



332nd Warrior Call

Questions on New GI Bill keep coming

By Terry Howell, Military.com

October 28, 2008

The New Post 9/11 GI Bill is a year away and the questions keep coming. People seem

most concerned about eligibility and transferability. Eligibility questions are the easiest to answer, but with little information available, the questions on transferability a bit more challenging.

The following is a quick snapshot of the latest questions (and answers) posted in this forum. The answers are given based on the best, most current, information and with the understanding that everything is subject change between now and Aug. 1, 2009 when the New GI Bill kicks in.

Remember: Only the Department of Veterans Affairs can answer your person specific GI Bill benefit questions (call 1-888-GIBILL-1). But, I would hold off on asking them about transferability; that is

than 90 days service since Sept. 11, 2001 he is eligible.

This is covered here:

<http://education.military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/20-top-faqs-for-new-gi-bill#3>



Soldiers of the 332nd Medical Brigade understand the importance of education and the benefits that the New GI Bill may bring to them.

an issue to be determined by the Department of Defense and each branch of the Armed Forces.

Question: My husband was advised against getting the G.I. Bill when he enlisted in 1985. Is he eligible under this new program? If so can he transfer benefits to me and our children?

Answer Part One: If your husband has more

Answer Part Two: The rules for transferring the new GI Bill benefit have not been clarified yet. However based on what we know he will have to re-enlist to qualify for transferability.

This is covered here: <http://education.military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/20-top-faqs-for-new-gi-bill#16>

Question: I used some of the old Montgomery bill when I was enlisted. I was separated from enlisted service to cross over to the Commissioned Officer side. Do I get the full benefits of the new post 9/11 GI bill or do they deduct what I used when I was enlisted? If I sign this

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Special points of interest:

- New GI Bill answers
- Commander welcomes new chief of staff
- Montgomery GI Bill guide
- Wilmoth inducted into American Academy of Nursing
- Veterans Day 2008

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Questions keep coming

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over to my dependent do they get the housing allotment also?

Answer Part One: You are eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill, and you should receive the number of months of benefits you have remaining in your MGIB account. Formula: 36 months minus the number of months already used.

Answer Part Two: No. The person receiving the transferred benefits will get the Montgomery GI Bill payment rate.

Question: I joined in '84, and cashed out my VEAP. I did not buy

into the Montgomery GI Bill. I recently retired with 60% disability. Can I get the MGIB still or are there other Ed benefits I can take advantage of?

Answer Part One: No to the MGIB, that ship has sailed. However, if you have 90 days or more of Post 9/11 service, you may qualify for the New Post 9/11 GI Bill.

Answer Part Two: Due to your 60% disability you may also qualify for Voc-Rehab (GI Bill Chapter 31). There are no guarantees, you will have to be interviewed and found in need or re-employment training and

counseling, but if you are you will get a very robust education benefit. Contact the VA to get specific answers on your personal situation. **1-888-GIBILL-1 or 1-800-827-1000.**



American Indian: Living in Many Words

The Garrison Equal Opportunity Office is hosting the National American Indian Heritage Month Luncheon Nov. 14. The luncheon is from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at The Commons at Fort McPherson, Ga.

The guest speaker will be Chief Chipa Wolfe, founder and director of Rolling Thunder Enterprises in Jasper, Ga.

Chief Chipa Wolfe has been producing cultural showcases and entertainment programs for more than two decades, with rave reviews

from educational institutions, corporations, law enforcement, government leaders and the film industry. The luncheon will feature cultural

"Becoming aware of Native American culture expands minds and opens hearts."

dance by Rolling Thunder enterprises.

Tickets cost \$13.50 and will not be sold at the door. Tickets can be pur-

chased by contacting and of the following people:

SFC Monica Bell
404-464-2618 or 404-520-2075
monica.bell@us.army.mil

Carolyn Cratic
404-464-2896
carolyn.cratic@us.army.mil

Holly Mills
404-464-4454
e-mail message
holly.mills@us.army.mil



Commander—Col. James Snyder
Public Affairs Officer—Maj. John Heil
Contributors—
President George W. Bush
Mr. Stirel Harvey
Master Chief Tim Zernick

Terry Howell

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cartoons) are welcomed and should be submitted to the public affairs office. With the exception of copyrighted or syndicated materials and photographs, all materials may be reprinted without permission.

