

# Where to Use Your GI Bill Benefits In Connecticut

The Connecticut Office of Higher Education, State Approving Agency (SAA), contracts with the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to approve programs for GI Bill educational benefits under Titles 38 and 10 of the United States Code. In addition, the SAA provides oversight of approved programs at education institutions, training facilities, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job facilities, and Flight training in Connecticut.

- ✓ **Colleges and Universities**  
Undergraduate, graduate, credit and non-credit certificate programs, teacher preparation programs, including the Alternate Route to Teacher Certification, seminaries, accredited distance education programs, and college entrance exam preparation courses.
- ✓ **Business, Occupational and Trade Schools**  
Certificates or diplomas in office assistant technology and occupational trades including: automotive technology, electronics, electrical, culinary arts, medical assisting, medical billing and coding, broadcasting, truck driving (CDL), computer networking, administration and repair, licensed practical nurse, massage therapy and Police and Fire Academy Recruit training.
- ✓ **High Schools and Public Vocational-Technical Schools**  
High School diploma or GED; post-secondary adult occupational training in aviation mechanics, practical nurse (LPN), CNA, surgical technology, dental and medical assisting and dental lab technology.

- ✓ **Hospitals**  
Nursing, EMT-B, paramedic, radiology, surgical technology and medical residencies.
- ✓ **Hairdressing/Cosmetology Schools**  
Barber, cosmetician, hairdresser, esthetician and nail technician.
- ✓ **Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training (OJT)**  
Full-time employer training and related classroom training for VA benefits in addition to the training wage.
- ✓ **Commercial Flight Training and Correspondence Courses**  
Professional aviation training (after obtaining private pilot hours) and nationally accredited independent study.
- ✓ **Entrepreneurial Training**  
Qualified small business and self-employment courses including franchise training (OJT).
- ✓ **Licensure or Certification Tests**  
The cost of SAA approved licensure or certification tests (not application fees) can be *reimbursed* to you by the VA from your GI Bill benefit entitlement within one year. Approved tests and application instructions are listed on the VA website: [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).
- ✓ **National Admissions Tests**  
The VA will reimburse fees for approved national college and professional school admissions tests listed on their website and advanced placement tests accepted for course credit for eligible claimants.

## How to Begin

- **Determine your eligibility for benefits**  
Complete the appropriate application form (VA Form 22-1990 or VA Form 22-5490) or use the Veterans On-line Application (VONAPP), available on-line at the U. S. Department of

Veterans Affairs' (VA) website: [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov). View education benefit eligibility information, current rates, and answers to frequently asked questions, including the new Post-9/11 GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon Programs (effective 8/01/09). You also may contact the VA's National Education Call Center at 1-888-442-4551.

- **Decide on a program**  
Decide which school and program you wish to enter. Verify that the program is approved by the Office of Higher Education, State Approving Agency. Check out the searchable database of approved programs and list of approved facilities in Connecticut for veteran education benefits on our website: [www.ctohe.org/vet/default.htm](http://www.ctohe.org/vet/default.htm) or contact the Education & Employment Information Center at [edinfo@ctohe.org](mailto:edinfo@ctohe.org).
- **Apply for admission**  
Contact your educational institution or training establishment to apply for entrance. Once admitted, talk to the designated **VA Certifying Official** at the school, usually the Registrar or Financial Aid Officer, who will certify your enrollment using VA Form 22-1999 to initiate your monthly benefit payments for courses that apply to your approved program.
- **Veteran Responsibilities**  
Students must continue to make satisfactory progress toward program completion and notify the School Certifying Official and VA of any withdrawal, change in enrollment status, or change in place or program of study.

## Contacts

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State Approving Agency:

### Connecticut Office of Higher Education

Veterans Program, OJT/Apprenticeship, and Flight  
Training Approval

450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 510  
Hartford, CT 06103  
860-947-1816  
veterans@ctohe.org  
[www.ctohe.org/vet](http://www.ctohe.org/vet)

### U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Buffalo Regional Processing Center  
P.O. Box 4616, Buffalo, NY 14240-4616  
1-888-442-4551  
[www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

CT VA Regional Office  
P.O. Box 310909  
555 Willard Avenue, Newington, CT 06131  
1-800-827-1000

Education Liaison Representative  
860-666-7324  
gerard.jacques@va.gov

*GI Bill benefits eligibility, application and payment  
information:*



## Eligibility

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Chapter 30 and 32 veterans have 10 years after separation from active duty service, with some exceptions, to use their 36 months of benefits for approved education, training and/or testing. Chapters 35, 1606, 1607 and 33 periods of eligibility differ.

Chapter 30 - Active Duty

Chapter 32 - VEAP

Chapter 33 - Post 9/11 GI Bill

Chapter 35 - Survivor and Dependents  
of eligible deceased or disabled veterans and  
hospitalized servicepersons with 100%  
service-connected disability

Chapter 1606 - Selected Reserves/National Guard  
Obtain a Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE)

Chapter 1607 - REAP Activated Reservists  
(9/11/01)

Chapter 31 - Vocational Rehabilitation  
Separate approval process through a VA  
Counselor.

## Payment

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The VA pays *you* directly at a fixed rate for each month you are enrolled and making satisfactory progress. The payment amount and method are based upon your Chapter eligibility. Chapter 33 and 31 differ.

- A full-time benefit payment rate is 12 undergraduate college credits per traditional semester or 18-22 clock hours per week for non-college degree training.
- Chapter 30 eligible veterans may request *accelerated payments* for qualified high-cost, high-tech approved programs that lead to high-tech employment. CH 1606/CH1607 eligibility extends to additional career areas for non-degree programs that are two years or less.
- *You may also be eligible for the Connecticut Tuition Waiver.* Tuition is waived for qualified wartime veterans domiciled in Connecticut at the time of admittance to a Connecticut *public* college or university. Contact institutions for more details.

# VETERANS EDUCATION BENEFITS

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**CONNECTICUT  
Office of Higher Education  
State Approving Agency**



Use Your  
GI Bill Benefits  
for  
Education & Training  
State & National Tests

\* **Veterans** \* **Survivors & Dependents**  
\* **Reservists** \* **National Guard**

860-947-1816