



POST 9/11 GI BILL TRANSFERABILITY INFORMATION

New Department of Defense guidance, issued June 23, 2009, establishes the criteria for eligibility and transfer of those education benefits (TEB). The new GI Bill, signed into law June 20, 2008, provides the most comprehensive educational benefit package since the original bill, officially known as the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, was signed into law. For more information on eligibility and application procedures, see the [Dept. of Veteran's Affairs Web site](http://www.defenselink.mil/gibill) at <http://www.defenselink.mil/gibill>

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE TEB

- First you must go to the DoD transferability application website to determine if your dependents are eligible to receive the transferred benefits. This website is only available to military members.

[Click here to visit that site \(non-VA Link, Internet Explorer only\)](#)

<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/consent?continueToUrl=%2FTEB%2F>

- Upon approval, family members may apply to use transferred benefits with VA by completing VA Form 22-1990e. VA Form 22-1990e should only be completed and submitted to VA by the family member *after* DoD has approved the request for TEB.

******Do not use VA Form 22-1990e to apply for TEB.**

- [To access the electronic version of VA Form 22-1990e click here](#)

<http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

- [To access the paper version of VA-Form 22-1990e click here.](#)

<http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990e-ARE.pdf>

If you have specific questions you can contact Mr. Ferguson, Fort Jackson Veterans Affairs Representative. Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Office Location: Education Center -2nd Floor (Bldg across from Burger King); Telephone Number: (803) 751-6071.

Information provided by the ACS Employment Readiness Office, (803) 751-4862.



Families benefit from new GI Bill

By SGT. 1ST CLASS MICHAEL J. CARDEN
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — More than 25,000 service members pre-applied for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which took effect Aug. 1, Pentagon officials said last week.

The bill now allows service members the option to transfer unused educational benefits to eligible family members.

The wave of applicants far exceeded the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments' expectations, said Bob Clark, the Pentagon's assistant director for accessions policy.

"We've seen, roughly, a thousand applications a day for the past week or so, and we expect that to continue," Clark said. "Transferability of these educational benefits has been one of the most requested provisions by family support groups, family advocacy groups and the troops out in the field and fleet."

The site, <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/>, is accessible using a common access card, Defense Department self-service user identification or a Defense Finance and Accounting Service personal identification number.

Spouses and family members must be enrolled under their service member sponsor in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System, also known as DEERS, to be eligible for the transfer benefit. Military members also can link to the site through <http://www.defenselink.mil/gibill>.

With the Post-9/11 GI Bill, service members are eligible for 36 months of educational benefits — the equivalent of four nine-month academic years. To qualify for the transfer benefit, service members must have six years of service on active duty or in the Selected Reserve on or after Aug.

1 and commit to an additional four years of service.

Service members have the option to use or transfer as much of their benefits as they want to, and they can revoke or redesignate recipients at any time, Clark said.

He added that service members can add names only while on active duty, and not after separating or retiring from active-duty service.

The unused benefits can be transferred to a spouse, two children or any combination, he said. But children cannot start using the benefit until they're 18 or have a high school diploma or equivalent. Clark noted that children enrolled in DEERS lose their military benefits at age 21 unless they are full-time students.

Only eligible dependents' names will appear on the registration Web site, he explained. Once service members register on the site and designate the recipient, the application will be processed through their appropriate service branch.

After the service verifies eligibility to transfer the benefits, the application will be forwarded and processed again through VA. And finally, when the selected dependent decides to use the benefit, he or she must go to the Department of Veterans Affairs Web site and fill out an online application to request a certificate of eligibility, Clark said. The certificate then can be taken to the school to be processed by its Veterans Affairs representative and used to request tuition, payment for books and the living stipend, which varies by institution and location, he continued.

As of last week, more than 15,000 applications had been approved, and of those, 5,500 dependents already have requested certificates to start their education.

"I see this as a wonderful opportunity for our veterans, our service members, in particular, the families of our ca-

rear members to give them the opportunity to further their education and reach their dreams," Clark said.

Most service members who have at least six years of military service as of Aug. 1, and agree to serve an additional four years qualify, he said.

Department officials have proposed measures to support service members who have at least 10 years of active service but can't serve the additional four because of service or department policy. They would, however, have to serve the maximum time allowed before separating from the military, he said.

Another provision will cover service members who will reach the 20-year service mark, making them retirement-eligible, between Aug. 1, 2009, and Aug. 1, 2013.

Clark explained how service members who complete 20 years of service will be able to transfer the benefits:

— Those eligible for retirement on Aug. 1, 2009, will be eligible to transfer their benefits with no additional service requirement.

— Those with an approved retirement date after Aug. 1, 2009, and before July 1, 2010, will qualify with no additional service.

— Those eligible for retirement after Aug. 1, 2009, but before Aug. 1, 2010, will qualify with one additional year of service after approval to transfer their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.

— Those eligible for retirement between Aug. 1, 2010, and July 31, 2011, will qualify with two additional years of service after approval to transfer.

— Those eligible to retire between Aug. 1, 2011, and July 31, 2012, will qualify with three additional years of service after approval to transfer.