

# Before we begin...

- The webinar will start at **1 pm** Eastern Time(ET)
- Please make sure to:
  - Mute your phone
  - Turn off any webcams or microphones (if applicable)
- **Audio can ONLY be accessed by calling 1-800-767-1750**
  - **Conference code: 37639#**
- There may be silence on the line prior to 1 pm ET
- Slides are available on our website under **School Training Resources-[Education benefit presentations](#)**



# VBA Education Service Quarterly Webinar

September 27, 2018

**Veterans Benefits Administration**

**VA**



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# Agenda

- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment
- Harry W. Colmery Section 305 Update
- VA-ONCE Demo
- Question & Answer

# Housekeeping

- Participants may submit questions and feedback during the webinar in the **QA box**. We want this to be beneficial for you.
- Answers to questions will be provided when a copy of the webinar is uploaded to [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- To find the webinars, visit [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
  - Click on “For School Administrators”
    - Select “School Training Resources”
      - Select “Education Benefit Presentations” under the Certifications and Training header
- For any specific or situational questions you may have, please contact your ELR or call the School Certifying Official Hotline

# Director Worley



*Welcome*



EDUCATION SERVICE

# Veteran's Benefit Administration

**Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment**  
*Overview for School Certifying Officials Teleconference*

Briefed by:

**Robert Hart, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, VR&E Service (28)**

September 27, 2018



# Overview

- The mission of Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) is to help Veterans with service-connected disabilities and an employment barriers prepare for, find, and maintain suitable careers, and  
*...for Veterans with service-connected disabilities so severe that they cannot immediately consider work, VR&E provides services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible (Independent Living program).*
- VR&E FY17 Field Authorization 1,376
- As of March 2018 VR&E FTE Assigned, Nationally:
  - o/a 77% are Counselors, or Employment Coordinators

# Key Services Provided

- VR&E employs nearly 1,000 professional vocational rehabilitation counselors and delivers services through a network of nearly 350 office locations
- Our service delivery model works to support Veterans where they are located, and includes operations at 56 regional offices, the National Capital Region Benefits Office, approximately 142 out-based offices, 71 Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) installations, and 105 VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) schools/sites
- **VSOC**
  - We currently collaborate with 105 schools across the country to provide educational and vocational counseling and other on-site services to an available population of nearly 86,000 student Veterans on campus.
- **IDES**
  - We have expanded early intervention counseling and other available services for wounded, ill, injured and other transitioning Servicemembers at 71 military installations

# Chapter 31 Eligibility and Entitlement

- **Active Duty Servicemembers:**

- Expect to receive an honorable discharge upon separation from active duty
- Apply for Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment services
- Obtain a memorandum rating or proposed IDES rating of 20% or more from VA
- Entitlement based on establishment of employment handicap resulting from a service-connected disability
- Sec. 1631(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act (PL 110-181) established VR&E eligibility and automatic entitlement for severely injured active duty individuals before a VA rating is issued. Sec. 724 of Public Law 113-291 extends the sunset date of NDAA to September 30, 2018

# Chapter 31 Eligibility and Entitlement

- **Veterans:**

- Honorable or other than dishonorable discharge
- VA service-connected disability rating of 10% or more
- Memorandum rating of 20% or more from VA
- Apply for Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment services
- Entitlement based on establishment of employment handicap or barrier resulting from a service-connected disability
- Serious employment handicap needed to establish entitlement for Veterans rated 10%

# Chapter 31 Basic Benefit Information

- **48 months of training entitlement, plus employment services**
  - May be utilized within 12 years from the date of initial VA disability rating notification
  - Exception for those with a serious employment handicap

# Chapter 31 Rehabilitation Tracks

- **Five Tracks to Employment**

- Re-Employment

- ✓ For individuals wishing to return to work with a former employer and needing accommodations enabling them to do so

- Rapid Access to Employment

- ✓ For individuals who are ready to enter the workforce with minimal assistance

- Employment through Long Term Services

- ✓ For individuals requiring additional skills or training to find competitive, suitable employment

- Self-Employment

- ✓ For individuals who are interested in opening their own business; Category I (training, license and fees, start up supplies, etc) or Category II (training, personal tools, fees, etc)

