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How to Hit a Homerun with the New GI Bill

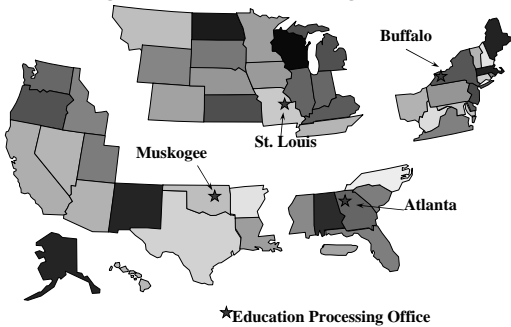


Clairmont Barnes, Mgmt Analyst
U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Education Service
Washington, DC

This Presentation will cover:

- Overview of Regional Processing Offices
- Post – 9/11 GI Bill Update
- Summary of Education Benefits
- Yellow Ribbon Program
- VA Website and other resources

Regional Processing Offices



**Education Benefit Payments
FY 2007**

MGIB	2.08 Billion
DEA	511.7 Million
MGIB-SR	146.4 Million
REAP	215.5 Million
VEAP	1 Million

Veterans Education Benefits

- Post-9/11 GI Bill
- Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB)
- Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)
- Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

Veterans Education Benefits

- Dependents Education Assistance (DEA)
- National Call To Service (NCS)
- Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (V R & E)

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

- Signed into law June 30, 2008
- Provides educational assistance to individuals who served an aggregate of 90 days of active duty service after September 10, 2001 with honorable discharge.

OR

- 30 days of continuous active duty service and discharged for EPTS, CIWD, DIS.

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

- Benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009
- Benefits are determined by the length of active duty service
- Benefits expire 15 yrs after last qualifying period
- Benefits are paid for any program at an IHL approved for MGIB

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

- Potential benefit payments:
 - Tuition and Fees payment (Paid to school)
 - Based on percentage payable (40% up to 100%)
 - Active duty members always receive 100% rate payable
 - Amount not to exceed most expensive undergraduate, in-State public IHL

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

- Potential benefit payments (cont.):
 - Rural Benefit (Paid to student)
 - Population of less than 7 people per mile (based on census data) AND;
 - Relocate at least 500 miles to attend school
OR
 - Travel by road to attend school is not possible

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

- Potential Benefit payments (cont.):
 - Books and Supplies Stipend (Paid to student)
 - Based on percentage payable and credit hours
 - Pays up to \$1,000 per year
 - Yellow Ribbon Program payment (Paid to school)
 - Based on school participation
 - Based on student qualification

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

- Potential Benefit payments (cont.):
 - Refund of money paid into MGIB
 - Monthly Housing Allowance (Paid to student)
 - Based on training time (must be above half-time) and takes at least one in-residence course
 - Pays E-5 with dependent BAH based on school zip code

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

- Transfer of Entitlement (TOE):
 - DoD will determine:
 - Who is eligible to transfer benefits
 - Service requirements
 - Qualifying spouse receives benefits the sponsor (servicemember/veteran) would receive
 - Qualifying child always receives veteran benefits
 - Benefits end at age 26, or when designated

Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB)

Four different categories:

- Category I – Enter on active duty or after July 1, 1985:
 - 2-year commitment
 - 3-year commitment
 - 2-years active duty with 4-year Reserve commitment (2x4)

Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB)

Four different categories (cont):

- Category II – Converted from education benefit that ended January 1, 1977 (34/30 conversions)
- Category III – Involuntary separations
- Category IV – Converted from VEAP education benefit (32/30 conversions)

Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB)

- Pays monthly based on training time (Paid to student)
 - Full time
 - Three-quarter time
 - Half time
 - Less than half-time (paid lump sum)
- Benefits expire 10 years after last discharge of 90 days or more.
- Recipients may receive additional amount
 - Paying additional \$600
 - Eligible Ch30 and Ch 1606 kickers

Montgomery GI Bill – SR

- Reserve or National Guard benefit
 - DoD or DHS determines eligibility
 - No money paid into program
 - Requires 6 – year commitment
 - Must be actively drilling
 - Eligibility can be retained for disability discharge

Montgomery GI Bill - SR

- Reserve or National Guard benefit (cont)
 - Completed IADT.
 - Have a high school diploma or GED before applying for benefits.
 - Benefits have no expiration time limit to use benefits as long as member actively drills
 - Benefits end once they leave Reserve or Guard

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

- Reserve or National Guard called to active duty after Sept. 10, 2001
- Eligibility requires 90 continuous days on Active Duty
- Payment based on percentage of MGIB rate.
 - 90 days up to 1 year = \$528.40
 - 1 year up to 2 years = \$792.60
 - 2 or more years = \$1,056.80

