



LTC Veterans Benefit Guide



Lakeshore Technical College
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gotoltc.edu

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Introduction

The following guide is intended to answer questions you may have regarding veterans benefits and provide information about services available to you while enrolled at LTC.

We request that you keep our office informed of any changes in your enrollment status, withdrawals, incompletes, etc. Also, please refer to the current LTC Student Handbook as it relates to Satisfactory Academic Progress for students receiving veterans benefits.

If you have specific questions regarding the application process, eligibility, required credit loads, etc., please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Best wishes for a pleasant and worthwhile learning experience at LTC!

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Qualifications

To qualify for payment through the Veteran Affairs as a veteran, dependent of a veteran, or reservist/guard member, you must be eligible for one of the following:

- Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty
- Chapter 1606 – MGIB Selected Reserve
- Chapter 1607 – Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)
- Chapter 35 – Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance
- Chapter 31 – Vocational Rehabilitation Program
- Chapter 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill

Chapter 30 - Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty

The Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty, called "MGIB" for short, provides up to 36 months of education benefits to eligible veterans for:

- College, Business, Technical, or Vocational School
- On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship Programs
- Correspondence Courses
- Remedial, Deficiency, and Refresher Training (in some cases)
- Tuition Assistance: "Top-Up"
- Costs of tests for licenses/certifications needed to get, keep, or advance in a job.
- National Tests

Who is Eligible?

You may be an eligible veteran if you received an Honorable Discharge, AND you have a High School Diploma or equivalent (or, in some cases 12 hours of college credit), AND you meet the requirements of one of the categories below:

Category I

- Entered active duty for the first time after June 30, 1985;
- Had military pay reduced by \$100 a month for first 12 months;
- Continuously served for 3 years OR 2 years if that is what you first enlisted for OR 2 years if you entered Selected Reserve within a year of leaving active duty and served 4 years ("2 by 4" Program).

Category II

- Entered active duty before January 1, 1977;
- Served at least 1 day between 10/19/84 and 6/30/85, and stayed on active duty through 6/30/88, (or 6/30/87 if you entered Selected Reserve within 1 year of leaving active duty and served 4 years) On 12/31/89, you had entitlement left from Vietnam Era GI Bill.

Category III

- Not eligible for MGIB under Category I or II;
- On active duty on 9/30/90 AND separated involuntarily after 2/2/91, OR involuntarily separated on or after 11/30/93, OR voluntarily separated under either the Voluntary Separation Incentive(VSI) or Special Separation Benefit (SSB) program;
- Before separation, you had military pay reduced by \$1200.

Category IV

- On active duty on 10/9/96 AND you had money remaining in a VEAP account on that date AND you elected MGIB by 10/9/97 OR entered full-time National Guard duty under title 32, USC, between 7/1/85 and 11/28/89 AND you elected MGIB during the period 10/9/96 through 7/8/97, had military pay reduced by \$100 a month for 12 months, or made a \$1200 lump-sum contribution.

How Much Does VA Pay?

The monthly benefit paid to you is based on the type of training you take, length of your service, your category, and if DOD put extra money in your MGIB Fund (called "kickers") or you participated in the \$600 "buy-up" program.

Monthly Benefit

Active Duty - 3 or more years OR two years Active Duty and four years Selected Reserves:

- Full time - \$1321.00 per month (12+ credits)
- 3/4 time - \$990.75 per month (9-11 credits)
- 1/2 time - \$660.50 per month (6-8 credits)
- **Monthly Benefits may be higher if a kicker is involved.**

Active Duty - Less than 3 years:

- Full-time - \$1073.00 per month (12+ credits)
- ¾-time - \$804.75 per month (9-11 credits)
- ½-time - \$536.50 per months (6-8 credits)
- **Monthly Benefits may be higher if a kicker is involved or if \$600 TOP-UP payment was made.**

Entitlement

Accrues at the rate of one month for each month of active duty up to a maximum of 36 months full-time credits or its equivalent in part-time education.

Time Limit

Ten years and one day from date of release from Active Duty.

Important Notes

- A cost-of-living allowance may be added each October.
- Above rates effective 8/1/08.

