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# NJCU FAQ SYSTEM

Veterans Category  
*Program and Benefits Information for Veterans Attending NJCU*

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# Veterans

## Program and Benefits Information for Veterans Attending NJCU

### **What programs are currently available for Veterans at New Jersey City University?**

Ch. 30 Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty benefits (MGIB-AD)

Ch. 31 Vocational Rehabilitation benefits (Disabled Veterans)

Ch. 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits

Yellow Ribbon Program

Ch. 35 Dependents/Survivors Educational Assistance benefits (DEA)

Ch. 1606 Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserves benefits (MGIB-SR)

Ch. 1607 Reserve Educational Assistance Program benefits (REAP)

NJ National Guard Tuition Waiver Program

Veterans Tuition Credit Program/Vietnam Veterans Tuition Aid Program

### **How do I find out if I am eligible for Montgomery GI Bill Benefits?**

Inquiries regarding eligibility status for Chapters 30, 33, 35, 1606 and 1607 should be directed toward the Department of Veteran Affairs, Educational Assistance: 888GIBILL1 (888-442-4551) or [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

NJCU does not determine eligibility.

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## **I am eligible for GI Bill benefits. Where do I go in order to activate them at New Jersey City University?**

All students eligible to receive any form of Veterans benefits or National Guard Tuition Waivers should reach out to the Veterans Coordinator in the University Advisement Center, Vodra Hall Rm. 101 for further instruction. Students eligible for tuition assistance should report directly to the Bursar's office.

## **How long does it take to receive GI Bill benefits?**

Initial payments may take as long as ten to twelve weeks to activate. Students filing under Chapters 30, 35, 1606 and 1607 will be given retroactive pay from the start of the semester, and continue to receive monthly installments thereafter.

Continuing students should receive their benefits within eight to ten weeks.

Chapter 33 Veterans should receive their BAH payment approximately four to six weeks after courses begin, provided their paperwork was completed prior to the start of the semester.

## **How much of the GI Bill benefit am I entitled to?**

Your entitlement is dependant on many factors. Refer to [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for the current VA rates based on the chapter you will be filing under.

## **What do I need to do to activate my GI Bill benefits?**

If this is the first time you are ever activating your benefits, you must fill out a VA Form 22-1990 and hand in either a DD214 (separation papers) or a Form DD2384 (Notice of Basic Eligibility/NOBE) from your reserve unit.

If you are transferring your benefits from another institution, you need to complete VA Form 22-1995 (Request for Change of Program or Place of Training). You should also provide a copy of your DD214 or NOBE.

Dependents of Veterans should fill out VA Form 22-5490 for initial applications, and 22-5495 for transfers from other institutions.

Veterans filing under Ch. 33 who are transfer students must also provide a copy of their entitlement letter.

## **Do I need to verify my enrollment with the VA?**

Students who receive Chapters 30, 1606 and 1607 must verify, on a monthly basis, that their enrollment has not changed.

Students can either call the automated system at 877-823-2378 or log on to the Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE) system at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

## **What should I do if I withdraw from a course during the semester?**

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If you withdraw from a course after you have been certified for the semester, you must notify the VA Coordinator immediately if it is going to effect your change in status (Full-time to  $\frac{3}{4}$  time,  $\frac{3}{4}$  time to  $\frac{1}{2}$  time,  $\frac{1}{2}$  time to  $\frac{1}{4}$  time). A change in status will result in a change in payment.

Chapter 33 recipients who withdraw from a class may be responsible for repayment to the VA, so it is imperative that you notify the VA coordinator of any changes as they occur.

### **Do I need to reapply for benefits every semester?**

Yes. Students must notify the VA Coordinator every semester that they would like to continue using their benefits.

Chapter 33 recipients are certified as soon as schedules are finalized and tuition is posted.

For all other chapters, paperwork is generally certified online through VA ONCE or sent out certified mail to the Department of Veterans Affairs one week after the end of the add/drop period.

### **It's been several weeks and I haven't received any payment yet. What should I do?**

The Buffalo Regional Processing Office receives approximately two thousand pieces of mail per day, so please be patient. If you are entitled to benefits, you will receive all retroactive pay that is due to you.

If you would like to inquire about the status of your benefits, you can either contact the VA by calling the educational hotline (888-442-4551), or by posting an inquiry online at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

If you still receive no payment, please contact the VA coordinator to follow up.

### **I am repeating a course that I did not achieve a satisfactory grade in. Can I receive payment for this course?**

The VA will only pay for a repeated course if it is required at a higher grade in order for you to graduate.

Repeated courses can only be paid for one time. A third repeat will not be eligible for reimbursement.

### **I am a National Guard Member. Do I need to file for Financial Aid?**

Yes. Regardless of whether or not you are eligible for Financial Aid, you must, by state law, file every year or else your tuition waiver will not be processed.

### **How many credits can I take using the National Guard Tuition Waiver?**

You can take fifteen or more college credits (graduate or undergraduate); however, you are responsible for paying all student fees at the time your tuition is waived.

You must make sure to maintain a GPA of a 2.0 or higher to continue using the waiver.

### **Can I use the National Guard Tuition Waiver during the summer sessions?**

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## **How about for Winter Intersession?**

Yes. One waiver for the summer will cover both Summer Sessions 1 & 2.

