

Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

GI Bill and Education Resources

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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs.

To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov.

G.I. Bill – Department of Veterans Affairs – Education and Training

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

1-888-442-4551 (Educational Call Center)

Hours: Monday – Friday, 7am to 6pm CST

VA educational benefits may be used while the servicemember is on active duty or after the servicemember's separation from active duty with a fully honorable military discharge. All participants must have a high school diploma, equivalency certificate, or have a completed 12 hours toward a college degree before applying for benefits. The GI Bill comparison tool features datasets on the price and student outcomes of more than 10,000 VA-approved education and training programs. GI Bill recipients can also use the tool to figure out how much of the benefit they can receive. Each institution and academic program listed on the site includes information on its estimated tuition and fees, as well as projected housing allowances and book stipends under the GI Bill. **GI Bill Comparison Tool:** www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool.

VA educational benefits include the following:

Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty and Selected Reserve

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/montgomery_bill.asp

Active Duty (MGIB-AD) – Provides up to 36 months of education benefits. Eligible Veterans can receive benefits for: college, business, technical or vocational school; on-the-job training and apprenticeship programs; license or certification costs; tuition assistance; correspondence courses; and national tests. Those currently in service may be eligible after two years of active duty. Those separated from service may be eligible if: you entered active duty after June 30, 1985; you received a high school diploma (or equivalent) before the end of your first period of service (in some cases 12 hours of college credit qualifies); you received an honorable discharge; and you continuously served for three years OR two years if you first enlisted for that long OR two years if you have an obligation to serve for years in the Selected Reserve and entered Selected Reserve within a year of leaving active duty.

Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) – Provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserve. This includes the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard Reserves. It also includes the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. You may be eligible if: after June 30, 1985, you signed a six-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve; you completed your Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT); you got your high school diploma or GED before you completed your IADT; and you are in good standing in a drilling Selected Reserve unit.

Forever GI Bill – Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act

www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/forevergibill.asp

The 15-year time limitation for using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits is eliminated for Veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013 and qualifying dependents (For children who became eligible on or after January 1, 2013 and all Fry spouses). Work-study programs are permanently authorized. Veterans can use their benefits to pursue education programs at accredited independent study such as online learning, programs at career and technical education schools, and postsecondary vocational institutions.

Post-9/11 GI Bill

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_gibill.asp

Available for individuals who serve at least 90 days of aggregate active duty service after Sept. 10, 2001. To be eligible for the 100 percent of the benefit, one of the following must be true: you served 36 total months of active duty OR you were discharged after Sept. 10, 2001 for a service-connected disability after 30 days of continuous active duty service. Benefits include full tuition and fees, paid directly to the school for all public school in-state students; a monthly housing allowance; an annual books and supplies stipend; and a one-time rural benefit payment of \$500 to individuals who reside in a county with six people or fewer per square mile. The Yellow Ribbon Program may help reimburse the difference if you attend an expensive private school or public school as an out-of-state resident.

Post-Vietnam Veterans' Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/veap.asp

Available if you first entered active duty after Dec 31, 1976, and before July 1, 1985; contributed to VEAP before April 1, 1987; completed your first period of service; and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. Benefit entitlement is for one to 36 months depending on the number of monthly contributions. You have 10 years from your release from active duty to use VEAP benefits. If the entitlement is not used after the 10-year period, your portion remaining in the fund will be automatically refunded.

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

<https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/education/CH1607.pdf>

Provides educational assistance to members of the Reserve components called or ordered to active duty in response to a war or national emergency declared by the president or Congress. Reservists who had eligibility under the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) and lost it due to the program sunset provision will have that service credited toward the Post-9/11 GI Bill program.

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA)

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/survivor_dependent_assistance.asp

Program provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of Veterans who are permanently and totally disabled due to a service-related condition or of Veterans who died while on active duty or as a result of a service-related condition.

The **Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship** is available for children of active-duty members of the Armed Forces who died in the line of duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Eligibility ends on the child's 33rd birthday. Available for surviving spouses of active-duty members of the Armed Forces who died in the line of duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Eligibility ends upon remarriage. Provides full tuition and fees, paid directly to the school for all public school in-state students, a monthly housing allowance, and a books and supplies stipend.

On-the-Job and Apprenticeship Training Programs

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/onthejob_apprenticeship.asp

Both on-the-job (OJT) and apprenticeship training programs are available for Veterans using their VA education benefits, including the Post 9-11 GI Bill. These programs allow Veterans to learn a trade or skill through training on the job participation rather than attending formal classroom instruction. A Veteran generally enters into a training contract for a specific period with an employer or union, and at the end of the training period, the Veteran gains certification or journeyman status.

Higher Education Opportunity Act - In-State Tuition for Military Members and their Families

Maryland Higher Education Commission

Email: VAEDUCATIONBENEFITS.MHEC@maryland.gov

https://mhec.maryland.gov/institutions_training/Pages/acadaff/veteransbenefits/index.aspx

410-767-3300 (V)

1-800-974-0203 (Toll Free)

For periods of enrollment that begin after July 1, 2009, members of the armed forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard) on active duty for a period of more than 30 days and his or her spouse, or his and her dependent children will be eligible to receive in-state tuition at public colleges and universities in the state where they reside or are permanently stationed. Once a Service member or their family members are enrolled and paying in-state tuition, they will continue to pay the in-state tuition rate as long as they remain continuously enrolled at the institution even if the Service member is reassigned outside the state. Signed into law on August 14, 2008 and amends and extends the Higher Education Act of 1965. This requirement applies to all public institutions that receive funds under a program authorized by the HEA. For more information, please contact the Veterans Affairs office or the financial aid or registrar's office at the institution you are attending or contact the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

Maryland's Veteran One-Door System: Maryland's public institutions have made a commitment to establish a "One-Door" system so that student Veterans are able to connect to their educational and support needs through the

establishment of a Veterans Office or designated staff person responsible for such coordination. In addition to being the focal point on G.I. Bill Education Benefits and other veteran issues, this entity would identify and coordinate liaisons for services in key offices on campus (e.g., financial aid, admissions, academic advising) and off-campus (e.g. employment, behavioral health counseling, housing information). Many of these institutions have implemented Student Veteran orientations and Student Veteran groups. For more details contact ask for the Veteran Affairs Coordinator located at each institution.