Chapter 1606 MGIB Selected-Reserve

This program is for those individuals who are currently serving in the Selected Reserve or National Guard.

To qualify, you must meet the following requirements:

Have a six-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve signed after June 30, 1985. If you are an officer, you must have agreed to serve six years in addition to your original obligation. You also must have completed your initial active duty for training (IADT); met the requirement to receive a high school diploma or equivalency certificate before completing IADT; and remained in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit.

If your Reserve or National Guard unit is deactivated during the period October 1, 1991, through September 30, 1995, or you are involuntarily separated (e.g., reduction in force) from Reserve or National Guard service

during this same period, you will retain eligibility for MGIB-SR benefits for the full 10-year eligibility period. You will also retain MGIB-SR eligibility if you were discharged from Selected Reserve service due to a disability that was not caused by misconduct. Your eligibility period may be extended if you are ordered to active duty.

Monthly Benefit

- Full-time - \$329.00 per month (12+ credits)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ -time - \$246.00 per month (9-11 credits)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ -time - \$163.00 per month (6-8 credits)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ -time - \$ 82.25 per month (3-5 credits)
- **Monthly benefits may be higher if a kicker is involved.**

Entitlement

Maximum of 36 months of full-time credits or its equivalent in part-time education.

Time Limit

10 years from date of eligibility, typically ending when you leave the Selected Reserves.

Important Notes

- A cost-of-living allowance may be added each October.
- Above rates effective 10/1/08.

Chapter 1607 – Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

Chapter 1607 is for those individuals who are currently serving in the Selected Reserve or National Guard and are called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency as declared by the President or Congress.

To qualify, you must meet the following requirements:

Generally, a member of a Reserve component who serves on active duty on or after September 11, 2001 for at least 90 consecutive days under a contingency operation is eligible.

National Guard members are eligible if they are active service extends for 90 consecutive days or more and service is authorized under Section 502(f), Title 32, U.S. Code; authorized by the President or Secretary of Defense for a national emergency; and supported by federal funds.

Monthly Benefit – Service of 90 days but less than one year

- Full-time - \$528.40 per month (12+ credits)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ -time - \$396.30 per month (9-11 credits)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ -time - \$264.20 per month (6-8 credits)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ -time - \$132.10 per month

Monthly Benefit – Service of 1+ year

- Full-time - \$792.60 per month (12+ credits)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ -time - \$594.45 per month (9-11 credits)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ -time - \$396.30 per month (6-8 credits)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ -time - \$198.15 per month

Monthly Benefit – Service of 2+ years

- Full-time - \$1056.80 per month (12+ credits)
- ¾-time - \$792.60 per month (9-11 credits)
- ½-time - \$528.40 per month (6-8 credits)
- ¼-time - \$264.20 per month

Entitlement

Maximum of 36 months of full-time credits or its equivalent in part-time education.

Time Limit

There are no specific time limits to use REAP; however, your eligibility generally ends when you leave the Selected Reserves.

Important Notes

- A cost-of-living allowance may be added each October.
- Above rates effective 8/1/08.

Chapter 35 – Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance

Dependents' Educational Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. See Chapter 30 Benefits section for eligible programs, courses, and tests. In addition, high school diploma or equivalency and independent study or distance learning courses may be eligible.

Eligibility

You must be the son, daughter, or spouse of: a veteran who died or is permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability (the disability must arise out of active service in the Armed Forces); a veteran who died from any cause while such service-connected disability was in existence; a service member missing in action or captured in the line of duty by a hostile force; a service member forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power.

Period of Eligibility

If you are a son or daughter and wish to receive benefits for attending school or job training, the benefit is available from ages 18 through 25. These time limits can be extended under certain circumstances. Marriage is not a bar to this benefit. If you are a spouse, benefits end 10 years from the date VA finds you eligible or from the date of death of the veteran. Spouses of veterans who died while on active duty have 20 years from the date of veteran's death.

If you are in the Armed Forces, you may not receive this benefit while on active duty. To pursue training after military service, your discharge must not be under dishonorable conditions. VA can extend your period of eligibility by the number of months and days equal to the time spent on active duty. This extension cannot go beyond your 31st birthday.