- Independent Living

- ✓ For individuals not able to work who need rehabilitation services to live more independently

# Other Programs of Services

- **Chapter 35**

- Educational counseling for children/widows/spouses eligible for the Dependents Educational Assistance Program
  - ✓ For dependents of Veterans with a permanent and total service-connected disability, or those who died on active duty or as the result of a service-connected disability

- **Chapter 36**

- Personalized educational and career counseling for Servicemembers and Veterans, as well as support to help guide their career paths, ensure the most effective use of their VA benefits, and achieve their goals
- Services are now available on campus at training facilities that are participating in the VSOC program

- **Chapter 18**

- Vocational training and rehabilitation benefits for children with Spina Bifida born of certain Veterans who served in Vietnam or Korea

# VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC)

- The VetSuccess On Campus (VSOC) program's mission is to provide student Veterans seamless access to VA services; support their successful integration into college and university campuses; support their individualized educational goals, so they may persist, graduate, and improve their life circumstances; and successfully live and thrive in the career field and community of their choice
- VA has 86 professionally trained VSOC counselors on 105 campuses who can provide Chapter 36 services

# Educational and Career Counseling

- VA's education and career counseling program, or Chapter 36 benefits offer a wide range of educational and vocational counseling services to Servicemembers, Veterans, and dependents who are eligible for one of the VA's educational benefit programs.
- **Eligibility:**
  - Transitioning Servicemembers within 6 months prior to discharge
  - Veterans within one year following discharge from active duty
  - Any Servicemember/Veteran currently eligible for a VA education benefit
  - All current VA education beneficiaries

---

It's simple to apply. Veterans just need to log in to their eBenefits account at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov>, or open and print **VA Form 28-8832** with the instruction to submit.

# VR&E Payments and Invoicing

To address payment and invoicing concerns, VR&E Service initiated the following actions:

- Support services guidance with policy for invoicing and payments was sent to the field on July 27, 2015
- Continued collaboration with EDU on business requirements for new systems to alleviate invoicing concerns
- Clarification of the Prompt Payment Rule and other school/training guidance in VR&E policy
- VR&E Director briefed VBA field leadership in tandem with the Deputy Under Secretary for Field Operations

# VR&E Payments and Invoicing

To ensure consistency across VR&E Offices regarding invoicing requirements and payments, detailed guidance has been disseminated to our Finance divisions and VR&E field offices, including:

- **The Prompt Payment Rule (5 CFR 1315.4 (b)), which ensures that Federal agencies pay vendors in a timely manner**

## Invoices at a minimum must include:

- Name of vendor, invoice date, invoice number, vendor point of contact (name, title, and telephone number), Veteran's name with clearly delineated costs, description of services (tuition, fees, supplies, etc.), date or time period services/goods were provided to Veteran
- Only include **one** Veteran per invoice

# VR&E Payments and Invoicing

## Recommendations :

### < Communication

- SCO's should request and maintain an updated Regional Office staffing list of Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors or designated POCs
- 28-1905, Authorization for Services
  - Ensure 28-1905 has VRC name and contact information
- Please contact the local VR&E manager if unable to resolve with the VRC and/or designated POC
- Please contact 202-461-9600 if payment issues remain unresolved

# Additional Information and Resources

- **Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Information**
  - Informational overview documents (PDF)  
[http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/links\\_resources.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/links_resources.asp)
  - VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) program: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/vsoc>
  - Chapter 36 Educational/Vocational Counseling Application: VA Form 28-8832:  
[http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/edu\\_voc\\_counseling.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/edu_voc_counseling.asp)
  - Principles of Excellence: [http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/principles\\_of\\_excellence.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/principles_of_excellence.asp)
- **VR&E YouTube Videos**
  - VR&E Career Day: My Dad, My Hero: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASPqtJWJ-KU>
  - VR&E Rolling Up My Sleeves: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykc6Q3PHfDw>
  - VR&E 5 Tracks to Employment:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWjc8aYPqqg>
  - VR&E VetSuccess on Campus: John Luque:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdDWdgCISPY>
  - VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) program:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWLCIB5TX\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWLCIB5TX_k) &  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bSkspOd\\_uo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bSkspOd_uo)

