

Veterans Education Benefits an Overview of Federal and New York State Programs

Presented by the Bureau of Veterans Education

Albany Office: William Clarke and Kimberly Kuster-Smith

Who We Are And What We Do:

New York State Approving Agency

- Evaluate and approve school academic and training programs.
- Recommend approved schools and programs to the VA for the distribution of education benefits.
- Conduct federal regulation compliance surveys at approved schools and submit referrals and recommendations to the VA regarding any noncompliance issues.
- Outreach and education for schools certifying for veterans education benefits.

Federal Education Benefits

http://www.gibill.va.gov/

| Benefit | Chapter 33 & YR | Chapter 30 | Chapter 35 | Chapter 1606 | <u>Chapter</u> <u>1607</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Eligibility | 90 days active duty after 9/10/01 | At least 2 yrs active duty | Dependents; vet died or is permanently disabled as a result of service | Active reservist with 6 year obligation | 90 days of active duty support. |
| Entitlement (48 months max under 2 or more programs) | 36 months | 36 months | 45 months | 36 months | 36 months |
| Delimitating Date | 15 years from last discharge | 10 years from last discharge | Child: 8 yr Spouse: 10 yr | 14 years from date of eligibility | 10 years from separation date |

Additional Federal Benefits

- <u>Chapter 36</u>: Educational and vocational counseling services.
- VRAP: Veterans Retraining Assistance Program
- <u>Chapter 31</u>: Vocational Rehabilitation Benefits for Unemployed Veterans
- <u>Chapter 32</u>: Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)
- Tutorial Assistance Program
- Student Work Study Allowance Program
- Chapter 30 Amendment: <u>Tuition Assistance Top Up</u>

New York State Benefits HESC

Veterans Tuition Awards

Provides awards for full-time study and part-time study to eligible veterans matriculated at an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting institution or in an approved vocational training program in New York State.

• Military Service Recognition Scholarship

Provides financial aid to children, spouses and financial dependents of those who, while New York State residents in service in the Armed Forces of the United States or state organized militia, at any time on or after August 2, 1990, died, became severely and permanently disabled, or was classified as missing in action in a combat zone while engaged in hostilities or training for hostilities.

New York State Benefits Continued

 NYS Regents Awards for Children of Deceased and Disabled Veterans

Provides \$450 per year to students whose parent(s) served in the U.S. Armed Forces during specified periods of war or national emergency and, as a result of service, either died, suffered a 40% or more disability, was classified as missing in action, or was a prisoner of war. The veteran must currently be a New York State resident or have been a New York State resident at the time of death.

Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program

The Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP) is a New York State program designed to recruit and retain quality members for the State Military Forces (Army and Air National Guard, and Naval Militia). This competitive program will pay the cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$4,350 per calendar year for eligible applicants:

Transfer of Benefits

Transfer of Post 9/11 GI-Bill Benefits

- Service member has to be on an Active Duty Status, including Selected Reserve.
- Has at least 6 years of service in the Armed Forces and agrees to serve 4 additional years in the Armed Forces.
- Has at least 10 years of service in the Armed Forces or is precluded by either standard policy (Service or DoD) or statute from committing to 4 additional years, and agrees to serve for the maximum amount of time allowed by such policy or statute.
- Such transfer must be requested and approved while the member is in the Armed Forces.

Contact Information:

Education Liaison Representatives:

| School Zip Code | ELR | Phone | Fax | Email |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 12 | Cinda Quattrini | 716.857.3149 | 716.551.3241 | cinda.quattrini@va.gov |
| 13, 14 | Michael Jurkowski | 716.857.3208 | 716.551.3241 | michael.jurkowski@va.gov |
| 10, 11 | Ursula Bailey | 212.807.3451 | | ursula.bailey@va.gov |

State: Toll free: 1-888-697-4372 or 1-518-473-1574 (HESC), 1-888-838-7697 (NYS DVA)

School Certifying Official Hotline: 1.855.225.1159

GI Bill Hotline: 1.888.442.4551

Debt Management Center: 1-800-827-0648

State Approving Agency Albany Office: William Clarke or Kimberly Kuster-Smith 518.474-7606

NYC Office: Daniel Giuseffi 212.643.1516

Questions?

