

Frequently Asked Questions Military Education Benefits

1. **When should I apply for my VA education benefits?** You should apply for your benefits at least six to eight weeks prior to the eligible semester or session for which you are enrolled.
2. **How much money will I receive?** Your VA education benefits will vary based on the type of benefit, the number of credit hours for which you are enrolled, the current pay rates and years of service.
3. **Will my VA education benefits cover my educational charges?** The amount of your VA education benefits will be based on the type of VA benefit for which you are eligible, the number of credit hours you schedule, and the current VA Rates. Unless you're receiving Chapter 31 (Vocational Rehabilitation) or Chapter 33 (Post 9-11) benefits, your VA education benefits will be paid directly to you in monthly installments over the enrollment period. LHU expects your charges to be paid-in-full at the start of each semester or session. It is the student's responsibility to pay those charges, in full, by the due date. If you need assistance paying your charges, you may also file a FAFSA to apply for federal and state aid.
4. **Can I receive regular financial aid while receiving VA education benefits?** Yes. Applying for financial aid will not affect your VA education benefits. However, you may not receive aid in excess of your cost of attendance.
5. **What should I do if I do not receive my VA funds?** Call the Department of Veterans Affairs toll free number 1-888-GIBILL1 (888-442-4551) to see if the check has been mailed or the funds have been directly deposited. If the funds have not been released, be sure to ask why. If it is a school-related concern, contact the VA Certifying Official in the Financial Aid office.
6. **How do I request payment of benefits for summer and next year?** Each spring, typically in March, the Financial Aid Office contacts current VA education benefits recipients to inquire about their enrollment plans for the upcoming summer. To ensure continued payment of benefits, be sure to submit this request form in a timely manner. If you are currently enrolled fall or spring, your enrollment will automatically be checked and certified for the following semester.
7. **I've been called to Active Duty and am withdrawing from school. What do I need to know?** Please refer to the steps listed on the "Withdraw from school checklist" on the Financial Aid website.
8. **If I withdraw from school while collecting VA education benefits and then return, will I automatically continue to receive my benefits?** No. Be sure to immediately notify the VA Certifying Official in the Financial Aid Office that you have withdrawn. When you decide to return to school, contact the VA Certifying Official to request that your enrollment be certified.

9. **What changes should I report to the VA Certifying Official?** To avoid delays or overpayment of VA education benefits, each VA benefit recipient is responsible for reporting any changes in status to the VA Certifying Official, including: change of address, program or enrollment status, or withdrawal from school.

10. **Can I transfer my GI Bill benefits to my spouse or child?** Yes, it is possible, in some instances, to transfer your GI Bill benefits to a dependent. For more information, please contact a VA education benefits counselor at 1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551)

11. **How can I find out about all VA benefits to which I am entitled?** Contact the Department of Veterans Affairs toll free 1-800-827-1000 or visit their website at: **www.va.gov**