# Thank you

**Thanks for all you do for the  
Servicemembers, Veterans and eligible  
family members!!!**



EDUCATION SERVICE

# Section 305 Training Updates

## National Training Team



# Training Requirement Reminder

## Training Requirement for School Certifying Officials (SCOs)

- Educational Institutions must ensure that their SCO(s) meet the training requirements developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in consultation with the State Approving Agencies (SAA).
  - Required for covered educational institutions that have enrolled 20 or more individuals using VA educational assistance
  - Required for “new” SCOs on or after August 1, 2018
  - Required for “existing” SCOs on or after August 1, 2019
  - Required annually to be compliant with the law

# Section 305 – Training

- Consists of concepts and procedures necessary for a SCO to successfully perform the basic functions of his/her duties
- Provided as Multiple Online Modules
- Registration process for new SCOs before August 1, 2019, requires Education Liaison Officer (ELR) assistance
- E-mail notifications and deadline reminders will be sent to SCO(s) by VA
- VA may disapprove any course of education offered by the educational institution if training requirement is unmet

# New SCO Online Training

- Preliminary Evaluation Results
  - Completed Training
  - School Certifying Official (SCO) Experience Level
- Question Reassessment
- SCO Training Comments and Rates
- Life Cycle Maintenance of Training Modules

# SCO verses Read-Only SCO

| TYPE OF SCO     | DEFINITION                                                                                                                                             | VA Form 22-8794                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SCO             | A SCO is an individual of an educational institution with the primary responsibility for certifying Veteran enrollment at the educational institution. | Should only contain the names of school employees who are proficient in understanding the SCO's role and responsibilities to VA. School employees who are not familiar with VA processes should not be listed as an alternate SCO on VA Form 22-8794. |
| "Read-only" SCO | A "read-only" SCO is an individual at an educational institution with permission to access read-only or inquiry only information.                      | Should only contain the names of school employees who are authorized to call VA with questions/student inquiries. They should not provide VA with enrollment information.                                                                             |



