# Welcome New Students! Orientation Briefing

# Military Service Center Briefing

#### What we will accomplish today:

- Overview of the Military Service Center services and support
- Explain how your benefits work
- Complete paperwork for your first semester
- Payment Processing Information
- Responsibilities of the student to receive VA education benefits
- Questions?
- Student survey. This would be replaced by a form per our initial meeting.

### Locations of Interest

#### Military Service Center (MSC)

Rocket Hall 1350

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Phone: 419.530.VETS or 419.530.1392

Fax: 419.530.1625

Email: msc@utoledo.edu

MSC Website: <a href="https://www.utoledo.edu/military">www.utoledo.edu/military</a>

#### **Student Veteran's Lounge**

Carlson Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Note: Need Rocket Card for access

Open during Library building hours





# Military Service Center

#### The Military Service Center assists the following students:

- Former and Active Duty Military
- National Guard and Reservists
- Dependents of disabled or deceased veterans
- VA Vocational Rehabilitation students
- Spouses and dependents of veterans

#### Services include:

- Assisting in applications for GI Bill® education benefits
- Obtaining military transcripts
- New student military orientation
- Certifying students to receive GI Bill®
- Yellow Ribbon Program participant
- Student Veterans' Lounge Carlson Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- Campus and community referrals
- Transition Services military life vs. civilian life
- Military Payment Plan Options

#### **Additional Benefits:**

- Application fee will be waived for undergraduates cost savings = \$40.
- Veterans will receive "Continuous Priority Registration."



# Ohio Veteran's Bonus Program

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Veterans must have been Ohio resident at the start of active duty service and when they apply for the bonus.
- Veterans may be eligible for a bonus if they served in the United States armed forces on active duty anywhere in the world for purposes other than training beginning October 7, 2001.
- Veterans must have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions, or
  - · active duty service member remains in active service, or
  - after active duty service, the Veteran remains in any reserve component of the armed forces, including the Ohio National Guard.
- Website or apply at: <a href="https://veteransbonus.ohio.gov">https://veteransbonus.ohio.gov</a> and run the "Eligibility Tool" to determine if you qualify.

# Ohio Residency

#### (In-State Tuition)

#### You are covered for in-state tuition if:

- You are a Monroe County Resident
- If you are a veteran and establish residency in Ohio on or before the first day of class (Ohio GI Promise)
- Qualified under Veterans Choice Act
  - Dependent of veteran who was discharged within 3 yrs. of enrollment
  - Must provide UT with copy of veteran's discharge form (DD-214)
- Complete the Ohio Residency Application if you have an address other than Ohio or Monroe County, Michigan.
- Check your bill for O/S tuition. This must be taken care of <u>before</u> or at the beginning of the term.

# General Benefit Processing

- Application of GI Bill® benefits takes approximately 4-6 weeks. The VA will send the student a Certification of Eligibility (COE) which should be provided to MSC.
- Students can only be "certified" for one semester at a time.
  - Each student's class schedule will be reviewed. Only classes that apply to your major can be certified with the VA.
  - The number of hours taken each semester factor into determining benefit amounts.
- Minimum hours needed for full-time benefit consideration in fall & spring:
  - Undergraduates: 12 hours; Graduate students: 9 hours; Law: 10
  - Summer Terms: UG: 4 hours per 6-week term
- <u>All</u> students must fill out a Veteran's Request Form <u>each semester</u> they want to receive benefits – don't forget!
- Military transcript request forms are available.

# What Chapter of Benefits Do I Receive?

#### **CHAPTERS INCLUDE:**

1606 Montgomery GI Bill® Selected Reserve Educational Assistance Program 1607 Montgomery GI Bill® Selected Reserve Educational Assistance Program (active duty for at least 90 days). Only available if student has previously used benefit at another school with no break in between. 30 Montgomery GI Bill® Active Duty Educational Assistance (2-3 years active duty) Vocational Rehabilitation 31 33 Post 9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008 (at least 90 days active duty after September 10, 2001). 35 Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance

NOTE: Dependents, or non-veteran students may be using benefits transferred from a parent or spouse. (Under Chapter 33 or 35).

MSC forms are available on our website at <a href="www.utoledo.edu/military">www.utoledo.edu/military</a> or in our office located in RH 1350.