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA)

- For children, spouses and surviving spouses of individuals—
 - Who died while on active duty; or
 - Whose death was caused by a service-connected disability; or
 - Who died while permanently and totally disabled as a result of a service-connected disability; or
 - Who have a permanent and total service-connected disability

National Call to Service (NCS)

- Enlistee may choose **one** of four enlistment incentives
 - \$5,000
 - Repayment of up to \$18,000 in outstanding student loans
 - 12 months of education benefits at the MGIB 3-year rate

National Call to Service (NCS)

- Service must include at least 15 months of active duty, and may include
 - Additional active duty
 - Service in the Selected Reserve
 - Service in Americorps

Post-Vietnam Veterans' Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)

- For individuals who entered active duty for the first time on January 1, 1977 until June 30, 1985
- Payment based on government match, up to \$2,700 contribution.
- Many VEAP recipients converted to MGIB during "open window"

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (V R & E)

- Service-connected disability of at least 20% (10% if serious employment handicap exists)
- Benefits include:
 - VA pays tuition and fees directly to the educational institution
 - VA pays required books and supplies
 - VA provides on-going case management
 - Claimant receives a monthly subsistence allowance

Yellow Ribbon Program

OVERVIEW

- What is Yellow Ribbon
- Who may qualify for Yellow Ribbon
- IHL participation criteria
- How Yellow Ribbon effects recipients

Yellow Ribbon Program

What is the Yellow Ribbon Program

- Yellow Ribbon Program is a benefit of the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The program allows VA to enter into agreements with IHL's, in which the school agrees to waive a percentage of a veteran's or transfer of entitlement eligible dependent's charged tuition and fees that exceed his or her maximum benefit payable.

Yellow Ribbon Program

Who may qualify for Yellow Ribbon

- Veterans at 100% rate payable
- Dependent children - TOE
- Spouse of Veteran – TOE

** Claimant's tuition and fees must exceed the highest in-state course at a state college or university.*

Yellow Ribbon Program

IHL participation criteria

- School decision maker must complete and sign formal Yellow Ribbon Agreement
- Agreement must be received and accepted by VA
 - Start checking website in May 2009

Yellow Ribbon Program

IHL participation criteria (cont)

- Yellow Ribbon Agreement:
 - Determine percentage of tuition to waive (up to 50% of unmet tuition charges)
 - Report number of annual participants

Yellow Ribbon Program

IHL participation criteria (cont)

- Confirm participation annually
- Once enrolled, students automatically enrolled each subsequent term
- May amend agreement with VA
- Participant school names accessible to public on VA's website

Yellow Ribbon Program

EXAMPLE: *How Yellow Ribbon effects recipients*

Sergeant Smith

- Post-9/11 eligible
- 100% rate payable
- Tuition exceeds highest in-state IHL at state school

Attending XYZ University

XYZ tuition cost	\$20,000
Highest In-state undergraduate tuition	<u>\$15,000</u>
Without YR - Sgt. Smith to pay	\$5,000

Yellow Ribbon Program

EXAMPLE: *How Yellow Ribbon effects recipients*

Without YR - Sgt. Smith to pay **\$5,000**

XYZ participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program Agreement under YR: **50%** of tuition waived

XYZ pays.....	\$2,500
VA matches School %.....	<u>\$2,500</u>
	\$5,000
	- \$5,000

With Yellow Ribbon, Sgt. Smith pays \$0.00

Yellow Ribbon Program

EXAMPLE: *How Yellow Ribbon effects recipients*

Without YR - Sgt. Smith to pay **\$5,000**

XYZ participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program Agreement under YR: **25%** of tuition waived

XYZ pays.....	\$1,250
VA matches School %.....	<u>\$1,250</u>
	\$2,500
	- \$5,000

With Yellow Ribbon, Sgt. Smith pays \$2,500

Websites

Payment Rates:

- Education Service Home Page
<http://www.GIBill.va.gov>
 - Has information on basic monthly rates for MGIB, MGIB-SR, REAP, and DEA.
- Veterans Benefits Administration Home Page at <http://www.vba.va.gov>
 - Go to "Benefits". Click on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment

Other Resources

- Information about the types and amounts of benefits received or scheduled to be received by a student is available through –
 - "Pay Listing" paper roster. Sent to the school's designated VA certifying official.

Other Resources

1-888-GIBILL1 (442-4551) – to speak with a Education Case Manager.
1-800-827-1000 – Other benefits.

Questions??

**How to Hit a Homerun
with the New GI Bill**
