

ALIVE

Orientation



General Overview

- *Overview of Chapter 33 Post 9/11 and Chapter 35 Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance (DEA)

- * Understand GI Bill and the payments; as well as local waivers and loans related to the GI Bill.

- * Understand the Yellow Ribbon Program.
Know who to contact for help with Veteran student issues.



Establishing VA Education Benefits at WSU

First, apply with the VA....

Step by step instructions available at <https://va.wsu.edu> under the "Apply" section

Apply for benefit with VA using VONAPP

Receive "certificate of eligibility" (COE). This can take up to 30-45 days to receive in the mail from the VA.

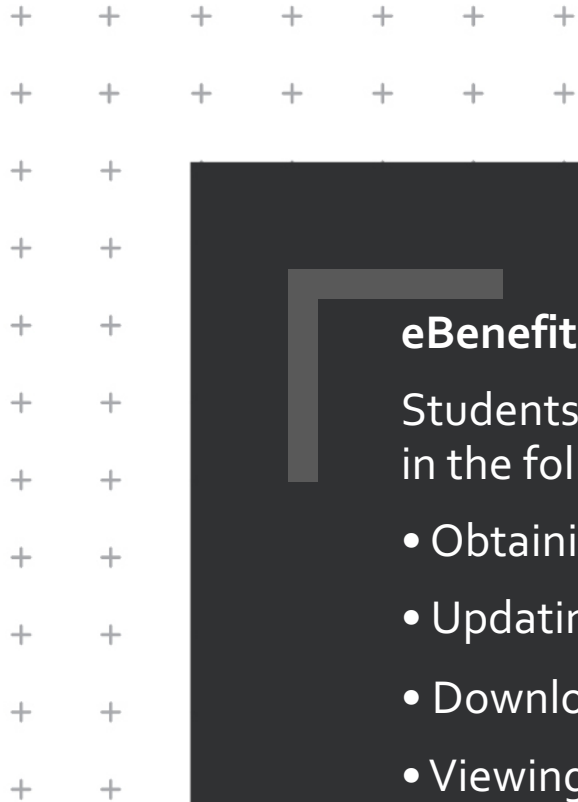
Provide a copy of the COE to the WSU Office of Veterans Affairs.

Complete the "Enrollment Certification Request"

Advisor signature is required!

Processed in the order received.





eBenefits account on va.gov

Students are strongly encouraged to register and utilize eBenefits to assist them in the following:

- Obtaining up to date information on their educational entitlement
- Updating their Direct Deposit and personal contact information
- Downloading VA letters and personal documents
- Viewing the current status of their payments (both education and disability)

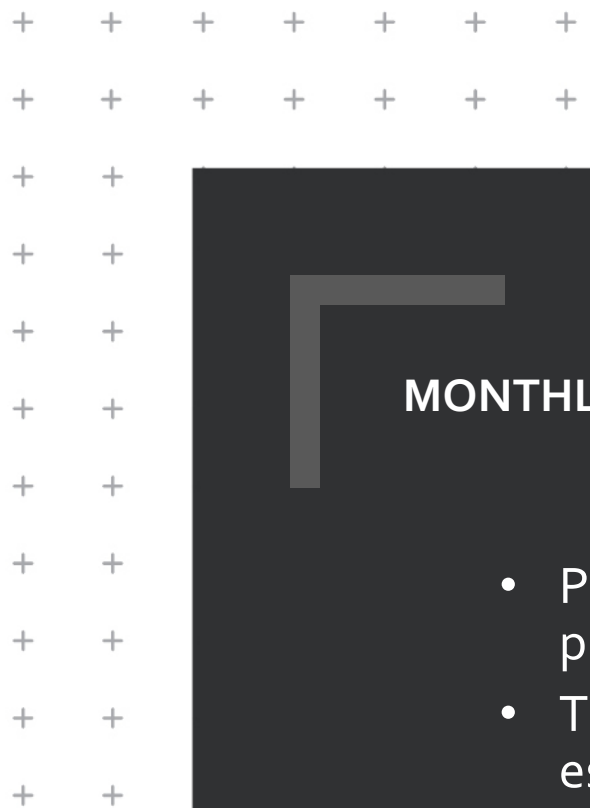
Students can register for either a Basic or Premium account but must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) to obtain either account type.



SEMESTER TIMELINE

- Submit “Certificate of Eligibility” to WSU Office of Veterans Affairs.
- Complete and return the “Enrollment Certification Request” prior to the semester when possible. The first semester of attendance is most difficult as new students meet with Advisors during ALIVE.
- Veterans Affairs Office will certify enrollment and initial course load to the VA.
- Students will receive an automated email whenever a certification, adjustment or amendment is submitted to the VA.





MONTHLY HOUSING ALLOWANCE (MHA)

- Paid directly to the student. This can take up to 30+ days to process from the VA after SCO certifies the student.
- This money will go to whatever Direct Deposit you established when you applied for your benefits. The Direct Deposit can be changed at any time by calling the VA Direct Deposit phone number provided on our Veteran's Affairs website: <http://va.wsu.edu/>





SUMMER SESSION

- Chapter 33 and Chapter 35 GI Bill can be used for summer classes.
- In order to receive MHA through summer, student must take classes – no "break pay".
- Due to varying session lengths, and overlap, academic load can be tricky to determine...
- 6 weeks = 4 credits (full time)
- 8 weeks = 6 credits
- 12 weeks = 8 credits
- Must notify us if attending summer session same as any other term (submit Enrollment Certification Request).



