GPC Veterans Affairs FAQ’s

• How can I contact the Georgia Perimeter College Veterans Affairs Office?
  Visit us on the web for complete information without the wait at http://depts.gpc.edu/~finaid/veterans.html, email us at gpcva@gpc.edu, or visit your campus Financial Aid Office for assistance.

• How can I contact the Department of Veterans Affairs?
  You may visit their website at www.gibill.va.gov, or call 1-888-442-4551 for assistance.

  Atlanta Regional Office
  1700 Clairmont Road
  Decatur, GA 30033

• How do I apply for VA benefits?
  Complete the VONAPP online at http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/default.asp to apply for benefits for the first time or to switch educational institutions.

• Veterans and Reservists please use VA Form 22-1990 if you are using your benefits for the first time, use VA Form 22-1995 if you have used your benefits at another college or university.

• If you are a Dependent and/or Spouse requesting Chapter 35 DEA benefits or the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship for the first time please use VA Form 22-5490. If you have used your benefits at another college or university use VA Form 22-5495.


• Transients: Please complete the GPC Enrollment Certification Request form found at http://depts.gpc.edu/~finaid/2014-2015%20Printable%20Forms/1415%20Enrollment_Certification_Request1.pdf and provide a copy of your transient permission letter from your home college/university.

• I am a transfer student using VA benefits. How do I start my benefits at GPC?
  If you are a veteran or reservist you must complete VA Form 22-1995 online at http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp and submit the GPC Veteran Enrollment Certification Request to the Financial Aid Office on any campus or fax to
678-891-3614. If you are a dependent or spouse transferring schools using DEA benefits you must complete VA Form 22-5495 online and submit the GPC Veteran Enrollment Certification Request to the Financial Aid Office on any campus or fax to 678-891-3614. If you are a dependent or spouse using transferred benefits (TOE) you must complete VA form 22-1995 online and submit the GPC Veteran Enrollment Certification Request to the Financial Aid Office on any campus or fax to 678-891-3614.

- **Why must I submit a Program Advisement Form?**
  Any courses not in your program of study/major will be excluded from your enrollment certification reported to the Department of Veterans Affairs for payment. The Program Advisement Form identifies courses in your program of study and courses already satisfied at GPC or with transfer credits. *NEW Fall 2014*

- **Where can I submit my VA documents?**
  VA documents can be submitted to the Financial Aid Office on any GPC campus or faxed to 678-891-3427. Please be sure to include your GPC ID on all documents.

- **What are the enrollment requirements and minimum number of credit hours to receive and maintain eligibility for VA education benefits?**
  VA payment rates for chapters 30, 33 MHA, 35, 1606 and 1607, can be found at [http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.html](http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.html). Post 9/11 (Chapter33) benefit recipients must be enrolled greater than half-time (a minimum 7 credit hours during standard full-length terms) to receive housing (MHA) payments with at least one course on campus (pure online rates differ).

  ****Summer term and half-term classes have different enrollment requirements. Typically 6 credit hours is equivalent to full-time during these enrollment terms. Although sometimes unavoidable, registering for half-term classes can affect your monthly entitlement. Please keep in mind your payment rate is calculated based on enrollment hours and dates. VA calculates training time and not GPC.

- **Will my classes be protected if I am waiting for VA Benefits?**
  No. Eligible students are responsible for paying tuition and fees upfront each semester with the exception of documented Post 9/11(Certificate of Eligibility, DD214, or E-Benefits verification) students eligible at the 100% tier (In-State) and Vocational Rehabilitation students who have approved authorizations (VA Form 28-1905) on file with GPC Student Accounts and GPC Financial Aid Office. Contracts will be set-up ranging from 40%-100% (In-State) coverage based on your documented eligibility. Please keep in mind that YOU are ultimately responsible for any unpaid tuition and fees. If you do not qualify for 100% coverage, please be prepared to pay the difference at the time of registration to avoid being dropped for non-payment.

Students eligible to receive funds from VA chapters 30, 35, 1606, and 1607 are responsible for paying tuition and fees upfront. Students are encouraged to apply for Title IV federal financial aid at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). An additional financial resource option is the NELNET payment plan, information for NELNET can be found at [http://paymentplan.gpc.edu](http://paymentplan.gpc.edu).
• I have submitted my VA Enrollment Certification Request to the financial aid office, when will you send this information to the Department of Veterans Affairs for processing?

Enrollment certifications are processed on a first come first served basis. Certifications are electronically transmitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs typically within 2-4 weeks AFTER you have finalized your schedule by enrolling in classes in you program of study/major (processing time-frames during peak periods may be longer).

***Post 9/11*** Initial reporting will consist of ENROLLMENT HOURS ONLY.......tuition will be reported AFTER the published Financial Aid Freeze Date (dates available online) to ensure more accurate reporting of tuition and fees. Schedule adjustments after you have been certified may result in a VA overpayment creating a debit balance with GPC and/or the Department of Veterans Affairs.

