

Eligibility to Transfer Post 9/11 GI Bill Benefits to Family Members

Who is Eligible? To be eligible to transfer Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits a Servicemember must meet three requirements:

1. Be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill.
2. Have at least 6 years of military service when the request to transfer benefits is submitted (all military service counts towards the six year requirement except time in the Individual Ready Reserves) and be a member of the Armed Forces at the time the transfer is executed (Armed Forces does not include the Individual Ready Reserve),
3. Not have an adverse action flag.

Transfer Guidelines:

- Months transferred by the Servicemember cannot exceed 36 months or the remaining unused months as determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Spouse and/or children must be enrolled in DEERS while Servicemember is on Active Duty/Selective Reserves to be eligible to receive benefits (consider transferring at least 1 month to each Family Member).
- Veterans can revoke or modify the transfer at any time but cannot designate new dependents to receive entitlement or amend the effective date of the initial transfer to an earlier date. You must elect to transfer benefits to dependents **BEFORE** leaving Active Duty or the Selective Reserves.

Transferring to Spouses:

- May use the benefit after Servicemember completes 6 years in the Military service.
- Benefits are paid at the Servicemember's rate.
- BAH is NOT paid to Spouses while the Servicemember is on Active Duty/Selected Reserves; these benefits are only paid to the Spouse when the Servicemember becomes a Veteran.
- Book stipend is paid to Spouses.
- The spouse has 15 years to use the benefit after the Servicemember leaves Active Duty/Selective Reserves, unless the Servicemember specified an earlier date.
- Benefits are not marital property in a divorce.

Transferring to Children:

- May use the benefit after Servicemember has completed 10 years in the Military service.
- Child must be unmarried at time of transfer and under the age of 21. If the child is in school, transfer must be done before the age of 23.
- Child may use benefits after marriage but transfer must be done prior to the marriage.
- Child must be at least 18 or completed high school or GED to start using the benefit.
- Child may not use the benefit after age 26.
- Child receives the Veteran's rate for tuition, book stipend and BAH (based on BAH eligibility rules).

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Important Action Required: Servicemembers who transfer benefits incur an additional service obligation in accordance with the following rules.

Rule	Years of Military Service When Request is Submitted	Additional Service Obligation
1	At least six years but less than 10 years	Four years from the date the request was submitted.
2	10 or more years	Four years or up to Retention Control Point or Mandatory Retirement date from the date the request was submitted, whichever is less.

If you are retirement eligible or will become retirement eligible you must agree to serve the additional period or up to the Retention Control Point or the mandatory retirement date. Years of military service is always based on **length of military service as of 1 August 2009** regardless of when the request to transfer benefits is submitted.

Rule	Retirement eligible and number of years of military service as of 1 August 2009	Additional Service Obligation
3	20 or more years	No additional service obligation.
4	Approved retirement with a date from 1 September 2009 through 1 June 2010	No additional service obligation.
5	19 but less than 20 years	One year of military service from the date the request was submitted.
6	18 but less than 19 years	Two years of military service from the date the request was submitted.
7	17 but less than 18 years	Three years of military service from the date the request was submitted.

- Dependents may be responsible for repayment of benefits if Servicemember does not fulfill additional service obligations.
- ALWAYS check with your certifying official **prior** to transferring benefits to ensure you understand all requirements. The primary certifying official for Active Duty Enlisted Servicemembers is the Unit Career Counselor.
- Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) at: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect>.
- YOU MUST NOTIFY the appropriate division/section after your TEB Request is submitted.
 - Active Duty COLs: Chief Colonels Management Office (COMO).
 - Active Duty 2LT to LTC and WO1 to CW5: Army Human Resources Command & The HQDA, G1
 - Enlisted: Unit's Career Counselor
 - US Army Reserve Servicemembers: Chief, Army Reserves
 - Army National Guard: Director, Army National Guard.
- You must monitor the TEB website for approval status.
- Your Family Member may also receive instructions from the VA and when ready to use benefits, fills out and submits VA 22-1990E.

NOTE: Beginning Aug 2013, all requests to transfer benefits to dependents will require an additional 4 year service obligation from the date of the benefit is transferred, regardless of the number of years of service.

Submitting a Request to Transfer Benefits

If you are eligible for MGIB, REAP, or MGIB-SR benefits you must make an irrevocable decision to convert from one of those education benefit programs to the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Submission of a request to transfer benefits is considered **an irrevocable conversion** from one of these three programs to the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

1. Go to <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect>. Select "Sign In" and, using CAC card, DoD Self-Service Login, or DFAS (MyPay) account, log into the milConnect site. After logging in, select Transferability of Education Benefits (TEB) from the Education tab.
2. Your name and your Family Members who are eligible for benefits under DEERS will be shown.
3. Select the number of months you wish to transfer to each eligible Family Member.
4. The transfer start date will automatically be inserted. Remember that the VA will not pay benefits to your dependent for classes starting prior to the transfer begin date.
5. The transfer end date will automatically be populated for dependents. The transfer end date for Spouses will be populated for 15 years from the Servicemember's separation date. The transfer end date for children is automatically set at the child's 26th birthday. Enter an earlier transfer end date, if desired. If you manually alter the transfer end date, be careful to select the correct date as VA will stop paying benefits to the dependent on this date. Remember, Spouses can use benefits up to 15 years after you leave Active Duty/Selective Reserves and children can use the benefits up to their 26th birthday.
6. Select number of months to transfer to each dependent. Remember the total months you can transfer to your dependents can be no more than 36 months or the number of months of Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to which you are entitled, whichever is less.
7. Do not check "revoke" unless canceling a transfer.
8. Then acknowledge each statement on the TEB website by checking each box and click Submit.
9. Soldier status on the TEB page reflects "submitted"; date of status will be blank. The TEB site does track the date submitted and the Certifying Official will see it. You will not receive any confirmation number or any electronic message. Confirmation that your request has been submitted is the status submitted as shown on the TEB site. Print a copy of this page for your records.
10. To track the status of your request, you will have to return to the TEB page and monitor the status.
11. After the request is submitted, it will enter a queue of submitted requests. Requests are processed in the order they are received.
12. The status of the request will change to approved and the date of status will be the date you submitted your request. The PDF icon allows you to print your approved form.
13. Once your request is approved and your dependent wants to begin using their transferred benefit, your dependent has to submit a request for a certificate of eligibility to the VA. They must submit a VA Form 22-1990E at www.ebenefits.va.gov and click on the VA Online Application (VONAPP). A hard copy of the VA Form 22-1990E is at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990e-ARE.pdf> This form has to be mailed in. Allow approximately 10 weeks for processing. The TEB site will automatically transfer the data to the VA which is needed to process a dependent's request for a certificate of eligibility.
14. After the dependent receives the VA Certificate of Eligibility, it must be presented to the school's VA Certifying Official who will complete other forms as necessary and forward it to the VA. If the school is participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program and your dependent has received Yellow Ribbon Program funds from the school, the school needs to indicate that on the VA Form 22-1999 prior to sending to the VA.

For additional information on the Post 9/11 GI Bill, contact the VA:

Website: www.qbill.va.gov
Phone: 1-800-827-1000 or 1-888-442-4551