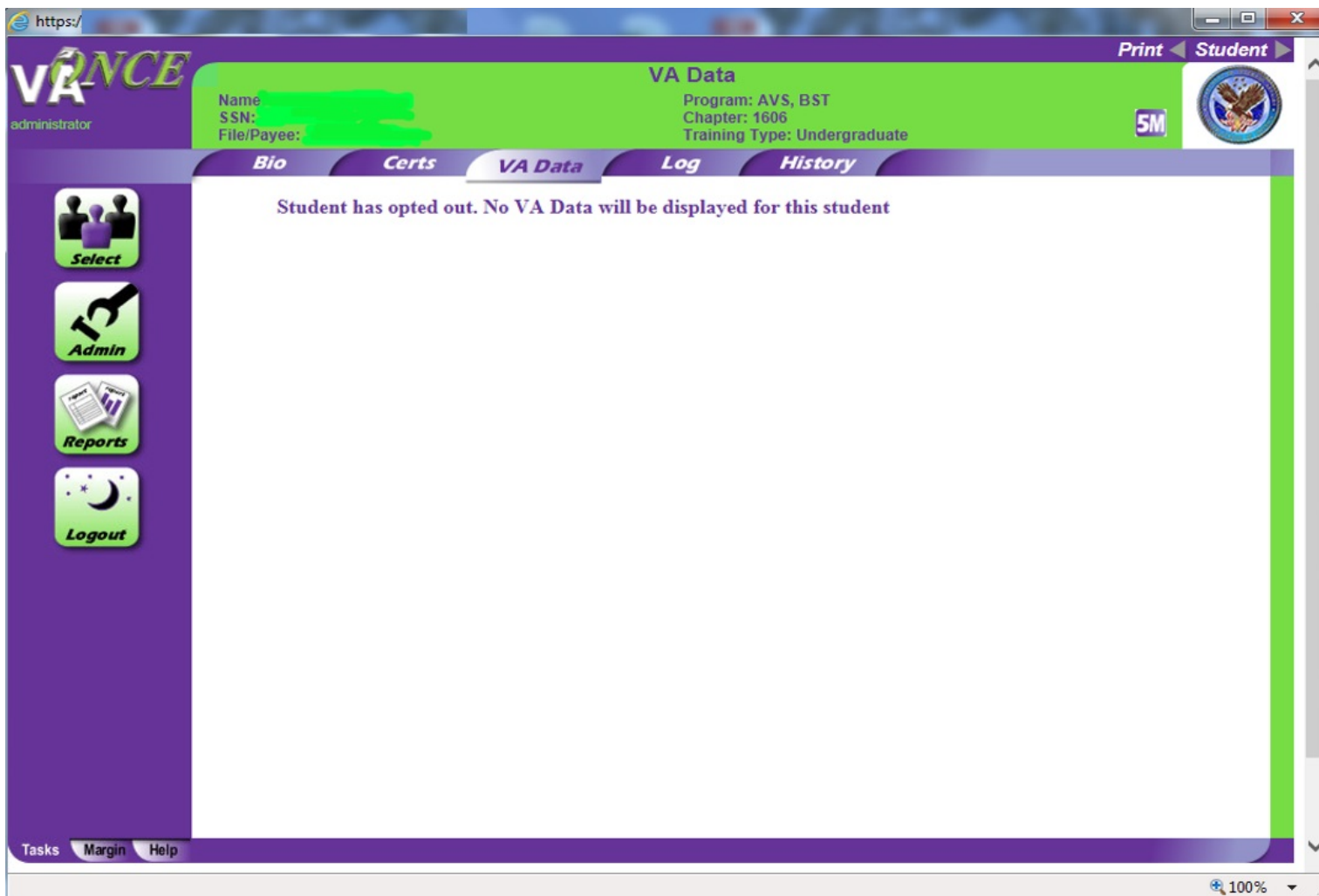
EDUCATION SERVICE

# VA-ONCE DEMO

National Training Team



# Section 308 - VA-ONCE “Opt-Out”



# Section 308 - VA-ONCE "Opt-In"

VA-ONCE VA Data - Internet Explorer

**VA-ONCE**  
administrator

**VA Data**

Name: [REDACTED]  
SSN: [REDACTED]  
File/Payee: [REDACTED]

Program: GBUS-MBA  
Chapter: 30  
Training Type: Graduate

Print Student

**Bio** **Certs** **VA Data** **Log** **History**

**Select**  
**Admin**  
**Reports**  
**Logout**

Full Name:  
File/Payee#  
Delimiting Date: 20201203  
Remaining Entitlement Months as of No Pay Date: 23  
Remaining Entitlement Days as of No Pay Date: 2  
Chapter: 30  
Current Facility Code: 11913164  
BDN Master Record Status: ACTIVE

| Begin Date | End Date   | Training Type | Training Time | Monthly Rate | Current Award |
|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 10/1/2017  | 12/16/2017 | GRADUATE      | 3/4           | \$1,392.75   | PAST          |
| 1/8/2018   | 5/12/2018  | GRADUATE      | FULL          | \$1,928.00   | CURRENT       |

The information shown above is only for Chapter 30, Chapter 1606, and Chapter 1607. The type of training must be payable in our Benefits Delivery Network (BDN) system. Any payment that is generated outside of BDN (for example: Flight, On the Job Training, Apprenticeship, or Correspondence) will not be displayed above. Please see the help text questions for more information on the VA Data.

Tasks Margin Help

100%

# Resources

- School Certifying Official Handbook
  - [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/job\\_aids/sco\\_handbook.pdf](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/job_aids/sco_handbook.pdf)
- School Certifying Official Hotline
  - Direct line of communication with VA for inquiries on student issues
  - Education Case Managers who have the expertise to answer and resolve most SCO questions work between 7:00am to 5:00pm (CST) Monday through Friday
  - **Contact your ELR for the number**
- School Training Resources on GI Bill Website
  - Includes VA ONCE training, online training, handbook, links to webinars, etc.
  - [http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school\\_training\\_resources.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school_training_resources.asp)

# Questions & Answers



# Contact Us

Website: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/gibilleducation](http://www.facebook.com/gibilleducation)

GI Bill Hotline: 1-888-442-4551