• When will I receive my MHA or monthly benefit payment?

Benefit payments including MHA (Monthly Housing Allowance) are issued at the beginning of each month for training pursued the previous month (i.e. Payments for training pursued in August will be paid in September). Your timely payments are contingent upon your registration date and your monthly certification of enrollment if applicable.

• Do I have to certify my enrollment each month to receive a payment from the VA?

Chapters 30, 1606 and 1607 benefit recipients are responsible for verifying enrollment via WAVE (Web Automated Verification of Enrollment) at the end of each month within the certified enrollment period by visiting https://www.bibill.va.gov/wave/index.do or by calling 877 823-2378 to certify continuous enrollment and avoid payment delays.

• How does Post 9/11 book stipend work?

Post 9/11 book stipends are paid directly to the student at a rate of $41.67 per credit hour up to the maximum tier of individual eligibility; please be prepared to purchase your books out-of-pocket each semester or use other financial resources if available. You can avoid late book payments by registering during early registration.

• How do I use my VA Vocational Rehabilitation book allowance?

VA Vocational Rehabilitation book allowances are set-up at your campus bookstore only after your VA Case Manager has sent necessary authorizations for coverage (VA Form 28-1905) to the GPC Bookstore (E-Follett).

Please notify the bookstore representative if you are using VA Vocational Rehabilitation benefits prior to the purchase of your books and supplies.

• Will the VA pay my tuition directly to the school?

Only Post 9/11 and Vocational Rehabilitation tuition and fee payments are sent directly to the school.
• **What is NOT covered by VA?**
  1. Courses from which you have withdrawn
  2. Repeating a course that you have earned a grade of “D” or better, unless the department policy requires a grade of “C” or better
  3. Courses that are not required for your major/program of study at GPC
  4. Audits
  5. Any course for which you have equivalent transfer credit
  6. Online remedial courses
  7. If you are a veteran, PHED 1101 and PHED activity courses for chapters 30, 31, 33, and some Reservists if you have served more than 180 days of active duty. GPC will give you credit for these courses after submitting a copy of your DD214 member 4 to the Enrollment & Registration office on your campus.

***It is your responsibility to review your Program Advisement Form each semester to **ensure you are in compliance.** You may get a Program Advisement Form by visiting Advising and Counseling Services on any GPC campus. Our office will **NOT** notify you if you are not in compliance. Any courses not fitting the certification criteria will be excluded from your VA enrollment certification reported to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**NEW Fall 2014**

• **Can I receive other financial aid in addition to my VA Education Benefits?**
  Yes. Federal Aid is available for those who qualify, please visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for additional information.

• **How can I check the status of my VA claim or find out how much money I will be receiving after my enrollment has been certified?**
  The Department of Veterans Affairs will send you certification confirmation once GPC has certified your enrollment. Payment and benefit information is also available in E-Benefits [https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal](https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal) or by calling 1-888-442-4551.

• **What should I do if I do not receive a payment?**
  If you have received notification from the VA confirming your enrollment certification, please allow at least two weeks for VA processing. If the allotted time has passed, please contact the Department of Veteran Affairs by calling 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).
• Can I use my VA Education Benefits if I am a transient/guest student at GPC?
  Yes. You must be officially accepted as a transient student at GPC. You must complete the Veteran Enrollment Certification Request and submit a copy of your transient letter listing your approved courses from your home college/university to any campus Financial Aid Office or fax it to 678-891-3614.

• How do I find out if a particular program is approved for VA benefits?
  All degree granting programs and certifications at GPC are approved for VA funding.

• Can I change my program of study?
  Yes, you must complete a Change of Major Form with Enrollment & Registration Services on your campus and get a new Academic Plan from Advising and Counseling Services. Immediately submit the new Academic Plan to the Financial Aid Office.

• How long am I eligible for benefits?
  This information is listed on your COE (Certificate of Eligibility) and information is also available in E-Benefits at https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal or by calling 1-888-442-4551

• Can I receive Tutorial assistance?
  Yes. Tutorial assistance is available for Chapters 30, 33, 35, and 1606. The student, tutor, and certifying official must complete VA Form 22-1990t, Application and Enrollment Certification for Individualized Tutorial Assistance. The application may be submitted at the end of each month or combination of months. The application must be signed and dated on or after the date of the last tutoring session certified.

• Can I get a copy of my discharge papers (DD214 member 4)?
  Yes. We recommend that you contact the Military Personnel Records Center. Your questions may also be sent to:

  National Personnel Records Center
  1 Archives Drive
  St. Louis, MO 63138

  Telephone: 314-801-0800
  Fax: 314-801-9195
  http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/