Monthly Benefit

- Full-time - \$915.00 per month (12+ credits)
- ¾-time - \$686.00 per month (9-11 credits)
- ½-time - \$456.00 per months (6-8 credits)

Important Notes

- A cost-of-living allowance may be added each October.
- Above rates effective 10/01/08.

Chapter 31 - Vocational Rehabilitation Training

Chapter 31 is for veterans with a 20% or more service-connected disability. Exceptions may be possible. Eligibility determination is done through the Veterans Affairs/Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Office in Milwaukee.

Entitlement

Maximum 48 months.

Monthly Benefit

- Full-time - \$541.05 per month (12+ credits)
- ¾-time - \$406.53 per month (9-11 credits)
- ½-time - \$272.02 per month (6-8 credits)
- Adjustments are made for dependents; additional documents such as marriage and birth certificates may be required.
- Tuition, fees, books, and supplies are paid by the VA.

Important Notes

- A cost-of-living allowance may be added each October.
- Above rates effective 10/01/08.

Time Limit

Usually twelve years from date of disability.

Other Information

Individuals may be eligible for more than one chapter of benefits for a cumulative total of 48 months. Only one chapter of benefits can be utilized at a time.

Chapter 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill

This is a new benefit for anyone who served active duty after September 11, 2001. It provides a monthly housing allowance equal to the basic allowance for housing payable to a military E5 with dependents in the same zip code as LTC, tuition paid to the school, and a book/supply allowance of up to \$1,000 per year. These amounts will be prorated based on period of active duty. You will be eligible for benefits for 15 years from the last period of active duty consisting of at least 90 consecutive days. If you were released for a service-connected disability after at least 30 days of continuous service, you will also be eligible for benefits for 15 years. This program goes into effect August 1, 2009. Further details will be provided as they become available. More information can be obtained by accessing www.gibill.va.gov.

How to Apply for Federal VA Educational Benefits

Introduction

You must be accepted or currently enrolled in a "VA"-approved program. (The LTC catalog lists approved programs of study. Courses must meet graduation requirements.)

Should you be applying for Federal VA Educational Benefits for the first time, you are encouraged to contact the Veterans Certifying Official at LTC 6 to 8 weeks prior to the beginning of a new semester. Education benefits can be applied for using a paper application or on-line at www.gibill.va.gov.

New Student - 1st Time Using Benefits

- Complete an Application for Educational Benefits (Form 22-1990).
- Chapter 35 students must complete a 22-5490 form.
- Submit a certified copy of Discharge papers (Form DD214), if active duty veteran, **OR** submit NOBE (Form DD2384), if a Reservist/National Guard Member (Chapter 1606). This is helpful but not required.
- Complete LTC's Veterans Education Benefits Request form for the current school year (June to May).

Transferring from another school

- Complete a Change of Program/Place of Training form (Form 22-1995).
- Chapter 35 students must complete a 22-5495 form.
- Complete LTC's Veterans Education Benefits Request form for the current school year (June to May).

Continuing LTC Student

Continuing LTC students **MUST** complete the Veterans Education Benefits Request form at the beginning of each academic year.

Additional information - Federal VA Educational Benefits

Address Change

Any change in address should be reported to the LTC Records Department and the Veterans Administration. This can be done through the WAVE process (see below).

Credits

Credits will be certified for the number of weeks the course meets. **Courses which meet a shorter number of weeks will be certified for the number of weeks the course is scheduled.**

Enrollment Status

It is the responsibility of the student receiving federal VA educational benefits to notify the LTC Veterans Certifying Official of any changes in enrollment or withdrawal.

Monthly Student Verification of Enrollment

All Chapter 30, 33, 1606, and 1607 students are required, on a monthly basis, to verify their attendance to the VA (WAVE verification). This student verification of enrollment triggers the VA to issue the prior month's check to the student. This can be done on-line at <https://www.gibill.va.gov/wave> or by calling the VA at 1-877-823-2378.

