

## GI Bill FAQ

### 1. *What is GI Bill?*

- GI Bill benefits help you pay for college, graduate school, and training programs. Since 1944, the GI Bill has helped qualifying Veterans and their family members get money to cover all or some of the costs for school or training.
  - Post-9/11 GI Bill
    - Post-9/11 GI Bill – [Marie Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship](#)
    - Post-9/11 GI Bill – [Transferability of Benefits](#)
    - Post-9/11 GI Bill – [Yellow Ribbon Program](#)
    - Post-9/11 GI Bill [Rate Table](#)
  - Montgomery GI Bill - [Active Duty CH.30](#)
  - Montgomery GI Bill - [Selected Reserve CH.1606](#)

### 2. *Am I Eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill (CH.33) benefits?*

- **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**
  - Are 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.

### 3. *What benefits can I get through the Post-9/11 GI Bill (CH.33)*

- **You can receive up to 36 months of benefits, including:**
  - **Tuition and fees.** If you qualify for the maximum benefit, VA will cover the full cost of public, in-state tuition and fees. VA cap the rates for private and foreign schools, and update those rates each year.
  - **Money for housing (if you're in school more than half time).** VA 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.

4. *Do these benefits expire?*

- **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.

5. *How do I apply for my GI Bill?*

- **You can apply by Mail** - Call 888-442-4551, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET, to request that we send the application to you. Fill it out and mail it to the VA regional claims processing office.
  - Muskogee, OK  
P.O. Box 8888  
Muskogee, OK 74402-8888
- **You can apply in Person** – Find a [VA Regional office](#) near you and have a VA employee help you.
- **You can apply Online** – click [here](#) if you would like to create an account and apply for your GI bill.

6. *How long does it take VA to make a decision?*

- Average time to process education claims; 30 days.

7. *What happens after I apply and who do I call if I have questions?*

- You can't make changes to your application, but if you have questions about VA education benefits, please call 888-442-4551, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET.

8. For more information about GI Bill benefits, please click [here](#).