The Principles of Excellence were announced on April 27, 2012 by President Obama in Executive Order 13607, to ensure that student Veterans, Servicemembers, and family members have information, support, and protections while using Federal education benefits. To learn more about the Principles of Excellence, visit benefits.va.gov/gibill/principles_of_excellence.asp. Tools developed to provide more information to students and increase oversight of programs offered by educational institutions are discussed below:

GI BILL® COMPARISON TOOL

This innovative tool makes it easier to research colleges and employers providing training under the GI Bill. It displays median borrowing amounts, graduation rates, and loan-default rates by school and indicates whether or not the school participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program or has agreed to adhere to the Principles of Excellence. Further, the tool allows Veterans, Servicemembers, their spouses, and dependents to estimate the amount of funding they may receive under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Information is available to help them find the best place to use their benefits at benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison.

GI BILL® FEEDBACK SYSTEM

The GI Bill Feedback System is a centralized online reporting system that allows Veterans, Servicemembers, and eligible dependents to report negative experiences with educational institutions. VA serves as the intermediary to resolve complaints between the student and school. Submitted complaints may be reviewed by state and Federal law enforcement agencies including the Department of Justice. Students may submit feedback on their educational institution by visiting benefits.va.gov/gibill/feedback.asp.

More than 6,000 educational institutions have agreed to the “Principles of Excellence,” which offer guidelines that promote transparency and student success.