VA INFORMATION

The Department of Defense has announced the launch of an information and comparison tool called Tuition Assistance (TA) DECIDE that will allow Service members interested in using TA benefits to access essential information related to educational institutions and outcomes.

TA DECIDE is intended to empower Service members, who differ from the general population in that the vast majority, are full-time warriors/part-time students. TA DECIDE provides Service members the information needed to make informed educational choices based on the experiences of other students just like them.
Additionally, for the first time, DoD is publicly releasing information about usage trends related to the use of DoD TA benefits at any particular school. TA DECIDE can be used to search and compare information on our 2,600+ approved schools eligible for TA, including information on average TA costs, course completion, graduation and estimated tuition and fee amounts.

Summer School Information

If you plan on using your VA Benefits during the summer, please complete a VA Enrollment Worksheet. If you plan to apply for Summer Financial aid, you must have a FAFSA on file (2014-2015) and must complete a 2015 Summer School Application. The Worksheet and Summer Application can be found on the Financial Aid website, or you can pick one up from our office.

Full-Time Status for VA during the Summer

Here is what’s considered Full-time for the following summer sessions:

Maymester: At least 2 credit hours.
Summer I: At least 4 credit hours.
Summer II: At least 4 credit hours.

*** Remember that summer is optional! You do not have to attend each summer session. ***
When completing the VA Enrollment Worksheet; if you are taking more than one summer session, you can list them on the same worksheet. Please list any Fall classes on a separate VA Enrollment Worksheet.

Certification Information

The VA now required all certifications to be submitted before or within the first 30 days of the semester.

When completing the VA Enrollment Worksheet for certification, please be sure that it has been signed by your Academic Advisor prior to turning it into me. The VA Certifying Official is not your academic advisor and cannot sign the form.

Please be sure you attach a copy of your Detailed Schedule, not the Time and Day Schedule. The Detailed Schedule provides me with all the accurate information I need to complete the certification. To access your Detailed Schedule, please follow the steps below:

1. Log into Braveweb
2. Click on Banner Self-Service
3. Click on Student & Financial Aid
4. Click on Registration
5. Click on Student Detailed Schedule
6. Select the term
7. Print
The GI Bill® Comparison Tool is now live at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison.

The tool assists a student to:

1. Determine their eligibility percentage and then choose resident or online training and their school
2. Choose their status (i.e. veteran, active duty, spouse, child or reserve/guard)
3. It will then tell them the percentage of T&F payable at that school (if its public) or the max payable (if its private),
4. Calculates the BAH (at full time and considering their eligibility percentage) and
5. Provides the max book stipend based on their eligibility percentage.

**Payment Information**

If you are Chapter 30, 35, or 1606/1607, you should prepare to cover any initial costs due for the term you are enrolled to make sure that your enrollment is secure. VA payments are sent to you directly; therefore it is your responsibility to make sure anything you owe is paid by the due date indicated by student accounts.

If you are Chapter 33 Post 9/11, your enrollment is secure until payment has been received directly to the University after we have certified electronically. You must have enough VA benefits to cover your tuition and fees. If you are considered less than 100% for your benefit payments, you must be prepared to pay any out of pocket expenses after VA has paid. To secure your classes, all certification documents are to be turned in as soon as you enroll.
**Question of the Month**

If I receive financial aid during the summer, will that affect my financial aid for next year?


**UPCOMING DATES**

- May 1st - Reading Day
- May 4th - May 8th - Exam Week
- May 6th - UNCP Student Veteran Graduation Recognition Ceremony (UNCP Amphitheatre)
- May 8th - Graduate School Commencement (GPAC)
- May 9th - Undergraduate Commencement (Quad)
- May 11th - Maymester Begins
- May 22nd - Maymester Ends
- May 25th - Memorial Day (University Closed)
- May 27th - Summer Session I Begins
THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Turn in VA paperwork to the VA Certifying Official early.
- Do NOT complete the VA Enrollment Worksheet in pencil.
- The Department Of Veterans Affairs will NOT pay for any classes that are not within your degree program.
- Consult with your advisor if you have any questions about your program or classes.
- If you are Chapters 30 or 1606/1607 you must access the WAVE website with VA monthly to certify your enrollment. [www.gibill.va.gov/wave](http://www.gibill.va.gov/wave)