Students must notify the VA coordinator if they are choosing to attend both summer sessions, so a note can be posted for the Bursars Office.

Students using the waiver for winter intersession must submit a separate waiver from the spring one.

## **I am entitled to Ch. 31 Vocational Rehabilitation Benefits. What do I need to do to in order to receive them?**

If you are eligible for Ch. 31 Vocational Rehabilitation benefits, you should contact the VA Coordinator as soon as possible, and have your case manager submit a VA Form 28-1905 (Authorization and Certification of Entrance or Reentrance into Rehabilitation and Certification of Status) to the university.

Notification will be sent to both the Bursar's office and the Campus Bookstore.

Bookstore purchases are limited to books and course related materials.

## **I am entitled to collect benefits under the Veterans Tuition Credit Program/Vietnam Veterans Tuition Aid Program. What do I need to do in order to receive them?**

If you are a Vietnam Era Veteran, and are eligible to receive these benefits, or are curious to learn more about them, please contact the VA Coordinator in the University Advisement Center, Vodra Hall, Rm. 101.

Paperwork must be filed by March 1 for the spring semester, and October 1 for the fall semester.

Veterans must be registered for at least ½ time training (six credits) to utilize this benefit.

## **I would like to take a CLEP exam and use my GI Bill. Is this possible?**

GI bill now pays for CLEP exams. Refer to <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/veterans.html> for additional information on procedures.

Students can also take courses through the DANTES program at the Fort Dix Education Center.

## **I have concerns about non-educational Veterans benefits. Who can I contact?**

All Veterans benefits can be researched at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or by dialing 1-800-827-1000

## **Does this institution participate in advanced payment?**

No. Students filing under Chapters 30, 35, 1606, and 1607 must pay for courses upfront and will be reimbursed by the Department of Veteran Affairs. Reimbursement checks can be mailed directly to

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students or direct deposited into their bank accounts.

## **I am an active duty soldier and have a Tuition Assistance form from my unit. How do I proceed?**

Active duty soldiers using tuition assistance can bring their forms directly to the Bursar's Office, located in Hepburn Hall, Room 106. Anyone using tuition assistance must notify the Coordinator of Veteran Affairs at [egargiulo@njcu.edu](mailto:egargiulo@njcu.edu).

## **Does NJCU have an ROTC program?**

NJCU is a ROTC crosstown school with both Seton Hall University and New Jersey Institute of Technology. For additional information about Army ROTC, please contact the Seton Hall University Pirate Battalion at 973-313-6253 or visit <http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc-index.cfm> For additional information about Air Force ROTC, please contact the NJIT AFROTC Detachment 490 at 973-596-3626 or visit <http://www.njit.edu/rotc>

## **Does NJCU award credit for ROTC training?**

NJCU students who concurrently attend a ROTC program at Seton Hall University must contact Dr. John Collins, Chairperson, Professional Security, NJCU, 201-200-3179 for enrollment in ROTC Leadership courses in order to receive credit.

NJCU students who concurrently attend a ROTC program at New Jersey Institute of Technology, and are interested in seeking credit for ROTC courses, must fill out a Waiver of General Studies Courses form, and have it signed by the Coordinator of Veterans Benefits, located in the University Advisement Center, Vodra Hall, Room 101. Official transcripts must be submitted to the Transfer Resource Center at the conclusion of each academic year.

## **Is NJCU participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program?**

Yes, NJCU will award Yellow Ribbon Agreements for up to 25 individuals overall on a first-come, first-served basis. Tuition will be waived up to 50% of the remaining balance provided the VA agrees to pay the other half. A Veteran must be classified at the 100% level in order to be eligible for this program.

## **Can I receive credit for past military experience?**

Yes. New students must submit all official transcripts (JST, CCAF, SMART, AARTS, USCG, etc.), DD214's, or educational-oriented certificates to the Transfer Resource Center, located in the University Advisement Center, Vodra Hall, Room 101.

Students who leave the university to attend Basic Military Training (or additional schooling) for any branch of service can also request transfer credit upon returning to NJCU. If students return prior to being out for three consecutive semesters, they must fill out a Waiver of General Studies Courses form, and have it signed by the Coordinator of Veterans Benefits, located in the University Advisement Center, Vodra Hall, Room 101.

## **How do I receive my Army College Fund and/or National Guard/Reserve "Kicker"?**

Students who receive GI Bill benefits and are eligible for the Army College Fund or National

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Guard/Reserve Kicker Incentives will have the benefits automatically "kick in" upon activation of the GI Bill. Students receiving Chapter 33 benefits should refer to the GI Bill website for information regarding various kickers. If a kicker fails to activate, a student should contact the VA at 888.442.4551.

**I am a dependant/spouse of a Veteran and am entitled to benefits. What do I need to provide?**

Dependents/Spouses eligible for Chapter 35 benefits must provide the complete file number of the Veteran for which they are filing under. Chapter 35 recipients need not verify enrollment every month. Payment will be automatically disbursed. Dependents/Spouses eligible for the Ch. 33 Transfer of Entitlement program must submit a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) in order to utilize the benefit.