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FACT SHEET FOR VETERANS: GI Bill® Benefits for Apprenticeship Programs

Apply for Benefits. To determine if you are eligible to receive GI Bill® benefits, visit http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/apply.asp.

If you are eligible for GI Bill benefits, you may use those benefits while you are training in an apprenticeship program. Apprenticeship training is completed while working for an employer. Apprenticeship program participants receive wages from an employer and GI Bill benefits at the same time.

Post-9/11 GI Bill Apprenticeship Program. Eligible Veterans pursuing training under an apprenticeship program will receive a monthly housing allowance (MHA) in addition to their apprenticeship wages. The MHA issued will be a percentage of the Department of Defense Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for an E-5 with dependents (based on the location of the employer) as follows:

- 100 percent of the applicable MHA during the first six months of training
- 80 percent of the applicable MHA during the second six months of training
- 60 percent of the applicable MHA during the third six months of training
- 40 percent of the applicable MHA during the fourth six months of training
- 20 percent of the applicable MHA during the remainder of the training

Additionally, Post-9/11 GI Bill recipients will receive up to \$83 per month for books and supplies. The monthly housing allowance and books and supplies stipend will be further prorated based on the Veteran's eligibility percentage.

Veterans already participating in a Registered Apprenticeship at the time of application may be eligible to receive up to 12 months of retroactive MHA and books and supplies stipend. Veterans with a service-connected disability may also be eligible for custom apprenticeship programs approved by a VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Counselor. Apply for VR&E benefits to determine whether you are eligible. If you are found entitled to the program, you may also be able to take advantage of apprenticeship opportunities. To apply, fill out VA Form 1900 for VR&E Benefits (found on eBenefits.va.gov).

- VR&E involves a specific training program with any employer where a specific training plan is prepared by a VR& E counselor prior to training to ensure that the participant is working towards the full skills of a journeyman in that occupation.
- You will be paid apprenticeship wages by the employer and receive a monthly subsistence allowance of the difference between the journeyman wage and the training wage, not including overtime, but not more than the VR&E Subsistence Allowance rate allowed (\$519.77 without dependents).
- Commonly lasts from a minimum of six months to a maximum of 24 months.

Payment Rates for all other GI Bill programs.

For all other GI Bill programs, including the Montgomery GI Bill, the payment rates are as follows:

- 75 percent of the full-time GI Bill rate for the first six months of training
- 55 percent of the full-time GI Bill rate for the second six months of training
- 35 percent of the full-time GI Bill rate for the remainder of the training program

Learn more about the GI Bill:

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

To determine if other organizations/employers are "Approved for the GI Bill®": http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do