

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Yellow Ribbon Program

Presenter

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Yellow Ribbon Agenda

- The Yellow Ribbon Program
- Revision of Yellow Ribbon Agreement Form
- FAQs updated
- Next Steps and Announcements



POST★9/11
GI BILL®

It's Your Future

Yellow Ribbon Program





Yellow Ribbon Program

- The Yellow Ribbon program can cover net Tuition and Fee costs not covered by the Post-9/11 GI Bill ® at a U.S. public or private Institution of Higher Learning (IHL)
- For public IHLs, the Post-9/11 GI Bill ® can cover up to 100% of the net In-State charges, and the Yellow Ribbon program can be used to cover the remaining Out-of-State charges for qualifying individuals
- Schools must report the actual net cost for In-State Tuition and Fees after the application of any waiver of, or reduction in, Tuition and Fees, and any scholarship, or other federal, State, institutional, or employer-based aid or assistance (excluding Title IV aid) that is designated for the GI Bill student for Tuition and Fees
- The difference, or a portion thereof, between the actual costs for Tuition and Fees and the amount of Post-9/11 GI Bill ® funds can be met through matching contributions under the Yellow Ribbon program for eligible students
- Schools that are eligible and wish to participate may submit a Yellow Ribbon Program Agreement to enter into this funding arrangement with VA



Yellow Ribbon Agreement Form Changes

- Updated Yellow Ribbon agreement-Revision date XX-XX-XXXX, is in process, will be available before open season starts, March 15, 2020. New agreement is effective August 1, 2020
- “Funds for Yellow Ribbon contributions may derive from any source of institutional funding that is not already allocated or awarded for a non-Yellow Ribbon purpose. Student ledgers must denote contributions as "Yellow Ribbon. " Yellow Ribbon funds cannot be denoted as any type of grant, scholarship or other fund sources that would be applied to the student's account regardless of Yellow Ribbon program participation.”
 - Please note, all schools are subject to this revision even if a new agreement is not being submitted
- Principles of Excellence section removed, done outside of the agreement
- Agreements must be emailed rather than mailed or faxed



Major FAQ Changes

- Number 2 – The annual Cap will no longer be posted in the FAQs

Question 2. What are the maximum Tuition and Fee amounts payable under the Post-9/11 GI Bill ® ?

Answer: There is a Tuition and Fee cap for each academic year (August 1 – July 31). This cap can be paid towards net costs for Tuition and Fees at private and foreign branches of United States (U.S.) schools. Current tuition and fee caps are located here:

https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.asp



Major FAQ Changes

- In accordance with #2 of the revised agreement, question #23 has been updated

Question 23. Can a school use funds from a grant or scholarship to satisfy its matching contribution?

Answer: Yes: Funds for Yellow Ribbon contributions may derive from any source of institutional funding that is not already allocated or awarded for a non-Yellow Ribbon purpose. Student ledgers must denote contributions as "Yellow Ribbon." Yellow Ribbon funds cannot be denoted as any type of grant, scholarship or other fund sources that would be applied to the student's account regardless of Yellow Ribbon program participation. To ensure consistent observation of this limitation and to avoid confusion during audits, schools must denote its contributions as "Yellow Ribbon" on student ledgers. Schools may not denote its contributions as "grant," "scholarship" or any other analogous terms



Major FAQ Changes

- Number 30 - In accordance with numbers 1,3,4 and 5 of the agreement, question 30 has been added to the FAQs

Question 30. Can an institution reduce its matching contribution amount for the Yellow Ribbon program during the academic year?

Answer: No: an institution may not reduce their matching contribution amount during the academic year. The school may modify their agreement and reduce their matching contribution during the next open season (March 15th to May 15th each year). However, be advised that students that had received the higher Yellow Ribbon funding amount must continue to receive that funding as long as they stay continuously enrolled.



Next Steps and Announcements

- A school seeking to adhere to the Principles of Excellence, or rescind their decision may submit an email at any time during the academic year to principles.excellence@va.gov
- Schools must ensure ledgers are in accordance with the revised agreement. The SCO Handbook will be revised
- Schools that have an on-going agreement do not have to submit a new agreement, but are expected to adhere to the updated ledger procedures
- Forthcoming, announcements regarding Yellow Ribbon will be available on our website by March 16, 2020
- Announcements on the main page of our website can be found using the following link: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/index.asp>
- Announcements on the SCO page of our website can be found using the following link: https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon/yellow_ribbon_info_schools.asp



