

Summer 2023 FAQs

To receive your VA benefits, please submit the [request for certification form](#) every term. Submitting your form on time will allow to get a “hold” placed on your class schedule so your courses are not dropped for non-payment while we process your file with the VA. Please email the form to va@montgomerycollege.edu

Students using their Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits at an Institution of Higher Learning (IHL) facility are required to verify their enrollment at the end of each month. **Failure to verify for two consecutive months will impact their Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) and/or kicker payments.**

Enrollment verification is a requirement for Post-9/11 GI Bill students (CH.33) to verify that they have remained enrolled in the same courses or training every month. Students who receive MHA/kicker payments will have their payments withheld if they fail to verify or report that they are no longer enrolled in their courses or training. To streamline the process, VA is providing the option to **verify enrollment easily and securely via text message**. Read more below.

If you are a Montgomery GI Bill® (MGIB) student, this requirement does not represent a change for you, as MGIB students are already required to verify enrollment.

How do I verify enrollment?

You can verify enrollment using the following methods:

Via Text Message

Students with a U.S. mobile phone number can use text messages as a simple, quick option for verifying monthly enrollment. You will receive the following opt-in text: “POST-9/11 GI BILL HOUSING AND KICKER PAYMENTS NOW REQUIRE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUBMIT YOURS VIA TEXT? PLEASE REPLY YES OR NO.” **Reply “YES” to opt in.** The text message link will expire **14 days after receipt**, so please respond within that time frame.

After opting in, you can verify your enrollment simply by responding to the following text message from VA: “DID YOU REMAIN ENROLLED IN YOUR COURSES IN MON YYYY AS CERTIFIED? PLEASE REPLY YES OR NO. IF YOU HAVE DROPPED ALL YOUR COURSES, YOU MUST REPLY NO.” **Reply “YES” to verify enrollment for the previous month.**

Please be assured that enrollment verification via text message is safe and secure. The VA will **never** ask for your personal information, such as social security number or bank account information, via text.

VA **strongly recommends this method** for verifying enrollment. It will be easier and faster than calling the ECC.

If you’re not sure if VA has your phone number on file, please contact the Education Call Center (ECC) at 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) to ensure VA has your mobile phone number.

Via Education Call Center

Contact the ECC at 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) and ask a representative to verify enrollment on your behalf. NOTE: ECC wait times may be high due to the number of students verifying enrollment each month.

If you opt out of text verification and later change your mind, or need to update your mobile number on file, you can opt into text message verification by calling the ECC at 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).

What happens if I fail to verify my enrollment?

If you fail to verify enrollment for two consecutive months, your MHA/kicker payments will be placed on hold. You must take steps to verify your enrollment to have the payments released.

Why am I being required to verify my enrollment?

By regularly verifying your enrollment, you protect your GI Bill entitlement by preventing charges for classes or training you did not attend. Though this new requirement is an additional step, enrollment verification is easy to do and will help you better manage and access your earned benefits, as well as help prevent overpayments.

Get more information

If you have questions about the monthly verification requirement or if/when it applies to you, contact a VA education representative at 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) domestically or 001-918-781-5678 overseas.

Summer Enrollment Full Time Equivalency

A **3-credit course** that runs for five weeks is considered **¾ time**. A **4-credit course** for five weeks is **full time**. Students should consult the TRAINING TIME EQUIVALENCY TABLE on the link below to determine their status:
https://www.gibill.va.gov/Training/Spreadsheets/Semester_Hours.pdf

**Disclaimer: To find out exactly what your housing allowance /stipend will be you must contact the VA directly at 1-888-GI BILL1.*

- Full-time students taking all online (distance learning) courses will receive a housing allowance of \$825.00 per/month.
- Remedial/developmental courses must be taken in person.

Chapter 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill Book Stipend

Chapter 33 students will receive an annual book stipend of up to \$1,000/year with the Post-9/11 GI Bill. It is paid proportionately based on the number of credits taken by each student at \$41 per credit hour. Stipends are estimated to be issued and received in July for classes that begin in June. Payment will come directly to the student via check or direct deposit from the VA.

Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation Book Vouchers

Please contact va@montgomerycollege.edu to receive a voucher to pick up books and supplies from the MC bookstore.

We will add your text books to the book voucher based on your class schedule and email it to you for you to review.

You must email the voucher back to us with your signature as this will be submitted to the bookstore for approval. Once the approval is confirmed, you may go to the indicated MC bookstore to receive your books & supplies.

Survivors' and Dependent's (DEA/Chapter35)

Effective October 1, 2022

The DEA rates listed here are for October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023.

Training Time	Monthly Rate
Full Time	\$1,401.00
¾ Time	\$1,107.00
½ Time	\$812.00
Less than ½ Time and more than ¼ Time	\$812.00*
¼ Time or less	\$350.25*

* Tuition and Fees ONLY. Payment cannot exceed the listed amount.

How do I find out how much of my benefits I have left?

You can see how many benefits you've used and what benefits remain by visiting your [eBenefits account](#).

[Avoid Delayed Payments or Debts: Enrollment FAQs](#)

REMINDER



If you decide not to attend classes, you are responsible for dropping them and notifying the school VA Office of any schedule change at va@montgomerycollege.edu.

If you do not fulfill this obligation your benefits will be delayed. If you drop classes, you are required to return the funding that you have been provided. In addition, if you stop attending your class(es) this will be reported to the VA as **unsatisfactory attendance and will create a debt for you with the VA and Montgomery College.**

Please contact va@montgomerycollege.edu for further questions.