

# **Veterans Services**

## Ch. 33 – Transfer of Entitlement

## **Eligibility:**

- Open to any member of the armed forces active duty or Selected Reserve, officer or enlisted who is eligible for Post 9/11 GI Bill® and meets the following criteria:
  - Has at least six years of service in the armed forces (active or Reserves) on the date of approval and agrees to serve four additional years in the armed forces from the date of election.
  - Has at least 10 years of service in the armed forces (active duty and/or Selected Reserve) on the date of approval, is precluded by either standard policy (by Service Branch or DoD) or statute from committing to four additional years, and agrees to serve for the maximum amount of time allowed by such policy or statute.
  - Is or becomes retirement-eligible and agrees to serve an additional four years of service on or after Aug. 1, 2012. A Service member is considered to be retirement-eligible if he or she has completed 20 years of active federal service or 20 qualifying years as computed (pursuant to section 12732 of title 10 U.S.C.).
  - Transfer requests are submitted and approved while the member is in the armed forces.
- The DOD makes the decision if you're allowed to transfer the benefits.
- Benefits can transfer to spouse, children, or a combination of both.

#### **Rules of Transferring Benefits:**

Family member use of transferred educational benefits is subject to the following rules:

### Spouses

- May start to use the benefit immediately.
- May use the benefit while the member remains in the Armed Forces or after separation from active duty.
- Are not eligible for the monthly housing allowance while the member is serving on active duty.
- Can use the benefit for up to 15 years after the service members last separation from active duty.

#### Children

- May start to use the benefit only after the individual making the transfer has completed at least 10 years of service in the armed forces.
- May use the benefit while the eligible individual remains in the armed forces or after separation from active duty.
- May not use the benefit until he or she has attained a secondary school diploma (or equivalency certificate), or he or she has reached age 18.
- Is entitled to the monthly housing allowance stipend even though the eligible individual is on active duty.
- Is not subject to the 15-year delimiting date, but may not use the benefit after reaching 26 years of age.

#### **Payment Rates:**

- Payment is made in three areas (<u>note</u>: <u>all payments</u> are dependent on your <u>percentage of eligibility</u>):
  - Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA): paid directly to the student at the end of each month for which they're enrolled.
    - Using the zip code of Century (55110) and the E5 with dependents designation, use the <u>BAH calculator</u> to determine monthly payments.

- o Book Stipend: paid directly to the students prior to the start of the term, up to \$1,000/year.
- o <u>Tuition and Fees Payment:</u> paid directly to the school, the VA will cover part or all of your tuition and fees.

#### **Steps to Set Up Transfer of Entitlement:**

- 1. While in the armed forces, transferors use the <u>Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) website</u> to designate, modify, and revoke a Transfer of Entitlement (TOE) request.
  - a. (NOTE: When the milConnect Home page displays, select Education then Transfer of Education Benefits [TEB] from the menu bar.)
- 2. Once approved, family members may apply to use transferred benefits by visiting <u>vets.gov</u>. Click on "Education Benefits" and then "Application Process". Click on the green button that says "Select Correct Form". There will be a few short questions that you need to answer, then select the green button that says "Apply Now".
- 3. Once you have registered for the semester, you must notify Karla Frieler, the School Certifying Official at Century College. You do this by completing the "Century Military Deferment Form" online in myCentury. This lets Century know that you intend to use benefits and that we should certify your enrollment to the VA. Once this form is submitted, Century will defer your payment due date until the end of the term.
- 4. Once you submit the online form, Century will certify your enrollment to the VA. This will kick start your book stipend to be paid to you. MHA will be paid to you at the end of each month for which you're enrolled.
- 5. The tuition and fees payment will be paid directly to the college, but it's good to keep an eye on your school statements to ensure funds are sent and applied to your account.
- 6. Each term that you wish to use your benefits you will need to notify the School Certifying Official (by completing the Century Military Deferment Form).

For more information visit <a href="http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911">http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911</a> transfer.asp.