RESIDENT TUITION RATE & THE GI BILL

Students may be eligible to pay the resident tuition rate if:

- Eligible for the GI Bill, AND
- Parent is on active duty, OR
- Student is beginning school within 3 years following the parent's discharge.
- See out webpage for the online application under Tuition Waivers. Documents to submit will depend on which rule applies to the student's situation.
- <http://va.wsu.edu/>





SPOUSES & DEPENDENTS OF 100% DISABLED VETERAN – CHAPTER 35 GI BILL

What are my benefits?		
State Tuition Waiver & Book Stipend	Must meet criteria outlined in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) see application on WSU Veterans Affairs: http://va.wsu.edu/	Covers tuition and required fees. Book stipend is paid out as a refund on MyWSU (\$250 for Fall and \$250 for Spring)
VA Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA)	Paid at the end of each month. Partial months are pro-rated.	Amount is based on the course load the student takes. Full time, $\frac{3}{4}$ time, $\frac{1}{2}$ time or less than $\frac{1}{2}$ time. MHA rates can found on our Veterans page under VA Benefits-Stipend Rate tables.



POST 9/11, CHAPTER 33 GI BILL

What are my benefits?

Generally entitled to 36 months of educational assistance

VA Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA)	Based on measures of rental-housing costs in the local civilian market	Current full-time student rate for Pullman is \$1341.00 per month. Adjusted each October	https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool
Tuition and & Fees	Paid directly to the school by the VA	The in-state tuition & fees after applying any waiver, scholarship, aid, or assistance specifically designated for tuition and fees	VA has 90 days to pay tuition after it has been reported; payment is generally made within 3-7 weeks
Book Stipend	Paid directly to the student, based on the number of credit hours being taken	Current rate for books is \$41.67 per credit hour, up to 24 credits per academic year (Aug-Jul)	Generally will deposit within 7-10 days prior to term starting or within 7-10 days after being certified
Other Items covered	Yellow Ribbon for out-of-state students. WSU contributes \$650 each Fall Semester-Matched by VA	Tutoring Assistance is available and paid by the VA if needed because of the access to free tutoring, this is seldom used	



TUTORING ASSISTANCE

- * Monthly rate cannot exceed \$100.
- * Capped at \$1200 per benefit program.
- * No entitlement charge.

Eligibility:

Rate of pursuit must be at least 50%.

Deficient in a course that is part of his program.

Tutoring must occur during the semester the class is taken.

Requirements:

Letter from instructor stating deficiency and requirement of tutoring.

Qualified tutor.

VA Paperwork.



FEES THAT ARE/ARE NOT COVERED BY GI BILL Ch 33

- **Yes**

- S&A
- CUB Fee
- Health Fee
- SRC Fee
- Stadium Fee
- Transit Fee
- Technology fee
- Chinook fee
- Class/Lab/PE-ACT Fees

- **No**

- Sports Pass (\$239)
- Parking passes
- Yearbook
- Green Fee
- Parking fines
- Late Registration Fee
- Withdrawal Fee
- Cougar Health Fee
- Digital Materials (considered books)



STUDY ABROAD

In most cases the Post 9/11 GI Bill ***will pay some of the costs*** (resident tuition rate; current \$5255.50).

Credits need to go towards degree program.

Three kinds of study abroad:

Remain a WSU student: T&F paid at normal WSU rate, MHA paid at the Pullman rate, book stipend as usual.

Study abroad as a student of another institution (i.e. Antioch) and come back to WSU: tuition paid at the guest institution's rate, MHA paid at their rate, book stipend as usual.

Study abroad conducted through a company: Check with company to see if they can handle GI Bill-MUST coordinate with WSU Study Abroad office.

Extra costs can be funded by the GI Bill ***if the study abroad is required*** to complete the degree.





RETAKEING A CLASS

- A class may be retaken, if the student receives an "F" or "W".
 - Must report on the ECR that it is a retake
- The VA will not pay for retaken classes where the previous grade was a "D" or better.
- EXCEPTION: A higher grade is required to progress. (e.g. a "C" is required in Calculus 1 to advance to Calculus 2)
 - Must report on the ECR that it is a retake
 - Requires email/letter from advisor that course needs retaken.





STUDENTS USING OTHER TYPES OF BENEFITS

If a student is using any other type of benefit, such as Ch 30, Ch 31 or Ch 1606, please contact the Veteran's Office for how to process these educational/rehabilitation benefits. The Enrollment Certification Request form is required for all types of benefits used.

Information is also available on our webpage: <http://va.wsu.edu/>



Contact Information

Penny Martinez
Veteran Coordinator

www.va.wsu.edu

509-335-1234

veterans@wsu.edu

Supporting Veteran and Dependent students in Pullman, Spokane, Everett & Global

We are located within the WSU Student Veterans Center, Holland Library 120B



QUESTIONS?

If you have questions, please email them to me so I, or one of my work study students, can respond. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response to emails and voicemails.

