

Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty

MONTGOMERY GI BILL – ACTIVE DUTY (CHAPTER 30)

The MGIB-AD can provide up to 36 months of education benefits which can be used for degree or certificate programs, technical or vocational courses, flight training, apprenticeship and on-the-job training, correspondence courses, licensing and certification tests, and certain entrance exams. Benefits are generally payable for 10 years following your release from your last period of active duty lasting at least 90 consecutive days.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the MGIB-AD educational benefit if you are currently on active duty or have an honorable discharge, if you have a high school diploma or GED, **and** meet the requirements of one of the categories below:

✓ CATEGORY I

Entered active duty for the first time after June 30, 1985, had military pay reduced by \$100/month for the first 12 months **AND** continuously served for 3 years, **OR** 2 years if that is what you first enlisted for, **OR** 2 years if you entered the Selected Reserve within a year of leaving active duty and service 4 years (“2 by 4” Program).

✓ CATEGORY II

Entered active duty before January 1, 1977 and served at least 1 day between 10/19/84 and 6/30/85, and stayed on active duty through 6/30/99 (or 6/30/87 if you entered the Selected Reserve within 1 year of leaving active duty and served 4 years) **AND** on 12/31/89 you had entitlement left from Vietnam-Era GI Bill.

✓ CATEGORY III

Not eligible for MGIB-AD under Category I or II and on active duty on 9/30/90 **AND** separated involuntarily after 2/2/91 **OR** voluntarily separated under either Voluntary Separation Incentive or Special Separation Benefit Programs **AND** before Separation you had military pay reduced by \$1,200.

✓ CATEGORY IV

On active duty on 10/90/96 and had money remaining in a VEAP account on that date and you elected MGIB by 10/9/97, **OR** entered full-time National Guard duty under title 32, USC between 7/1/85 and 11/28/89 and you elected MGIB during the period 10/9/96 - 7/9/97 **AND** had pay reduced by \$100/month for 12 months or made a \$1,200 lump-sum contribution.

Note: Service members are prohibited from using the same service period to establish eligibility for multiple VA programs.

BENEFIT INFORMATION

A monthly benefit will be paid to you based on the type of training you take, your rate of pursuit, your length of service and other factors. Contact the VA for more details about your specific benefits.

Monthly benefit rates effective October 1, 2011 for those completing an enlistment of **three years or more**:

Institutional Degree Training: \$1,473 monthly for full-time training; \$1,104.75 for ¾ training time; \$736.50 for ½ training time; \$736.50 for less than ½ but more than ¼ training time; and \$368.25 for ¼ training time or less.

Apprenticeship and On-the-Job Training: First 6 months of training: \$1,104.75; Second 6 months of training: \$810.15; Remaining pursuit of training: \$515.55.

Correspondence and Flight Training: Entitlement charged at the rate of one month for each \$1,473 in benefits paid.

Monthly benefit rates effective October 1, 2011 for those completing an enlistment of **less than three years**:

Institutional Degree Training: \$1,196 monthly for full-time training; \$897 for ¾ training time; \$598 for ½ training time; \$598 for less than ½ but more than ¼ training time; and \$299 for ¼ training time or less.

Apprenticeship and On-the-Job Training: First 6 months of training: \$897; Second 6 months of training: \$657.80; Remaining pursuit of training: \$418.60.

Correspondence and Flight Training: Entitlement charged at the rate of one month for each \$1,196 in benefits paid.

MGIB \$600 Buy-Up Program

Additional contributions made while on active duty and before your separation in increments of \$20 up to \$600 can increase your total benefits by as much as \$5,400. For more information, contact the VA or your personnel or payroll office.

** Note: Interval payments (living stipends between school terms) will no longer be available for any VA education programs, except in times of natural disaster or national emergencies. Payments for the first and last month of the term will be prorated based on the actual days of the term.*

APPLYING FOR BENEFITS

Apply Online: Visit www.gibill.va.gov, and choose “Apply for Benefits”, which will lead you to VONAPP (Veterans’ Online Application). If you need help getting started, follow the VA’s “Roadmap to Success” which will help you calculate your benefits, compare VA programs, and determine the best benefit to use.

Apply by Mail: Obtain VA Form 22-1990 online at www.gibill.va.gov under the “Apply” section of the “Roadmap to Success”, or you can request a copy to be mailed to you at 1-888-GIBILL-1. Mail your completed form and other required documentation to your appropriate VA Regional Processing Office, which can be found in the “Apply” section of the GI Bill webpage. A list of possible documentation you may need to include can be viewed on the VA GI Bill website in the “Step 6: Apply” section of the “Roadmap to Success”.

QUESTIONS? Visit www.gibill.va.gov or call 1-888-GIBILL-1. A benefit comparison chart can be found on the VA’s GI Bill webpage by under “Benefit Comparison Tools” in the “Benefit Resources” menu.

For more information, contact a helpful Essential Knowledge representative today at 877-262-0950.