Commander's Corner

Although the year is rapidly coming to an end, the training year has just begun. We must focus on our mission and train to standard at all times. We must remember that our Direct Reporting Units (DRUs) depend on us for support, guidance, and leadership. This requires that we become familiar with and understand our primary mission and obligations to our fellow soldiers. In these changing times of transition, realignment, and government leadership, we must remain flexible, be committed and dedicated to individual and unit improvement.

We cannot and will not accept anything less than SUCCESS in our service to and defense of this wonderful country, which is the envy of everyone in the world. Remember we, as individual soldiers, are responsible for ensuring our physical readiness, meeting military education requirements, maintaining proficiency in our respective MOS, weapons qualifications, and verify-



Col. James Snyder
Commander, 332nd
Medical Brigade

ing that each soldier has a family readiness packet and is prepared for deployment.

As you aware, or should be, every unit and soldier based on the ARFORGEN and AREP Training Cycle, will likely be deployed in the 5th (READY Year). Everything that we do in years 1, 2, 3, and 4 is for one purpose and that is to prepare for deployment, either as a unit or as an individual, depending on mission requirements. I challenge all Senior Leaders to create and maintain a challenging training and administrative environment designed to meet our goal of

"Taking Care of the Soldier" and to support our families.

I extend a special welcome to our new Chief of Staff, Col. Roman Golash, who will join us this month. I have known Col. Golash for nearly 12 years during which time we have worked together on a professional basis in the civilian world as Medical Microbiologists as well as having served together as members of the 330th Medical Brigade. Please welcome Col. Golash to the best Medical Brigade in the U.S. Army Reserve.

I also want to wish everyone a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving, a time to give thanks for our many blessings and enjoy our families. When giving thanks, be sure to remember our fellow soldiers who are deployed throughout the world. Pray for their safety and return home.

Hooah!

College not for you? Check out certification

By Master Chief Petty Officer Tim Zernick, DANTES Special Enlisted Advisor

Many services are working to close the gap between military qualifications and professional certifications.

Earning certification in a career field can be as satisfying as earning a college degree.

Certification is the key link between Service members' training and experience, and it translates military qualifications into civilian terms.

Becoming certified is a great way to demonstrate initiative, responsibility and allows Service members to exhibit the depth of their knowledge in their career field. Expertise is in-

dicative of performance and leads to better decision making.

Many services are working to close the gap between military qualifications and professional certifications. This is a major step toward validating the professionalism of our military forces and clarifying the importance of our training and experience.

Systems like the [Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line \(Navy COOL\)](#) and [Army Credentialing Opportunities On-Line \(Army Cool\)](#) provide a gateway for Service members to identify certification matches in their career field.

It also helps them take steps toward earning a professional certification.

I especially applaud the Navy's effort to provide training and funding to help Sailors earn credentials. I expect the Navy will see a huge return in mission proficiency for their efforts.

I encourage Service members to earn professional credentials. These credentials enhance the reputation of our training and qualification programs and exemplify the adeptness of Service members.

I encourage education offices to include credentialing in counseling sessions and invite pertinent credentialing agencies to education

College not for you?

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Montgomery GI Bill guide to help Reservists

GI Bill benefits are available for Selected Reserve service members to help with education and training costs. The guide topics include the following:

- A GI Bill SR Benefits Overview
- Step-by-Step Application Instructions
- Related GI Bill Programs

The Montgomery GI Bill SR (Chapter 1606), is available to members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Reserves, as well as the National Guard.

Beside the MGIB SR, activated reserve and Guard service members have two other GI Bill options. The first gives those who serve continuously for 24 or more months on active duty, the option to pay into the GI Bill for active duty (Chapter 30). The second program, called the Reserve Education Assistance Program (Chapter 1607). REAP allows activated reserve and guard members up to 80 percent of the GI Bill for active duty (Chapter 30). This program is further explained on the [REAP fact sheet](#).

