

**General Information for Veterans**

**Applying for Veterans Educational Benefits**

- If you have not applied for Veterans Educational Benefits you may do so online at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov). Click on Education Benefits and then click on How to Apply for Benefits. This will take you to the electronic form to apply for benefits. If you are Chapters 30, 1606 or 1607 you will fill out form 22-1990. If you are Chapter 35 you will fill out form 22-5490.
- If you have questions regarding receiving educational benefits, you may call 1-888-442-4551 or the Buffalo State Veterans Certification Office at 878-5045.
- If you receive benefits under Chapter 35 and have been approved for benefits, we will need your Payee Number in order to process your certification. This number is on your approval letter from the VA.
- If you are receiving Chapter 31 benefits your case manager should mail/fax a 28-1905 form to the Registrar's Office, Attn: Pam. She handles all the Chapter 31 Veterans.
- If you are changing your program or transferring to Buffalo State College, please fill out a 22-1995 form (Chapter 35 students will fill out form 22-5495) which is also available on the website- [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) . Click on education forms. You can print the application or submit it electronically.
- If you are eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve, or the Reserve Educational Assistance Program, **are you eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill?** If, on August 1, 2009, you are eligible for one of these programs **and** you qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, you may make an irrevocable election to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. **Note:** Once you elect to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, you will no longer be eligible to receive benefits under the program from which you elected the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

**Applying for NYS Veteran's Tuition Award**

- Under Section 669-a of the Education Law, "combat veterans" of the Vietnam, Persian Gulf and Afghanistan conflicts are eligible to receive the NYS Tuition Award. You must establish eligibility by applying to the Higher Education Services Corp (HESC) at [www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org) and complete the New York State Veterans Tuition Award Supplement . Questions regarding eligible service or how to document service should be directed to the HESC Scholarship Unit at 1-888-697-4372.

**Attendance Forms**

**Buffalo State College**

Each semester (Spring, Summer, Fall, Intersemester) you are required to fill out our Veterans Attendance Form. You may get the form from the Veterans Office in Moot Hall 141 or the Registrar's Office, Moot Hall 210.

**VA Regional Office**

With the exception of Chapter 35 students, all others must verify their attendance through WAVE (Web Automated Verification of Enrollment). Your enrollment can be verified starting on the **last calendar day of the month** by using the **Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE)** at <https://www.gibill.va.gov/wave> or by calling toll free Interactive Voice Response (IVR) telephone line at 1-877-823-2378. You may also call 1-888-442-4551.

**Health Insurance**

- Weigel Health Center provides health and wellness services for all registered students. If you choose not to receive health insurance through Buffalo State College you may submit a waiver at [www.consolidatedhealthplan.com/student\\_health/buffalo\\_state\\_college.html](http://www.consolidatedhealthplan.com/student_health/buffalo_state_college.html). Please don't wait to complete this online waiver.

**What Chapter am I?**

**Chapter 30- Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty Educational Assistance Program (Active Duty)**

The MGIB program provides up to 36 months of education benefits. This benefit may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances. Generally, benefits are payable for 10 years following your release from active duty. This program is also commonly known as Chapter 30.

**Chapter 31- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program**

Contact your case manager.

**Chapter 33- Post 9/11 GI Bill**

Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009. No payments can be made under this program for training pursued before that date. You may be eligible if you served at least 90 aggregate days on active duty after September 10, 2001, and you are still on active duty or were honorably-discharged from the active duty; or -released from active duty and placed on the retired list or temporary disability retired list; or -released from active duty and transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; or -released from the active duty for further service in a reserve component of the Armed Forces. You may also be eligible if you were honorably discharged from active duty for a service-connected disability and you served 30 continuous days after September 10, 2001.

**Chapter 35- Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA)**

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 up to 45 months of education benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. If you are a spouse, you may take a correspondence course.

**Chapter 1606- Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (National Guard/Army 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. This benefit may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and correspondence courses.

**Chapter 1607- REAP (National Guard/Army Reserve called to Active Duty)**

A member of a reserve component who serves on active duty on or after September 11, 2001 under title 10 U.S. Code for a contingency operation and who serves at least 90 consecutive days or more is eligible for chapter 1607. National Guard members also are eligible if their active duty is under section 502(f), title 32 U.S.C. and they serve for 90 consecutive days when authorized by the President or Secretary of Defense for a national emergency and is supported by federal funds. Individuals are eligible as soon as they reach the 90-day point whether or not they are currently on active duty. DOD will fully identify contingency operations that qualify for benefits under chapter 1607. Disabled members who are injured or have an illness or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty and are released from active duty before completing 90 consecutive days are also eligible.

Registrar's Office 8/19/09