

Chapter 30: Montgomery GI Bill

Chapter 30: Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty

The Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty (MGIB) provides up to 36 months of education benefits to eligible veterans for

- College, business, technical, or vocational school
- Tuition assistance: “Top-Up”
- On-the-job training and apprenticeship programs
- Correspondence courses
- Flight training (in some cases)
- National tests
- Remedial, deficiency, and refresher training (in some cases)
- Cost of tests for licenses or certifications needed to get, keep, or advance in a job

Eligibility Information

If you are currently in service, you may be eligible for benefits after two years of active duty. Please consult with the education services officer at your installation, or contact George Mason University’s Office of Military Service for more information about your eligibility.

If you are separated from service, you may be an eligible veteran if you

- Entered active duty for the first time after June 30, 1985
- Received a high school diploma or equivalent (or, in some cases, 12 hours of college credit) before the end of your first obligated period of service
- Received an honorable discharge
- Continuously served for three years **or** two years if that is what you first enlisted for **or** two years if you have an obligation to serve four years in the Selected Reserve **and** entered the Selected Reserve within a year of leaving active duty.

Authoritative information about the Montgomery GI Bill is available online at gibill.va.gov or by calling Veterans Affairs (VA) at 1-888-GIBill1.

Mason’s Office of Military Services is available to assist you in this process.

Tuition Coverage

The monthly benefit paid to you is based on the type of training you take, length of your service, your category, and whether the Department of Defense put extra money in your MGIB Fund (called “kickers”).

Institutional Training

<i>Training Time</i>	<i>Monthly Rate</i>
Full time	\$1,368
Three-quarter time	\$1,026
Half time	\$684
Less than half time but more than quarter time	\$684
Quarter time or less	\$342

\$600 Buy-up Program

Some service members may contribute up to an additional \$600 to the GI Bill to receive increased monthly benefits. The additional contribution must be made while on active duty. For more information, contact your personnel or payroll office.

Typically, you have 10 years to use your MGIB benefits.

Getting Started

To receive education benefits, you must have a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). You can apply for your COE by going to gibill.va.gov and filling out VA Form 22-1990, Application for Education Benefits, using the Veteran On-line Application.

This document, along with a Veteran Registration Reporting Form, must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office before Mason can issue VA Form 22-1999 (Verification of Enrollment) to the VA.

The Veteran Registration Reporting Form is available online at military.gmu.edu.

George Mason Payment Policies

George Mason University realizes that today's student-veterans should not be penalized because their federal education benefits are received in a manner inconsistent with other students receiving federal education benefits. As such, Mason implemented a Veteran Payment Plan for student-veterans who were receiving Department of Veteran Affairs' education benefits on a monthly basis.

Military Activation Policy

George Mason University students who are in the military reserves or the National Guard of the United States who are called to active duty after the beginning of a semester or summer session have two options they may consider with the appropriate dean's office in determining their enrollment status with the university:

- Students may withdraw from all courses in which they are enrolled as of the effective date of the orders to report to active duty. When this option is selected, a full credit of all tuition and fees will be made to the student's account. Students will receive a prorated credit of dining service and housing contract charges.
- Students may take a grade of incomplete in all courses. The conditions for completing course work and receiving a regular grade should be agreed to between the student and the instructor for each course.

Applicants to Mason, who have accepted an offer of admission but have not yet registered in a degree program, will be allowed to defer their enrollment.

Setting Your Azimuth to Graduation

Step-by-Step Instructions

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.ed.gov. For more information on financial aid, go to the Office of Financial Aid. The application should be filed as soon as possible after January 1.

Apply. You can find information on admission to George Mason University and an online application at the Office of Admissions web site. Be sure to complete the attached Application for In-State Tuition and provide supporting documents. For more information on domicile issues, go to the Registrar's Office.

Apply for your federal GI Bill education benefits using the Veteran On-line Application web site to receive a Certificate of Eligibility.

Submit a copy of the Certificate of Eligibility to the Registrar's Office to complete the application process.

Complete the Veterans Registration Reporting Form online each semester after registration is finalized to continue receiving GI Bill benefits. The form is available online at military.gmu.edu.

Attend student orientation. University orientation is offered over the summer for students enrolling in the fall semester and December through January for students enrolling in the spring semester. Information can be found on the Office of Orientation and Family Programs and Services web site.

Stop in and say hi. Visit the Office of Military Services to learn about more benefits you may be eligible to receive and meet other veterans attending Mason.

*George Mason University
is a proud participant in
the Yellow Ribbon Program.*



George Mason University

Office of Military Services

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