On-line WAVE accessibility can also be used to change your mailing address and direct deposit, view current benefit information, sign up for monthly reminder messages, and determine if there is anything pending (coming soon) at the VA.

Prior Credits/Military Experience

All prior post-secondary and/or military experience must be reviewed. Students should submit the necessary transcripts to the appropriate program counselor for review. Transcript request sites for the various branches of the military can be found at <http://dva.state.wi.us> (Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs). Choose State Veterans Benefits, Education Programs, and Academic Credit for Military Experience.

Satisfactory Progress

Veteran students whose grade point average falls between a 1.0 and 1.99 upon completion of their initial semester of enrollment are placed on academic probation. Failure to achieve a 1.0 GPA will result in immediate suspension of benefits. Eligibility can be reestablished **one time only** by completing a specific request for resumption of benefits and meeting with your LTC program counselor. Depending on individual circumstances, it is possible that the VA could request repayment of benefits.

Summer Enrollment

Training time for summer school is based upon the number of credits and the number of weeks the course meets. Normally, 3 credits are considered half-time and 6 credits are full-time for summer school.

Tuition and Fees

All chapters are required to pay for their tuition, fees, and books with the exception of Chapter 31. Payment arrangements may be completed or payment made in full by the due date, which is indicated on the LTC website of www.gotoltc.edu. Further details regarding **Chapter 33** will be provided as they become available.

Called to Active Duty While a Student

If you are called to active duty while attending LTC, you must provide the Veterans Certifying Official on campus with a copy of your orders. You will also need to contact the Records Department to withdraw from your courses. You will receive a 100% tuition refund unless you are able to complete all of the course requirements prior to deployment. Upon return from active duty, you will need to provide the Veterans Certifying Official with a copy of your DD214. You will be able to be reinstated at the status you were at when deployed.

State of Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs Benefits

Introduction

There are a variety of different State VA programs available. **Determination of eligibility and obtainment of applications is done through the County Veterans Service Office.** The address for the Manitowoc County Veterans Service Office is: County Administration Building, 4319 Expo Drive, Manitowoc, WI 54220. The office phone number is (920) 683-4056.

The address for the Sheboygan County Veterans Service Office is: Sheboygan County Courthouse, 615 N 6th St, Sheboygan, WI 53081. The office phone number is (920) 459-3054. Please contact your individual County Veterans Service Office, if you reside in a different county. Generally, this office is located in the County Courthouse.

Listed below is a summary of the current State VA programs available for students attending college.

Wisconsin GI Bill

Effective with the fall 2005 semester, the Wisconsin GI Bill provides a waiver (“remission”) of tuition for eligible veterans and their dependents for up to 8 full-time semesters or 128 credits at any [University of Wisconsin System](#) or [Wisconsin Technical College System](#) institution. Qualifying veterans receive a 100% remission of tuition and material fees only.

A 100% remission is provided to the qualifying unremarried surviving spouse and children of a veteran who died in the line of duty, and to the spouse and children of a veteran with substantial service-connected disabilities (combined VA service-connected disability rating of 30% or greater). For qualifying spouses, the benefit must be used within 10 years of the date of death or the initial disability rating of 30% or greater. For qualifying children, the benefit is available from ages 18 through 25. For the Wisconsin GI Bill, the veteran must have entered service as a Wisconsin resident. The benefit recipient must also reside in Wisconsin.

For additional information, eligibility criteria, instructions on how to [apply](#) for the Wisconsin GI Bill, and statutory citations for the program, see the [Wisconsin Tuition Programs Brochure](#) by linking to the Veterans Section of the Financial Aid page of the LTC website. A Frequently Asked Questions pamphlet can also be found in this section.

Veterans Education Grant

The Veterans Education Grant Program (VetEd), S45.20 Wisconsin Statutes, reimburses veterans for tuition and fees paid for courses when enrolled as an undergraduate student. **Wisconsin veterans that do not have a bachelor's degree** may use the VetEd to pursue educational or vocational objectives up to a bachelor's degree at an eligible school. Reimbursement may be up to 100% of unreimbursed tuition and fees, not to exceed the amount charged by UW-Madison for the same number of credits. **The reimbursement percentage may be adjusted periodically to reflect demand and available funding.**

To be eligible, a school must qualify as an institution of higher education under the statutes, an institution where the applicant is receiving a waiver of nonresident tuition under the statutes, a high school, or a school approved by the State Approving Agency or the Educational Approval Board. The courses must contribute to a degree, certificate of graduation or course completion. Courses offered under clock-hour standards are not eligible for reimbursement.

