



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Veterans Benefits Administration
Education Service
Washington, D.C. 20420

March 15, 2022

Higher Education Executive
All Institutions of Higher Learning

Dear Higher Education Executive:

VA is pleased to announce that the Post-9/11 GI Bill Yellow Ribbon Program open season for the 2022-2023 academic year will run from March 15th through May 15th. During the open season, institutions can: (1) Request participation in the program, (2) Modify participation in the program, or (3) Withdraw from the program.

Institutions considering initial or continued participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program should review the Yellow Ribbon Program Agreement and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at the Yellow Ribbon Program website: http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon/yellow_ribbon_info_schools.asp

The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (also known as the Forever GI Bill) made significant changes to VA education benefits. Please note there are a few changes that expand Yellow Ribbon benefits.

- Effective August 1, 2018, recipients of the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship and Purple Heart recipients may participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program
- Effective August 1, 2022, active duty service members may participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program

The recent passage of Public Law 116-315, Section 1008, "Technical Correction to Clarify Eligibility for Participation in Yellow Ribbon Program of Department of Veterans Affairs," allows foreign schools to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program. This law amends Section 3317(a) of title 38 USC. In accordance with the law, VA has implemented an open season timeframe of June 1st through July 31st for foreign schools to apply for the Yellow Ribbon program. The announcement for foreign schools to apply for the Yellow Ribbon program will be provided prior to the commencement of the open season.

Institutions with existing Yellow Ribbon Program Agreements

Please review your current agreement to determine whether any modifications are required. You may view the terms of your current agreement at the Yellow Ribbon Program site and selecting “2021 – 2022 Yellow Ribbon Participant List” or at:

<https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/yellow-ribbon-program/#does-my-school-participate-in->

The Yellow Ribbon Program agreement is an open-ended agreement. Existing agreements will remain valid until modified or withdrawn. If your institution does not modify any information previously provided or withdraw from the program, no further action or communication is required. If your institution desires to change any elements of its agreement, or withdraw from the program, then your institution must submit a signed agreement via email attachment to YellowRibbon.VBACO@va.gov by May 15, 2022.

Institutions without existing Yellow Ribbon Program Agreements

Institutions that do not have an existing Yellow Ribbon Program agreement may request approval for the Yellow Ribbon Program by submitting a signed agreement via email attachment to YellowRibbon.VBACO@va.gov.

With your support, we can ensure that our nation’s Veterans and dependents receive the education benefits they deserve.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary L. Glenn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Glenn
Acting Executive Director