized residential care and rehab services to OIF/OEF veterans suffering from TBI.

# Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010

## Other Health Care Matters

- Section 511- Prohibits the VA from requiring copayments from any catastrophically disabled veteran for VA Care.
- Section 516- Increases the amounts made available for home improvements and structural alterations for service disabled veterans.

# Questions



# References

- <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s111-3447&tab=summary>
- <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h111-3219&tab=summary>
- <http://www.gibill.va.gov/post-911/post-911-gi-bill-summary/>
- <http://www.gibill.va.gov/post-911/post-911-gi-bill-summary/yellow-ribbon-program.html>

- **H.R. 3219 Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010**
- <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h111-3219&tab=summary>
- **S. 1963 Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010**
- <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s111-1963&tab=summary>