



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
Veterans Benefits Administration

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## **PREPARATORY COURSE**

### **WHAT IS A PREPARATORY COURSE?**

Preparatory courses are training courses for tests required or used for admission to an institution of higher learning or graduate school.

### **WHO QUALIFIES FOR PAYMENT OF PREPARATORY COURSE?**

Individuals eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill (chapter 33), Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (MGIB-AD or chapter 30), Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR or chapter 1606), Survivors' & Dependents' Assistance (DEA or chapter 35), may be eligible to pursue training in preparatory courses.

### **HOW MANY PREPARATORY COURSES CAN I PURSUE?**

There is no limit to the number of preparatory courses you can take. However, you must have remaining entitlement and your delimiting date must not have passed.

### **HOW IS YOUR EDUCATION ENTITLEMENT CHARGED?**

We will reduce your remaining months of entitlement based on your training time (or rate of pursuit). For example, if you are pursuing a preparatory course and you are considered to be training at one-half time (50% rate of pursuit), we will reduce your entitlement by .5 days for each day of training.

### **WHAT PREPARATORY COURSES ARE APPROVED FOR VA BENEFITS?**

Please visit [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school\\_locator.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school_locator.asp) to determine if your preparatory course is approved for VA education benefits. If your desired course is not approved, please contact the institution's VA school certifying official and ask them to contact the State Approving Agency and/or VA about approval requirements.

## **HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR PAYMENT OF PREPARATORY COURSES?**

If you have not applied for education benefits, you'll need to submit an Application for VA Education Benefits (VA Form 22-1990). You may apply for benefits at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/apply.asp>. If you have applied for and are eligible for education benefits, have your institution submit an enrollment certification (VA Form 22-1999) to VA for the course.

Our Education Call Center is available at 1-888-442-4551 (Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. -6 p.m. CST) for any questions about GI Bill benefits.

Join the conversation on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/gibillEducation](http://www.facebook.com/gibillEducation) and follow us on Twitter @VAVetBenefits.

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More information about VA education benefits are available at [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/education\\_programs.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/education_programs.asp)