



Veterans Network Directory - Montgomery County, MD

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

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 G.I. Bill comparison tool (www.va.gov/education/gi-bill-comparison-tool) features datasets on the price and student outcomes of more than 10,000 VA-approved education and training programs. G.I. 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 G.I. Bill.

VA educational benefits include the following:

- **Montgomery G.I. Bill Active Duty (MGIB-AD)**

www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/montgomery-active-duty

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 four years if you entered the Selected Reserve within a year of leaving active duty (called the 2 by 4 program).

- **Montgomery G.I. Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)**

www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/montgomery-selected-reserve

MGIB-SR program offers up to 36 months of education and training benefits. If you're a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard Reserve, Army National Guard, or Air National Guard. You may be eligible for education benefits under this program if you meet these requirements if have a 6-year service obligation (you agreed to serve 6 years) in the Selected Reserve, or you're an officer in the Selected Reserve and you agreed to serve 6 years in addition to your initial service obligation. Note: Your obligation must have started after June 30, 1985, or for some types of training after September 30, 1990. You must also have 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.

- **Post-9/11 G.I. Bill (PGIB) (Chapter 33)**

www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11

If you've served on active duty after September 10, 2001, you may qualify for the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. PGIB helps you pay for school or cover expenses while you're training for a job. You may be eligible for education benefits if you meet at least one of these requirements: you served at least 90 days on active duty (either all at once or with breaks in service) on or after September 11, 2001, or you received a Purple Heart on or after September 11, 2001, and were honorably discharged after any amount of service, or you served for at least 30 continuous days (all at once, without a break in service) on or after September 11, 2001, and were honorably discharged with a service-connected disability, or you're a dependent child using benefits transferred by a qualifying Veteran or service member. Note: If you're a member of the Reserves who lost education benefits when the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) ended in November 2015, you may qualify to receive restored benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

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

The 15-year time limitation for using Post-9/11 G.I. 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.

- **Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)**

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

An education program that provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserves, Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), and National Guard, who are called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency, as declared by the President or Congress. Generally, a member of a Reserve component who serves on active duty on or after September 11, 2001 under title 10, U.S. Code, for at least 90 consecutive days under a contingency operation, is eligible for REAP. There is no specific time frame to use REAP. However, your eligibility generally ends when you leave the Selected Reserves. National Guard members are eligible if their active service extends for 90 consecutive days or more and their service is: authorized under section 502(f), title 32, U.S. Code, authorized by the President or Secretary of Defense for a national emergency, and supported by federal funds.

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

www.va.gov/family-and-caregiver-benefits/education-and-careers/dependents-education-assistance

If you're the child or spouse of a Veteran or service member who has died, is captured or missing, or is permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability, you may be eligible for the DEA program. One of these descriptions must be true for the Veteran or service member: the Veteran is permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability, or the Veteran died as a result of a service-connected disability, or the service member died in the line of duty, or the service member is missing in action or was captured in the line of duty by a hostile force for more than 90 days, or the service member was forcibly detained (held) or interned in the line of duty by a foreign entity for more than 90 days, or the service member is in the hospital or getting outpatient treatment for a service-connected permanent and total disability and is likely to be discharged for that disability.

- **Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship**

www.va.gov/family-and-caregiver-benefits/education-and-careers/fry-scholarship

The Fry Scholarship is available for children of active-duty members of the Armed Forces who died in the line of duty on or after September 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 September 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

You may be eligible for benefits if you qualify for the G.I. Bill and are a new employee training in an industry or job including plumbing, an electrical trade, law enforcement, or firefighting. Eligibility: Veterans, Reservists, spouses and dependents getting benefits through either the Fry Scholarship or the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program, and dependents using transferred benefits under the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. Exception: You can't get on-the-job training if you're an active-duty service member or the spouse of an active-duty service member using transferred benefits.

Maryland Higher Education Commission – Military Members and their Families

Email: VAEDUCATIONBENEFITS.MHEC@maryland.gov

410-767-3300 (V)

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

1-800-974-0203 (Toll Free)

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

The Maryland Higher Education Commission serves as the official State Approving Agency (or SAA), an approving authority for the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The SAA has approved and supervises over 400 postsecondary institutions that are legally operating in Maryland, including public and private colleges, universities, community colleges, training academies, high schools and private career schools. In order for a veteran, reservist or dependent to use their G.I. Bill benefits, the program must be approved by a SAA. 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.