



## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

# RESERVE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (REAP)



### WHAT IS REAP (CHAPTER 1607)

REAP (Chapter 1607 of title 10, U.S. Code) is an education program that provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserves, Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), and National Guard, who are called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency, as declared by the President or Congress.

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The Department of Defense (DoD) or Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will determine eligibility, as appropriate. Generally, a member of a Reserve component who serves on active duty on or after September 11, 2001 under title 10, U.S. Code, for at least 90 consecutive days under a contingency operation, is eligible for REAP. There is no specific time frame to use REAP. However, your eligibility generally ends when you leave the Selected Reserves.

National Guard members are eligible if their active service extends for 90 consecutive days or more and their 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.

#### CHANGE IN REAP ELIGIBILITY

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2016 ended REAP on November 25, 2015. Some individuals will remain eligible for REAP benefits until November 25, 2019, while others are no longer eligible for REAP benefits.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill in many ways has replaced REAP because it also provides educational assistance benefits for Reserve and National Guard members called to active duty on or after September 11, 2001, and in many cases provides a greater benefit than REAP.

Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, enrollment in the VA health care system, a 10-point hiring preference for federal employment and other important benefits. Ask your VA representative or Veterans Service Organization representative about Disability Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Caregiver Program, Career Services, Educational Assistance, Home Loan Guaranty, Insurance and/or Dependents and Survivors' Benefits.



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



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This change affects beneficiaries differently:

- **Current REAP beneficiaries** -- Veterans who were attending an educational institution on November 24, 2015, or during the last semester, quarter, or term ending prior to that date, are eligible to continue to receive REAP benefits until November 25, 2019.
- **REAP beneficiaries not attending school** -- Veterans who applied for REAP but were not attending an educational institution on November 24, 2015, or during the last semester, quarter, or term ending prior to that date, are no longer eligible to receive REAP benefits. You may be eligible to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- **New REAP applicants** – Veterans who have not enrolled in school and applied for REAP benefits prior to November 25, 2015, are no longer eligible for REAP benefits. However, in most cases, you will be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

You may be eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits depending on the dates of your periods of service. If we receive a new application for REAP on or after November 25, 2015, we will evaluate your eligibility for all programs, including Post-9/11 GI Bill, and may award you benefits under a different program.

#### HOW MUCH DOES VA PAY?

The educational assistance allowance payable under REAP is a percentage of the Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty (MGIB) rate based on the number of continuous days served on active duty. Persons released before 90 days due to an injury, illness, or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty receive the 40% rate. Current rates of payment can be found on our Internet web site or by calling the toll-free number below.

- Members who serve 90 days but less than 1 year will receive 40% of the MGIB 3 year rate.
- Members who serve one year but less than two years will receive 60% of the MGIB 3 year rate.
- Members who serve two or more continuous years will receive 80% of the MGIB 3 year rate.

The amount VA pays is based on the type of training program and training time (i.e. full time, half time, etc). If attendance is less than a month or less than full-time, payments are reduced proportionately.



## WHAT PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE?

The following programs are available:

- College or University Degree Programs
- Vocational Programs
- Independent Study or Distance Learning Programs
- Correspondence Courses
- Flight Training
- On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship Programs
- Entrepreneurship Courses

**Note:** To find out if your school or program is approved for VA educational benefits under REAP, please click on this link [VA's WEAMS Institution Search Tool](#) to search for approved Education and Job Training Programs.

## HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

Once you find a program approved for VA training you can [apply online](#).

For more information, call toll-free 1-888-442-4551 (1-888-GI BILL 1) or visit our [GI Bill website](#).