The MGIB SR Chapter 1606 benefit is worth over \$11,000. This amount is based on the 2008-2009 monthly full-time student payment rate of \$329 multiplied by the 36-month limit. This "payment rate" automatically increases on October 1 each year. You get the increase no matter when you became eligible or start using it.

Note: Your actual benefits may be higher if you signed up for the [Army, Navy or Marine Corps College Funds](#).

MGIB SR Eligibility

To be eligible for the MGIB SR you must meet the following criteria:

- Have a six-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve or Guard signed after June 30, 1985. If you are an officer, you must have agreed to serve six years in addition to your origi-

nal obligation.

- Complete your initial active duty for training (IADT).
- Meet the requirement to receive a high school diploma or equivalency certificate before completing IADT.
- Remain in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit.

Using Your GI Bill

Your GI Bill can be used to pay for many different programs including the following:

- College, business, technical or vocational courses
- Distance learning including correspondence courses
- [Certification tests](#)
- [Apprenticeship/job training](#) (Veterans and Reserve Only)
- Flight training

Note: Only VA representatives can answer specific questions about your GI Bill account. You can reach them at 1-888-GIBILL-1.

Step-by-Step Application Instructions

Although the GI Bill application process can be time consuming it is relatively easy and worth the time invested. In most cases the process could take you four steps, or less!

Step One

Find a school that has VA approved training or education programs. Be sure to ask the admissions counselor if the school meets the requirements to use the GI Bill. You can use the [Military.com School Finder](#) to locate a school or institution that fits the bill.

Note: Most regionally and nationally accredited colleges and universities have VA approved programs.

Step Two

Complete the Application for Education Benefits, [VA Form 22-1990](#). Your school's registrar's office usually has copies of the form on hand. In addition, you must also submit a

copy of the Notice of Basic Eligibility (DD Form 2384 or 2384-1) your unit gave you when you become eligible.

Step Three

In most cases, the school will send your application along with their paperwork to the VA regional office with jurisdiction over the State or area where you will train. This will expedite the process. However if you have not found a school yet, you can still apply for your VA Eligibility Determination by mailing your completed VA Form 22-1990 to your [VA Regional Processing Office](#).

Within four to eight weeks you should receive a declaration of eligibility and a letter explaining your VA GI Bill benefits. Keep in mind that it is not uncommon to get a letter from the VA requesting more information. You will have to answer the Department of Veteran's Affairs requests to be determined eligible and complete the process.

Step Four

Once you begin receiving your benefit checks (Direct Deposit) you will have to complete the VA's Web Automated Verification of Eligibility (WAVE) process each month to continue to receive your monthly benefits payments.

The WAVE is a simple process that requires you to either log-on to the VA WAVE website or call their toll-free number at 1-888-GIBILL-1. It only takes a couple of minutes, but you will not get your monthly payment until you do.

These four simple steps will lead to over \$10,000 in education benefits. It's well worth the effort, so don't wait until it is too late, get started today!

Wilmoth inducted into American Academy of Nursing

By Maj. John Heil, 332nd MED BDE public affairs

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – Brig. Gen. Margaret C. Wilmoth, former commander of the 332nd Medical Brigade in Nashville, Tenn., was formally inducted into the American Academy of Nursing as one of its 2008 new Fellows and selected by the Academy's Fellow Selection Committee for her outstanding achievements as a leader in the nursing profession.

Wilmoth, who holds a PhD, is a professor at the School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services at University of North Carolina, Charlotte. She was inducted as a fellow with 92 other nursing leaders during the induction ceremony.

"In the Academy's constitution, one commitment is to anticipate national and international trends in health

care," said Wilmoth, "and address resulting issues of health care knowledge and policy."

The fellowship induction recognized Wilmoth's and fellow health care leaders' accomplishments within the nursing profession. It also affords them as well as other nurses the opportunity to work with other leaders in the health care industry to address health care issues of the day.

Wilmoth is a graduate of the University of Maryland, with a Bachelor and Master of Science in Nursing. She received her doctoral degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College. Dr. Wilmoth, also a Registered Nurse, is engaged in teaching across the nursing programs and conducting research in the area of psycho-social oncology.