#### Veteran's Responsibility Agreement

- Students must notify the MSC when <u>any changes occur</u> including (but not limited to) classes that are added, dropped, withdrawals, change of major, non-attendance, change of address, change of phone number, etc.
- Any change that you make to your schedule <u>after</u> you request benefits from the MSC <u>must</u> be reported as it will likely require an adjustment with the VA. The MSC will determine if an adjustment needs to be made.
- Communication is everything! Call or email the MSC with <u>ANY</u> changes or questions.

#### Verification of Attendance Policy

- The VA will only pay benefits when you have attended a class.
- In order to <u>avoid</u> paying money back to the VA you <u>must</u> drop, withdraw, or complete the course.
- If you verify your attendance with the VA at the end of the month, but are not attending class, this is considered <u>FRAUD!</u> A student may be investigated by the Office of the Inspector General when this occurs.
- If you have mitigating circumstances that prevent you from completing a course, it is **your** responsibility to notify the Certifying Official (Andrew) **immediately**.
- <u>"Earned F"</u> If a grade of F is recorded for a course, but you participated throughout the entire semester, no action is required with the VA.
- <u>"Unearned F"</u> Student does not participate in class, complete assignments, attend class, etc. You may need to reimburse the VA for the classes that you did not attend.

#### Post 9/11 GI Bill Student Responsibility Agreement

# Only students receiving Chapter 33 benefits need to complete this form.

- This form indicates that the student is responsible for any tuition and/or fees that the VA will not pay toward their UT bill.
- If you register for a class that is not used as a requirement or repeat
  a class you have already received credit for in your program, you will
  be responsible to pay for it as it will not be certified.
- If you do not attend a class that is on your schedule or log into an online class, you may need to repay the VA for any tuition and fees incurred for that class, or any BAH (Basic Allowance for Housing) paid out during the semester.

#### **Veterans Request Form**

- All students must complete every semester that you want to receive benefits. If you do not complete a Veteran's Request Form, we do not know that you want to use your benefits.
- You must be registered for classes and your semester schedule finalized prior to submitting the Veteran's Request Form.
- This form is available in RH 1350 or online at www.utoledo.edu/military
- Completed forms can be delivered to RH 1350, emailed to <u>msc@utoledo.edu</u> or faxed to 419.530.1625.

#### Post 9/11 – Chapter 33 Semester Requirement

- Present evidence of remaining months of benefit entitlement each semester along with your Veterans Request Form.
  - Document can be letter you receive from VA or can be printed from <u>www.ebenefits.va.gov</u>
- Must be enrolled at <u>more than half-time</u> to receive any BAH.

#### Change of Program or Place of Training Form

#### Students complete this form ONLY if:

You have used your benefits at another school. If this is the case, the VA insists that you complete this form online.

#### OR

You have changed your program or major. If this is the case, you must complete the form on paper as the VA requires that we keep the original form on file.

https://www.va.gov/education/change-gi-bill-benefits/



#### Tuition Assistance

- Tuition Assistance is approved through your unit. You must apply for it at the official website for TA. Army example: <a href="www.GoArmyEd.com">www.GoArmyEd.com</a>
- If approved, Tuition Assistance will pay \$250/credit hour. For processing of TA benefits, please contact the Treasurer's Office.
- Apply at least 10 days before classes begin.
- The student is responsible to pay the remainder of the credit hour cost (about \$86) plus remaining fees when payment deadlines are posted (10 pays before the first day of the semester) to avoid late fees.
- Students receiving 1606 or 1607 benefits <u>may not receive</u> the GI Bill and TA for the same classes during the same semester.

#### for ALL Students

- All students are paid their monthly stipend in the month following class attendance. STUDENTS WILL BE PAID ONLY WHEN THEY ATTEND CLASS.
- Example: Spring term begins January 16, 2018. You will receive the benefit for attending class for approximately 2 weeks in January. Payment for in that month will be paid after 2/1/2018.
- The VA will pay for a class that the student has previously taken ONLY if it is <u>required</u> for their major or if a higher grade is a requirement of their major.
- Contact the MSC with questions/concerns regarding your bill.

<u>Check Your Bill Regularly – Ask Questions!</u> <u>Know what is covered!</u>

# Payment Process Information Chapter 33 (Post 9/11) Tuition and Fees

- After we send your certification to the VA, we will ask the Treasurer's Office to place a credit on your bill <u>if we have your Certificate of Eligibility (COE).</u>
- The credit will appear as a "contract payment" and will be adjusted if you add/drop classes. You must notify our office if you change your schedule in any way.
- After the add/drop period, we will look at your schedule and your bill, and ask the VA to send tuition and fees. The VA will send that amount directly to UT's Treasury Office (based upon your % of eligibility).
- Be aware that your contract payment could be adjusted down if you withdraw or drop classes.
- Scholarships that must be used for tuition and fees will be subtracted first and the VA will be the last payer on your bill other than the Pell and Ohio Choice Opportunity Grants.

