



# THREE RIVERS COLLEGE

## VETERANS BENEFITS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- Three Rivers College is approved for certification of students eligible to receive educational benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA).
- The Veterans Education Certifying Official office is located in the Westover Administration Building, Room 103 and can be reached by calling (573) 840-9606.
- All information on this site is based on existing rules and regulations of the Department of Veteran Affairs and should be not construed as being absolute. New rules and regulations are being released by the DVA continually and may supersede the information seen here. To view the most current information, visit <http://www.gibill.va.gov>.
- The VA can reimburse the cost of approved licensing and certification tests. Students must be eligible for benefits to receive test reimbursement. Information about test fee reimbursement can be found at <http://www.gibill.va.gov>.
- For information on Missouri Department of Higher Education veterans' educational programs go to <https://dhewd.mo.gov/ppc/veteransed.php>.
- Three Rivers College Student Veterans Association assists veterans to make an easier transition into the academic community. This group provides camaraderie and support to enhance the student veteran experience.

### ELIGIBILITY

- For information regarding your eligibility to receive VA educational benefits, visit the VA website <http://www.gibill.va.gov> or contact the DVA at 1 (888) 442-4551.
- Eligibility is determined by several factors such as your branch of service, nature of service, enlistment and separation dates and character of discharge. In all cases, the final determination of eligibility is made by the Department of Veteran Affairs.
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment will determine eligibility. Complete information and step by step instructions on how to apply can be found at <http://www.gibill.va.gov>.
- If you are a member of the armed forces serving on active duty or full time National Guard duty, you should apply for benefits through the VA Pre-Discharge Program before you leave service.

### APPLYING FOR BENEFITS

- Complete information is available in Steps for Receiving Benefit at <https://trcc.edu/forms/financialaid/veteranspacket.pdf>.
- If you have not applied for benefits, you must complete an application with the Department of Veterans Affairs. To do so visit the DVA website <http://www.gibill.va.gov>. Keep a copy of your application and confirmation page.

- Once the DVA approves your application for benefits, they will send you a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). You should submit your Certificate of Eligibility (COE) and your most recent DD-214 (Member 4) copy, guard members submit your NOBE, to the Office of Financial Aid or the external location in which you will be attending.

## **TRANSFER AND GUEST STUDENTS**

- See Steps for Receiving Benefits at <https://trcc.edu/forms/financialaid/veteranspacket.pdf> for complete instructions.
- Guest students will need a parent letter from their degree seeking institution.

## **PAY FOR CLASSES**

- It is every student's responsibility to ensure their account is current and paid in full.
- You are responsible for an outstanding balance whether or not you are expecting or have received GI Bill® education benefit payments.
- Three Rivers College makes every effort to work with students but you should always have a backup plan in place for tuition payments, living expenses, etc., should your VA benefit payments be delayed, reduced or denied.
- Options for payment may include the federal student aid and/or a TRC payment plan.

## **VETERAN'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Eligible veterans and dependents are responsible for notifying the School Certifying Official or someone at the external location in which they are attending of their intent to use VA educational benefits each semester. To indicate their intent, they must submit the Veterans Registration Form to the financial aid office or to the external location in which registered for classes.
- It is advised that you meet personally or by telephone each semester with the School Certifying Official. The main contact method of the School Certifying Official with you will be by your MyTRCC email.
- Enroll only for courses that apply to your degree program. Only courses that apply towards your declared degree program will be certified. The VA will only pay for one Degree or Certificate Program at a time.
- You must inform the School Certifying Official when you: add or drop a class; change your Degree Program; withdraw from a class or TRC; or change your address. Failure to do so may result in overpayment collections from the DVA.
- The DVA will not pay for the repeat of a satisfactorily completed course, except under special circumstances.
- Eligible veterans and dependents are responsible for providing all official high school transcripts, college transcripts and any military transcripts to the Registrar's Office.
- Attend classes and make satisfactory progress in accordance with TRC's Satisfactory Academic Progress guidelines. Failure to do so will result in loss of benefits until the requirements for reinstatement have been met.
- Veteran students receiving CH30 Montgomery GI Bill®, CH1606 Montgomery GI Bill® for Reservists or CH1607 Reserve Educational Assistance Program are required to log onto the VA website <http://www.gibill.va.gov> and click on WAVE (Web Automated Verification Enrollment) on the last day of each month to verify enrollment with the VA or call 1-888-442-4551.

- Students who wish to use Federal Tuition Assistance will have to apply through ArmyIgnitED <https://www.armyignited.com/app/>.
  1. Applications must be submitted at least 10 days prior to the course start date.
  2. You can't use Federal Tuition Assistance for classes for which you are also receiving benefits under CH1606 or CH1607.
  3. You can use Federal Tuition Assistance with Chapters 30 and 33.
  4. Students using Federal Tuition Assistance must provide the TA Authorization Form(s) to the School Certifying Official.
- For any student who draws VA educational benefits it is crucial to realize there is a distinct difference between academic advising and VA Certification procedures.
  1. It is possible that a course you may be advised to take will not meet VA certification requirements.
  2. It is your responsibility to make certain that your classes meet VA certification requirements if you desire VA payments for these classes.
  3. If the classes do not meet the requirements you will be personally responsible for the resulting cost. You have access to your Degree Plan on your MyTRCC.
  4. The School Certifying Official can assist you with any questions or concerns you may have.
- Students must be aware of the fact that we have eight week terms and mini terms, and that the beginning and end dates of each individual course will affect the amount of money the VA will send you each month.
  1. The Department of Veteran Affairs will treat each course you are enrolled in as a separate unit with its own beginning and end date.
  2. The School Certifying Official reports these dates to the VA so that they can determine your monthly payment according to their regulations.
  3. When a course ends, it is no longer counted by the VA as part of your enrollment, regardless of which semester it is assigned to.
  4. The School Certifying Official can assist you with any questions or concerns you may have.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

- For all scholarships and grants available through TRC contact the Financial Aid Office.
- Resources available on the VA website <http://www.gibill.va.gov>
- Veterans Scholarship and Grants information available at <http://www.scholarshipsandgrants.us/veterans-scholarships/>
- Wartime Veteran's Survivors Grant Program information available at <https://dhewd.mo.gov/ppc/grants/wartimevetsurvivor.php>
- Air Force Aid Society available at <http://www.afas.org/merit>

Three Rivers College is an equal opportunity institution that commits itself to the policy that there will be no unlawful discrimination against any person because of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or national origin.