

INFORMATION PAPER

AHRC-PDE-I
May 2012

SUBJECT: GI Bill Programs

1. Purpose: To provide information on GI Bill programs available to Soldiers and their Family Members.

2. Facts.

a. Chapter 33, Post 9/11 GI Bill. The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-252) amended Title 38, US Code to include Post 9/11 GI Bill and the Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB). The effective date of the change was August 1, 2009. Service Members who have at least 90 days of active duty service on or after September 11, 2001 (excluding IADT in most cases) may qualify for the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Service members may use the benefit or may elect to transfer the benefit to their Family Members (spouse and/or children). Service Members must have served at least six years of military service and agree to serve an additional four years (in some cases, less than four years) when the request to transfer benefits is submitted (all military service counts toward the six year requirement except time in the Individual Ready Reserves), and have no adverse action flag. DoD determines eligibility for TEB; VA pays tuition/fees to the school (variable cost), and housing stipend (firm cost at E-5 with dependent rate for more than half-time students) and books/supplies (firm cost up to \$1,000 per academic year) to dependents. Army College Fund (ACF) or Kicker may apply if Service Member has ACF under Chapter 30 or Chapter 1606, since there is no ACF designated specifically for Post 9/11 GI Bill.

b. Chapter 30, Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty (MGIB-AD). The National Defense Authorization Act of 1985 (Public Law 98-525) amended Title 38, US Code to include the Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty to Service Members who entered active duty July 1, 1985 to present (not active duty for training). If Service Members choose to accept this education benefit, they must agree to accept this benefit within the first three working days of active duty and must agree to a reduction in pay of \$1200 (\$100 each month for the first 12 months). Service Members must complete initial term of service with a fully honorable characterization of service. DoD determines service time; VA pays monthly amount to Service Member. Army College Fund (ACF) or Kicker may apply for Chapter 30 also. VA payout per Service Member completing 3+ years enlistment, full-time student rate: \$17,676.00 effective 1 Oct 2011 per year (\$1,473.00 per month).

c. Chapter 1606, Montgomery GI Bill—Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR). The National Defense Authorization Act of 1985 (Public Law 98-525) amended Title 10, US Code to include the Montgomery GI Bill—Selected Reserve to Service Members who

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entered the Selected Reserve July 1, 1985 to present under an initial six-year contract. Reduction in pay is not required for this benefit. Completion of IADT and high school diploma is required prior to being eligible to use the benefit. If Service Member does not fulfill the six-year contract, recoupment action may incur on unfulfilled months of service. DoD determines service time; VA pays monthly amount to Service Member. Army College Fund (ACF) or Kicker may apply for Chapter 1606 also. VA payout per Service Member, full-time student rate: \$4,140.00 effective 1 Oct 2011 per year (\$345.00 per month).

d. Chapter 1607, Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP). The National Defense Authorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 108-375) amended Title 10, US Code to include the Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP), and education benefit program designed to provide educational assistance to members of the Reserve Components called or ordered to active duty in response to a war or national emergency (contingency operation) as declared by the President or Congress. Reduction in pay is not required for this benefit. Service Members can qualify up to 36 months of benefits up to the 80% monthly payout rate (using the MGIB—AD payable rate chart) based on number of days of qualifying service on or after September 11, 2001. DoD determines service time; VA pays monthly amount to Service Member. VA payout per Service Member, 2+ years consecutive service, full-time student rate: \$14,140.80 effective 1 Oct 2011 (\$1,178.40 per month). VA payout per Service Member, 1+ years consecutive service, full-time student rate: \$10,605.60 effective 1 Oct 2011 (\$883.80 per month). VA payout per Service member, 90+ days service, full-time student rate: \$7070.40.

Teddi Embrey/1-800-872-8272
Approved by: Sarah Rowley