# Payment Process Information Chapter 33 (Post 9/11) Basic Allowance for Housing

- Students must be considered "more than half-time" during the term in order to receive any BAH. For Spring and Fall terms, this means at least 7 credit hours for undergraduates and 5 credit hours for graduate students.
- The BAH is paid directly to the student.
- The amount the VA will send is based on your % of eligibility for the benefit and your full-time/part-time student status. Currently, the BAH is \$1,497+/month for full-time at 100% of eligibility.
- BAH is paid for only the days of the month school is officially in session.
- BAH is paid the first week of the month after attendance.
- Students taking only Online Courses are NOT eligible for BAH!

# Payment Process Information Chapter 33 (9/11) Book Stipends

- The VA will deposit the BAH and book stipend directly into the student's bank account on file with the VA.
- Book stipends are based upon % of eligibility in accordance with the number of hours taken per semester.
- The book stipend will not exceed \$1000 per year.
  - Example: 100% benefit: 12 hrs. x \$41.67 = \$500.04
  - Example: 50% benefit: 12 hrs. x \$41.67 = \$250.02
- Think of book stipend as a "reimbursement" to yourself as it may not arrive in your account before the first day of the term.
- If you drop a class and have received book stipend funds, the VA will ask that you return the money.

# Payment Process Information Chapter 33 – Post 9/11

- Fees NOT covered by the VA:
  - Legal Services Fee (\$20 you may waive this in your MyUT account)
  - Green Fund fee (\$5 you may waive this in your MyUT account)
  - Parking Permit (\$125 This fee is opt-in.)
  - Health Insurance unless <u>required</u> by your major (not Chap. 31, This fee is optin.)
- The above items and anything else on your bill that is not a mandatory fee (such as residence hall fees, meal plans, cell phones, etc.) must be paid when UT payment deadlines are posted or you will incur a \$50 late fee.
- You must report any financial aid (including scholarships and TA) that specifically
  must be used toward the payment of your tuition and fees. If not reported, you could
  be subject to repayment of these funds. Pell grants are excluded.

### Fees Not Covered by the VA

	DEA	Fry Scholarship
Benefit Payments	Monthly amount paid directly to the student. The current monthly payment for full-time training is \$1,024.00	Tuition & Fee Payment (Paid to School) – Full in-state tuition costs covered for training pursued at public institutions. Up to \$22.805.34 per year at private institutions
		Books and Supplies Stipend (Paid to Students) – Up to \$1,000 a year for books and supplies. Paid to the student proportionately foe each term.
		Monthly Housing Allowance (Paid to Students) – Stipend based on local HAH for E-5 with dependents and paid monthly. Online students receive half of the BAH national average
Duration of Benefits	Surviving Spouses of those who died in the line of duty may use benefits for up to 20 years from the Servicemember's date of death.	15 years from the Servicemember's date of death (or, in accordance with Section 401 of Public Law 114-315, if the death of death is prior to January 1, 2006, then benefits are extended until January 1, 2021)
Maximum Months of Benefits	45 Months	36 months

# Responsibilities of all students

- ✓ Apply for VA benefit and provide MSC with a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility.
- ✓ Turn in all orientation forms.
- ✓ Veteran's Request Form (EVERY SEMESTER).
- ✓ Attend class.
- ✓ Pay for fees not covered by the VA.
- ✓ Check your bill often.
- ✓ Report any changes to the MSC immediately such as changes to your <u>schedule</u>, cell phone, major, etc.

# Almost Done...Questions???

#### **REMINDERS**

- ✓ Be sure to complete all paperwork and return them to the MSC.
- ✓ Report any changes to your schedule to the MSC immediately as they occur, even if you swap one class for another.
- ✓ For the next semester, complete your VRF after your schedule is finalized.
- ✓ Attend an SVA event and get involved.
- ✓ Have a great semester!

If you have any questions please contact the MSC

Phone: 419-530-VETS

Phone: 419-530-1392

Email: msc@utoledo.edu

# Thank you for viewing. Please complete the Web Form & turn in MSC Forms.