

Public Law (PL) 116-140 – Sections 5 & 6



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Public Law (PL) 116-140 – Section 5

On April 28, 2020 [PL 116-140](#) was signed into law.

Provides additional assistance to eligible beneficiaries regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and its impact on VA Education benefits.

All provisions made are for the period March 1, 2020 to December 21, 2020

Section 5

- Prohibits an entitlement charge to beneficiaries who are unable to pursue a program of education due to an emergency situation.
- VA would not charge entitlement if a beneficiary was unable to complete a course or program as a result of the temporary closure of an educational institution
- or the temporary closure or termination of a course or program of education due to an emergency situation during the period beginning March 1, 2020, and ending December 21, 2020.



Public Law (PL) 116-140 – Section 6

Section 6

- If the beneficiary is prevented from pursuing a chosen program of education before the expiration of the 10-year eligibility period for using entitlement because an education institution closed (temporarily or permanently). PL116-140 requires VA to extend:
 - The 10-year time limitation under Chapter 30
 - 15-year eligibility period under the Post-9/11 GI Bill® and the Fry Scholarship.
 - The eligibility period of a beneficiary using transferred entitlement under Chapter 33
 - The period of entitlement under Chapter 1606 for a period equal to the number of months the beneficiary was prevented from using such entitlement.