

Veteran's Educational Benefits Office

Summer-Fall 2008

100 Administration Annex, 1063 Campus Delivery, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1063



The purpose of this newsletter is to update you with current information regarding your education benefits.

Veteran's Request for Enrollment Certification

To receive veteran's education benefits you must complete a Veteran's Request for Enrollment Certification each term you attend Colorado State University. Please submit it to the Records Office as soon as you have completed registration. Here is a link to Registrar's forms where you can locate and download the form <http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/Registrar/forms.htm>

Full Time

To receive full benefits, undergraduate students must register for 12 credits and graduate students must register for nine credits. Please note that courses with nonstandard term dates (dates different from those of the regular 16-week term) are reported separately from full-term courses. Therefore, you may be eligible for full benefits only part of the semester if you are not registered for sufficient credits throughout the full 16-week term.

Continuing Education

Students taking classes through Division of Continuing Education, in addition to completing the Veteran's Request for Enrollment Certification, must present copies of class receipts as verification of enrollment. Also, if you have not done so, a formal application to the University in a major for which education benefits have been approved is required.

Chapter 1606, National Guard and Selected Reserves.

All participants in the Selected Reserve/Guard (Chapter 1606) are reminded, if you do not participate as required by your unit, your eligibility can be terminated and your component can require that you pay a penalty based on payments you've received. Department of Defense officials indicate that this requirement is being strictly enforced without exception.

Starting April 2008 Chapter 1607 recipients will be required to verify enrollment monthly.

REAP Benefit Expanded to Include Multiple Deployments

Read about it here: <http://education.military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/new-law-improves-reserve-gi-bill>
Also read about it on the VA website: www.gibill.va.gov

Chapter 1607

The DOD has determined which call-ups are eligible for Chapter 1607 benefit and VA has started paying benefits under this new chapter. If you are Chapter 1606 (National Guard/Selected Reserve) and were called up on federal orders for at least 90 days since Sept. 11, 2001 you are probably eligible for an increase in your benefit amount. Paperwork can be submitted any time to make the irrevocable election to change to Chapter 1607.

Guard/Reserve members need to complete a 22-1995 clearly denoting Chapter 1607, obtain a certified DD214 and furnish a copy of orders to active duty. The form 22-1995 is available in our office. All paperwork should be turned in to the Veterans Educational Benefits Office for submission to the VA. A copy of all paperwork will be retained in your file.

Delayed Processing

As of this writing in April, the VA is still 6-8 weeks behind in processing paperwork. It behooves every student to get their VA paperwork submitted to this office in a timely manner (as soon as registered preferably) to avoid a payment delay for Fall 2008 term.

Financial Aid

If you request financial aid, Student Financial Services will ask if you will be receiving VA Education Benefits by supplying a form titled Veterans Benefits Worksheet. This form must be completed and returned to Student Financial Services.

Retroactive Pay

Normally, the VA will pay retroactive benefits for one year. In what chapter may benefits exceed the 12-month limit? Chapter 35 (Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance), when the eligibility is established, the DVA may pay retroactively beyond the one year limit.

University Charges

You are responsible for paying all your University charges. Colorado State University and the VA do not have an agreement; therefore, failure of the VA to pay you in a timely manner does not eliminate or delay your financial responsibility to the University. Carefully review your billing statement from the Accounts Receivable Operations. Failure to pay on the due date will result in a 1.5 percent late payment charge on the balance due, but will not cancel your class schedule. You may contact the Student Financial Services Office at (970) 491-6321 if you have questions regarding your University bill.

Website

www.gibill.va.gov

The web page has a FAQ section and a way to send other questions via the site. They will answer within 7 days.

Chapters 30, 1606 and 1607 Monthly Verification

All students who are receiving Chapter 30 education benefits and Guard/Select Reserve Students receiving Chapter 1606 benefits must certify their monthly Verification of Enrollment on the last day of each month or after. The funds will not be released until this is done. It can be accomplished by using a toll-free phone system or the Internet. To verify by phone call 1-877-823-2378 and follow the prompts. The Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (W.A.V.E.) is found on the VA website www.gibill.va.gov. VA is requiring the website be used to report changes (when your training time changes only, i.e. from full-time to three-Quarter or half-time, etc., otherwise, no change). When you report changes in this manner you reduce the chance of over/under payment. Remember, only changes in training time are reported. If you go from 16 to 12 credits, for example, there is no change to the VA.

Change of Major

Remember, when changing your major or going from Open Option or a Pre-major to a major, the VA requires two additional forms along with your Veterans Request for Enrollment Certification. Be sure to stop by our Office for the additional paperwork.

Inquiries

The St. Louis, Missouri, Regional Processing Office Education Toll-Free phone is: 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).

Address Changes

In addition to keeping CSU notified of address changes, you must notify the VA. It is requested that you notify the VA of address changes by calling the regular toll-free number 1-888-442-4551 or, if you have internet access, changing it directly on the system by accessing WAVE on the VA web site www.gibill.va.gov.

Military Mobilization

If you are reactivated or are a member of the Guard or Select Reserve and are called up to active duty, you must contact the Center for Advising and Student Achievement to withdraw from the University. With a copy of your orders, a zero assessment withdrawal is processed for you. The Center can be reached at 491-7095. Retain a copy of those orders to show the Admissions Office upon return, for waiver of the application fee.

Advance Pay

New students that desire Advanced Pay for the Fall term must be enrolled At least half-time and file a request with the Records Office no later than June 30, 2008, even then it cannot be guaranteed. Advance Payment check will consist of 6 days for August and the full month of September. The check will be available at the Records Office on the first day of classes August 25. The next payment will be in November.