

Dear Higher Education Executive:

This letter is to provide you with information regarding Section 702 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Choice Act). Section 702 of the law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to disapprove programs of education under the Post-9/11 GI Bill® and the Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty (MGIB – AD) programs at public institutions of higher learning if the institution charges certain individuals tuition and fees in excess of the rate for resident students for terms beginning after July 1, 2015.

VA recognizes that the time allotted for states and territories (or boards or schools if the policy-making authority resides below the state level) to comply is problematic for some states due to the nature of their process to make legislative and/or policy changes. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs has used his authority to waive the provisions of section 702 of the Choice Act as to programs that are not in compliance for all terms beginning prior to January 1, 2016, to allow additional time for those states and schools unable to achieve compliance before July 2, 2015, to make the necessary changes. This will ensure GI Bill students may continue training at their chosen institutions. If your school is not currently compliant, you may certify enrollments as usual, but only for terms beginning prior to January 1, 2016, or until earlier compliance is achieved. VA will provide additional guidance as needed for those public institutions of higher learning not in compliance prior to January 1, 2016.

We have requested that the appropriate decision-making authority (i.e. state, board, or school) submit a plan for compliance to the State Approving Agency (SAA) of jurisdiction by June 15, 2015. We will work with the SAA and decision-making authority to make sure all proposed policy is compliant and timely implemented.

A list of states that are in compliance will be posted on the GI Bill website at (<http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/702.asp>). We will update the list as states become compliant.

Thank you for your time, assistance, and continued support of America's Veterans and their dependents.

V/R

Curtis L. Coy
Deputy under Secretary for Economic Opportunity
Veterans Benefits Administration
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Core Values: Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect, Excellence (“I CARE”)

Please Remember:

- If you would like to review prior messages sent through this listserv, click http://benefits.va.gov/vow/economic_opportunity.htm.
- If you would like to research, find, access, and, in time, manage your VA benefits and personal information please visit and/or register at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal>.
- If you looking for a job or an employer committed to hiring Veterans, please register on the Veterans Employment Center (VEC) at: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/jobs>

- If you are seeking employment in the federal government, particularly the VA, our VA for Vets high-tech tools and resources can help. Visit online at <http://vaforvets.va.gov/> or call 1-855-824-8387.

If you would like to contact us about your VA education benefits:

You can send us a secure email that will usually be answered within 48 hours. You can also search for answers to frequently asked questions and register to be notified of any updates to the information. This contact method is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and can also be utilized worldwide. Click [here](#) to enter the "Ask A Question" site or [here](#) to review our frequently asked questions.

You can call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551). This line only accepts calls from 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM central time Monday – Friday.