

### How do I start my Veterans/Dependent Education Benefit?

- ☐ **Learn about Veterans Education Benefits** [here](#) or at VA.gov. You can also preview the various chapters listed on the second page of this document, titled Summary of Veteran Education Benefits.
- ☐ **Apply for Veterans/Dependent Education Benefits** on VA.gov. You will be asked a series of questions about your service or the service of the Veteran in your family. The website will take you to the proper form based on your responses. Please print a copy of your confirmation from your online application and to submit to your School Certifying Official.

#### **Important reminders when filling out the form:**

- Name Reedley College (995 N. Reed Avenue Reedley, CA 93654) as your school of attendance even if you are planning on attending Madera Community College Center or Oakhurst Community College Center (until MC and OC are approved to certify independently).
- If you are a recipient of Vocational Readiness and Employment (Chapter 31) contact your VR&E Case Manager.

### **Documents to submit to your School Certifying Official (SCO):**

- ☐ Depending on the **VA application** form you complete online, your SCO will also send you a version to be printed for your college file. Please leave any banking information blank on the version for the college.
- ☐ Your **Certificate of Eligibility** will be mailed to you by the VA (except Chapter 1606). This certificate shows the percentage of benefits you will receive. Submit a copy to your SCO.
- ☐ **Education Information Form** - This is an annual form that must be submitted to the SCO each spring.
- ☐ **Terms of Agreement Form** - This is a one-time form for your VA file.
- ☐ **Certification Policies Form** - This is a one-time form for your VA file.
- ☐ **Official Military Transcripts (Unofficial copies are not acceptable)**
  - Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard request online at <https://jst.doded.mil>
  - Air Force request online at <http://www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp>
- ☐ A copy of your **DD-214 Member 4 or Service 1** (not applicable to Chapter 35 and Chapter 33 Transfer of Entitlement applicants).
- ☐ Chapter 1606 only: a copy of your **Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE)**. Your SCO can send you a blank form so you can get a signature from your unit leader.
- ☐ **Request official transcripts** to be sent to Reedley College from all colleges, trade schools, and universities you have attended. Send to Reedley College, Admissions and Records, 995 N. Reed Avenue, Reedley, CA 93654.
- ☐ Once you have your college student ID number, complete a **Veteran Student Education Plan (VSEP) with a Counselor**. Contact the Counseling Office at your campus to make an appointment with:
  - Reedley College, Veterans Counselor – Tina Barraza (559) 494-3000 ext. 3337
  - Oakhurst Center, Veterans Counselor - Gricelda Spear (559) 675-4800
  - Madera College, Veterans Counselor- Francisco Corchado (559) 675-4800

Bring unofficial transcripts from other colleges, trade schools, and universities to the appointment so the counselor can review what classes you have already taken.

## **Summary of Veteran Education Benefits**

**Chapter 30- Montgomery GI Bill® (Active Duty):** The MGIB program is available to veterans who served on active duty contributed \$1,200 to the MGIB during their first 12 months of active duty service. Generally, benefits are payable for 10 years following release from active duty. **Please, also apply for financial aid [here](#) to receive both.**

**Chapter 31- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E):** Vocational Readiness and Employment is for Veterans who have a service-connected disability rating. To receive services, a Veteran must be found both eligible and entitled after applying and meeting with a VR&E Case Manager. **Please, also apply for financial aid [here](#) to receive both.**

**Chapter 33- Post 9/11:** The Post-9/11 GI Bill® provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. **Please, also apply for financial aid [here](#) to receive both.**

**Chapter 33 Transfer of Entitlement- Post 9/11:** The Post-9/11 GI Bill® allows service members (officer or enlisted, Active Duty or Selected Reserve), on or after August 1, 2009, to transfer unused education benefits to immediate family members (spouse and children). The service member must have at least six years of service, and commit to an additional four years of service in order to transfer benefits to a spouse or child. Because of the potential impact of this benefit on recruiting and retention, transferability policy is determined by the Department of Defense (DoD) and the military services. **Please, also apply for financial aid [here](#) to receive both.**

**Chapter 35- Survivor & Dependent Education Assistance:** DEA provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of veterans who are permanently and totally disabled due to a service-related condition, or who died while on active duty or as a result of a service related condition. The program offers 36 or 45 months of education benefits, depending on when you start school. (See the Colmery Act or Forever GI Bill). **Please, also apply for financial aid [here](#) to receive both.**

**Chapter 1606- Montgomery GI Bill® Selected Reserve:** The MGIB-SR program may be available to you if you are a member of the Selected Reserve. The Selected Reserve includes the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve, and the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. **Please, also apply for financial aid [here](#).**

**College Fee Waiver for Veterans' Dependents Program (CALVET):** To be eligible student must be a dependent child, spouses or unmarried surviving spouses of a service - connected disabled or deceased veteran. Program waives tuition and fees at any State of California Community College, California State University, or University of California Campuses. You'll complete the application process with the Veterans County Service office in the county where you reside in.

## **Veteran Education Benefits Important Contacts and Links**

**Questions about your benefits and address change:** 1-888-442-4551 or [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

**Monthly Enrollment Verification:** If you are using Chapters 30 or 1606 you are required to verify your enrollment with the VA on monthly basis. Do this no sooner than the last calendar day of each month. 1-877-823-2378 or <https://www.gibill.va.gov/wave>

Chapter 33 must also verify enrollment monthly through the VA text system. Please see FAQ handout for details.

**To Report a Change in your Enrollment:** 559-494-3000 ext. 3400 or email [rc.veterans@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:rc.veterans@reedleycollege.edu)

**Direct Deposit:** 1-877-838-2778

**Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment:** 1-800-827-1000

**Debt Management:** 1-800-827-0648

*GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits*

*offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>*