Veteran and Eligible Dependent Education Benefits
Information Sheet

CONTACT INFORMATION

Governors State University
Coordinator for Veterans and Military Personnel
Room – A2104
708.235.2223

Certifying Official
Brenda Moore
Financial Aid, D1416
708.534.4482

Voke Rehab
Andrea Gaz
Business Office, C1333
708.235.7402

United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
www.gibill.va.gov
888.442.4551 or 800.827.1000

Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)
www.collegeillinois.org or www.collegezone.com
800.899.4722

Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs
www2.illinois.gov/veterans
217.782.6641

WHO DOES WHAT?

What are the duties of the Coordinator for Veterans and Military Personnel?
- Coordinates campus veteran events and community outreach and resources.
- Schedules rooms for veteran organizations.
- Advisor to Student Veterans of America (GSU Chapter)
- Advisor to SALUTE

What are the responsibilities of the Certifying Official?
- Reports all GI Bill enrollment

What are the duties of the Business Office?
- Prepares Book Vouchers for Chapter 31 recipients
- Accepts Tuition Assistance award and
- Updates other third party veteran and eligible dependent awards.
STATE BENEFITS

Illinois Veterans Grant (IVG)
- Complete initial application to ISAC
- Maximum amount of eligibility is 120 hours

Illinois National Guard Scholarship (ING)
- Complete application each year to ISAC
- Maximum amount of eligibility is 96 hours

Illinois Missing in Action/Prisoner of War Scholarship (MIA/POW)
- Complete initial application to the Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs
- Maximum amount of eligibility is 120 hours

What are the eligibility requirements for State benefits at GSU?
- Submit a copy of the letter of eligibility to the OFA prior to the last day of the semester and
- Meet grade point average requirements as outlined in the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy in the Financial Aid Guide online at www.govst.edu/FinAid

What is covered by State benefits?
- IVG provides payment of tuition and fees (excluding parking and walkway fee) for continuous enrolled course of study
- For New IVG recipients, IVG provides payment of tuition and fees (excluding parking and walkway fee, extending learning and graduation fees)
- ING provides payment of tuition, student activity and graduation fees only
- MIA/POW provides payment of tuition, student activity and graduation fees only
**FEDERAL BENEFITS**

**Federal Financial Aid**
- Complete a federal application for federal student aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- The school code for GSU is 009145
- The FAFSA must be completed each year to be considered for federal aid
- Federal aid awards are based on the information provided on the FAFSA
- Federal aid includes grants, loans and work study

**Tuition Assistance**
- Offered by certain branches of service for active duty members or those in the reserves
- Contact your branch of service for application procedures
- Authorization forms are submitted to Andrea Gaz in the Business Office

**GI Bill Benefits**

**What are the Chapters?**
- Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty
- Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment
- Chapter 32 (VEAP) Post-Vietnam Veterans’ Educational Assistance Program
- Chapter 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill
- Chapter 35 Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance Program
- Chapter 1606 Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve
- Chapter 1607 (REAP) Reserve Educational Assistance Program

**How do I apply for GI Bill benefits?**
- Complete Form 22-1990 to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) online at www.gibill.va.gov for Chapters 30, 32, 33, 1606 and 1607
- Complete Form 22-5490 to the VA for Chapter 35
- Chapter 31 applicants complete Form 28-1900 with the VA located in Chicago, Illinois

**How do I transfer my GI Bill benefit to another school?**
- Complete Form 22-1995 to the VA for Chapters 30, 32, 33, 1606 and 1607
- Complete Form 22-5495 to the VA for Chapter 35
- Chapter 31 recipients contact the VA located in Chicago, Illinois

**What are the eligibility requirements for GI Bill benefits at GSU?**
- Be enrolled in a degree or certificate program,
- Payment is made only to courses applicable to the degree or certificate program,
- Meet completion ratio and grade point average requirements as outlined in the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy in the Financial Aid Guide online at www.govst.edu/FinAid and
- VA does not pay for repeated courses, courses that are not degree or certificate requirements, independent study or audit registration as outlined in the GSU catalog online at www.govst.edu/catalog

**What does the GI Bill benefit cover?**
- Chapters 30, 32, 35, 1606 and 1607 pays a monthly stipend
- Chapter 31 provides payment of tuition and fees (to the school), book voucher and supplies, and monthly stipend
- Chapter 33 provides payment of tuition and fees (to the school), book stipend, housing allowance and monthly stipend

**How do I use my GI Bill benefit at GSU?**
- Complete GI Bill (Chapters 30, 32, 33, 1606 and 1607) paperwork each semester; you request to receive benefits, available in the OFA or online at www.govst.edu/veterans
- Your academic advisor/counselor must complete and sign the document
- Continuing student (student enrolled at GSU in the prior academic year) completes a Montgomery GI Bill for Continuing Students
- Transfer student (student that used the benefit at another school and this is the first semester at GSU) completes a Montgomery GI Bill for Transfer Students
- New student (student that has never used the benefit before at any school) completes a Montgomery GI Bill for First Time Applicants
- Chapter 31 recipients must contact their Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and have authorization Form 28-1905 faxed to the VRC at 708.235-7632 each semester.

**When is my GI Bill benefit reported to VA?** Once all and proper paper is submitted. The student veteran is responsible for reporting to the SCO any change to enrollment. Failure to do so could cause an over payment for which the student veteran is responsible for.

**If I paid my tuition and fees and VA is responsible for paying it (Chapters 31 and 33), when will I be reimbursed?** Refunds are mailed within 3-5 days after GSU receives payment from the VA.

**Who processes my GI Bill claim?** Claims are processed by the VA in St. Louis, Missouri.

**How long does it take for my claim to be processed?** Contact the VA.

**What is the amount of my book stipend, housing allowance or monthly stipend?** Contact the VA. (Housing is geographically calculated by the VA)
**How does a Chapter 31 recipient get their book voucher?** Contact Andrea Gaz in the Business Office once you have submitted paperwork to the SCO.

**How are my classes protected from being dropped for non-payment?**
- Accept federal financial aid or state benefit that covers tuition and fees or
- Complete a Payment Plan Agreement Form with the Cashier Office, Room C1336 at 708.534.4055 or make payment in full to the Cashiers Office.

**What happens if I drop, withdraw or add classes after my enrollment is reported?**
- Be liable for the overpayment due to the VA and/or
- Delay benefit payments by the VA and/or
- Owe a balance due to GSU.
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Can I receive federal financial aid, State benefit and GI Bill benefit at the same time?

- Yes; for example, a student can receive grants and loans, IVG and GI Bill benefits (Chapters 30, 1606 or 1607)
- A student can not receive two State benefits or tuition awards in the same semester
- Chapter 33 recipients (less than 100%) can use a State benefit to pay the difference of tuition and fees
- However, if you are a 100% Chapter 33 recipient and use your State benefit, your State benefit will be reduced to $0 when payment is made to GSU by the VA. This reduction is not refundable to the student

What can I do if called to active duty? Contact the Veterans Resource Center in room A2109 or at 708-235-2223.