Follow the directions on the “GI Bill Pay Rates” handout in this folder for current rates.
Ask your Veteran & Military Resource Advisor if you qualify for the Yellow Ribbon Program or other financial resources.
Benefits are conditional on honorable discharge.
For detailed benefits information go to ccv.edu/veterans or the educational benefits pages of the VA and DoD.
Where do I begin? Your first step should be contacting a Veteran & Military Resource Advisor at CCV to explore benefit eligibility/entitlement, benefit advising, a review of certification process, and step-by-step application instruction.

When should I start the enrollment process? It is never too early to start the process. We recommend that students who are planning to use a VA education benefit start the application process at least three months in advance of the beginning of the semester. This allows processing time on the VA’s end to allow for a prompt certification. Talk with your Veteran & Military Resource Advisor for support through this process; it is possible to enroll and use benefits even if you don’t have a three month lead time.

How can I confirm my eligibility and/or entitlement? We recommend that all students visit the Department of Veteran Affairs website for the most up-to-date information regarding veteran’s education benefits. There is also a hotline for students to call at 1-888-GI BILL 1 (1-888-442-4551). CCV’s Veteran & Military Resource Advisors are also available by appointment to provide benefit advising.

Are there other resources available if I am ineligible or only partially covered? There are many different options available for financial assistance for higher education. Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) has counselors available to help you apply for scholarships and grants. Additionally, CCV has financial aid counselors to assist in navigating and applying for various financial resources. Visit the veterans section on the CCV website for information on scholarships specific to veterans, spouses, and dependents.

What are the current pay rates for my education benefit? Pay rates vary with each GI Bill, entitlement percentage, and rate-of-pursuit. You can visit the VA website, call the GI Bill hotline for help, or contact your Veteran & Military Resource Advisor who can help you get an accurate figure.

What if I am having trouble and want to drop a course? Always contact your Veteran & Military Resource Advisor before dropping a class or your Certifying Official after you have dropped a class. It is important for your Veteran & Military Resource Advisor to provide you with all the possible outcomes so you can make an informed decision.

What if I fail a course? The language around a failed course can be very specific depending on which benefit/GI Bill you are using. For accurate information please contact your Veteran & Military Resource Advisor, visit the VA website, or call the hotline. In most cases the course can be retaken without penalty.

Common Acronyms and their Definitions

- VMRA – Veteran & Military Resource Advisor: These CCV staff members are Veterans themselves and can help you determine your benefit eligibility, apply for benefits, achieve academic success, and successfully transition to your next step after graduating from CCV.
- SCO – School Certifying Official: These CCV staff members report student enrollment information, such as term dates, credit loads, qualifying costs, etc. to the VA in order for benefit payments to be disbursed. They can also answer questions about VA education benefits and provide assistance in contacting the VA.
- ROP – Rate of Pursuit: The amount of credit hours being pursued in a semester divided by the standard 12 credit hour semester required to graduate within expected time frame.
- MHA – Monthly Housing Allowance: The monthly stipend paid to student to support living expenses and/or tuition and fees. Amount varies based on type of GI Bill, entitlement, and ROP.
- COE – Certificate of Eligibility: The award letter sent to the student using a GI Bill after completion of application for benefits.
- REC – Request for Enrollment Certification: The “permission slip” received from student and sent to the VA for approval.