She is currently assigned to the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, and recently completed her tenure as Commanding General, 332nd Medical Brigade. As commander, Wilmoth was the first nurse in the history of the U.S. Army to command a medical brigade. She commanded more than 6,000 Soldiers assigned to 59 units across the southeast and Puerto Rico, and ensured their readiness for mobilization and deployment.

For more information about the Academy of Nursing, please visit their Website at www.aanet.org, and for information about the 332nd Medical Brigade, please contact Maj. John Heil, public affairs officer, at john.heil@us.army.mil.

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fairs.

Often, the link to several trade credentials is as close as the local community college. DANTES offers many services to help with certification, including approximately 80 agreements with nationally-recognized certification and licensure associations.

These agreements allow DANTES Test Sites to administer the majority of their certification and licensure exams, providing convenience and accessibility to Service members.

Family Readiness important



Ms. Haynes, family readiness group coordinator, talks with family members and Soldiers about the importance of the Family Readiness Group throughout the year and during deployment.



Medical Warriors and family members receive information about benefits available to them whether Soldiers are deployed or not. Military Once Source and other benefits were explained very well.

Veterans Day 2008

A proclamation from the President of the United States, George W. Bush

On Veterans Day, we pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of the men and women who in defense of our freedom have bravely worn the uni-



Col. Michael Tucker, veteran and MNC-I Surgeon, congratulates Brig. Gen. Al Mahdi, Iraqi Ground Forces Surgeon General, as the first IGFC Combat Medics graduate in July 2007.

form of the United States.

From the fields and forests of war-torn Europe to the jungles of South-



Command Sgt's. Maj. Gary Glenn and Roger Schulz, both veterans, celebrate Glenn's change of responsibility and retirement in September 2008.

ghanistan, brave patriots have protected our Nation's ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America's veterans answered the

call when asked to protect our Nation from some of the most brutal and ruthless tyrants, terrorists, and militaries the world has ever known.

They stood tall in the face of grave danger and enabled our Nation to become the greatest force for freedom in human history. Members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard have answered a high calling to serve and have helped secure America at every turn.

Our country is forever indebted to our veterans for their quiet courage and exemplary service. We also remember and honor those who laid down their lives in freedom's de-



Majors John Blackstone and John Heil, both veterans, wait for their C-130 at Baghdad International Airport in August 2007.

fense. These brave men and women made the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit.

On Veterans Day, we remember these heroes for their valor, their loyalty, and their dedication. Their selfless sacrifices continue to inspire us today as we work to advance peace and extend freedom around the world.

With respect for and in recognition of the contributions our service members have made to the cause of peace and freedom around the world, the Congress has provided (5

U.S.C. 6103(a)) that November 11 of each year shall be set aside as a legal public holiday to honor America's veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2008, as Veter-

ans Day and urge Americans observe No-



Maj. Gen. James Hasbargen and Col. James Snyder, both veterans, listen to a speech at the change of command ceremony in September 2008.

November 9 through November 15, 2008, as National Veterans Awareness Week.

I encourage all Americans to recognize the bravery and sacrifice of our veterans through ceremonies and prayers. I call upon Federal, State, and local officials to display the flag of the United States and to support and participate in patriotic activities in their communities.

I invite civic and fraternal organizations, places of worship, schools, businesses, unions, and the media to support this national observance with commemorative expressions and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

Team Aeser qualifies for National Adventure race

By Sgt. 1st Class Stirel Harvey

Recently, Capt. Lloyd Jackson, Cadet Michael Burrows, and Spec. Christine Fontaine entered into a marathon as Team Aeser and placed 2nd in their division qualifying them for the National Adventure Race.

Take time this battle assembly to congratulate them on their marathon race placing and for qualifying for the National Adventure Race.

Team Aeser set the example for others to follow, including those in the Medical Brigade, and the United States Army



Combative training brings fun and esprit de corps



Medical Warriors come together during combative training, which provided self-defense training, physical fitness and encouraged teamwork and esprit de corps inside the Brigade. It also gave an opportunity for Soldiers to have a little bit of fun.