The maximum amount of credits for which a veteran may receive reimbursement is based on the amount of time the veteran served on active duty. Active Duty for Training does not count toward department or program eligibility.

Active Duty Time	Maximum Amount of Credits
90 to 180 days	30 credits or two semesters
181 to 730 days	60 credits or four semesters
731 days or more	120 credits or eight semesters

Veterans must achieve a semester GPA of 2.0 or better to be eligible for reimbursement.

Veterans eligible for the National Guard Tuition Grant (NGTG) or Reserve Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) are not eligible for the VetEd. A veteran's eligibility for either of these other grants is the criterion for VetEd eligibility, not whether the veteran has applied for either.

Veterans may receive the federal VA's GI Bill (MGIB) and the VetEd for the same semester. Financial aid other than NGTG and TAP, given specifically for tuition and fees, will be subtracted from the dollar amount of the VetEd Grant.

Veterans may use the VetEd for full-time or part-time study up to their 10-year anniversary of leaving active duty (delimiting date). Once a veteran reaches his or her 10-year delimiting date, the veteran may "bank" a maximum of 60 unused credits for part-time study; i.e., when taking 11 credits or less per semester or term. However, all other eligibility criteria will continue to apply.

Veterans must make a pre-application within 30 days of the start of the semester or term to be eligible for reimbursement for that semester or term. The pre-application form is posted as a downloadable item from the WDVA site. Applications must then be received by the department within 60 days of the end of the semester or term.

Past usage of obsolete WDVA education grants; e.g., Part Time Study Grant (PTSG) or Tuition & Fees Reimbursement Grant (TFRG), has no bearing on the number of credits or semesters the veteran is eligible to be reimbursed under the VetEd.

To be eligible for the VetEd, the veteran's household income must be below \$50,000 plus \$1,000 for each dependent in excess of two dependents.

Complete information may be found on the WDVA website and in the Wisconsin Tuition Programs Brochure, which can be linked to from the Veteran Section of the LTC website.

WDVA Retraining Grant

This grant is available to qualified unemployed veterans who demonstrate financial need while being retrained for employment.

Wisconsin National Guard 100% Tuition Grant

This grant is available for guard members and reimburses 100% of the member's **TUITION COSTS** after satisfactory completion of the semester. Student must have completed the semester with a GPA of 2.0 or better.

Guard members must contact their guard unit for eligibility verification and application paperwork. **PLEASE NOTE, THERE IS A 60-DAY DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION TO THE COLLEGE FROM THE END OF THE SEMESTER. IN ADDITION, A PRE-APPLICATION IS ALSO REQUIRED WITHIN THE FIRST 30 DAYS OF THE SEMESTER.**

Other Assistance

Financial Aid

A comprehensive financial aid program provides assistance to students who would otherwise be unable to afford their education.

The financial aid program is administered on the principle that financial assistance should be viewed only as supplementary to the efforts of the family. Therefore, to determine need and make awards fairly, the parents of aid applicants are required to complete a financial aid application. In the case of a student who is clearly self-supporting in accordance with federal guidelines, eligibility is based on the financial resources of the student and/or spouse. All financial aid awards are based on the applicant's financial need as determined by the Financial Aid Office.

Applications for financial aid or questions/concerns regarding financial aid should be directed to the Financial Aid Office. The phone number is (920) 693-1718. The Veterans Certifying Official can also assist with financial aid questions/concerns.

LTC Foundation

The LTC Foundation operates for the purpose of aiding students and the college. Information regarding scholarships can be found on the LTC website, under the Financial Aid Section.

Disclaimer

This resource guide should be used strictly for reference purposes. To obtain detailed information, you should always contact your County Veterans Service Officer or call the Veterans Administration at 1-888-442-4551.

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