



# CHECKLIST FOR RECEIVING BENEFITS

## Veterans, Spouses, and Dependents

Veteran School Certifying Official/Financial Aid Advisor  
Alysia Musser, BS  
Location: Westover Bldg, Room 103  
Email: [amusser@trcc.edu](mailto:amusser@trcc.edu)  
Phone: 573-840-9606

Prior to registration, it is recommended that you meet with the Veteran School Certifying Official

**All Veterans, Spouses, and Dependents (under the age of 25) enrolled in Three Rivers College regardless of residence location will be charged in-district tuition rates.**

- Apply for benefits through the VA website at <https://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/>
  - a. Under “How do I apply?” click on Find your education benefits form.
  - b. All Veteran students (New and Transfer) who have previously used VA Educational Benefits will need to provide an updated Certificate of Eligibility (COE). Updated benefit information can be obtained from <https://www.va.gov/new-home-page/>.
  - c. If using TA, you will need to apply and get approval from your ESO at the following website <https://www.armyignited.army.mil/student/public/welcome>
- Complete your FAFSA at <https://studentaid.gov/>. **(Recommended, but not required)**
- Apply for Admissions to Three Rivers College online at <https://trcc.edu/apply/admissions-application/>
- Take Accuplacer test <https://trcc.edu/academics/testing-services/> if no previous college classes taken.
- Send transcripts from high school attended and any previous colleges attended to the Office of the Registrar.
  - a. High School transcripts can be obtained from the High School
  - b. College transcripts can be obtained through the college you attended, the National Student Clearinghouse @ [www.getmytranscript.com](http://www.getmytranscript.com), or through Parchment @ <https://www.parchment.com/order/>
- Send Military Transcripts through Joint Services Transcript (JST) <https://jst.doded.mil/jst> to the Office of the Registrar and Complete the Alternative College Credit Form and return to the Office of Career Services <https://trcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/Alternative-College-Credit-Student-Assessment-Form.pdf>
  - a. <https://trcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/IR6111.pdf>
- Veterans bring in a copy of your DD-214. **(Veterans Only)**
- Register for classes and Complete a Veterans Registration Form each semester attending – **Veteran to make appointment with Veterans SCO**, Veteran Dependent and Veteran Spouses to make appointment through Welcome Center to meet with an Advisor.  
(The classes you take **MUST** apply to the degree you are seeking for them to be certified through to the VA, the VA will not pay for auditing classes).

College Financing Plan (formerly known as Shopping Sheet) – The College Financing Plan is a consumer tool that participating institutions use to notify students about their financial aid package. It is a standardized form that is designed to simplify the information that prospective students receive about costs and financial aid so that they can easily compare institutions and make informed decisions about where to attend school

<https://mytrcc.trcc.edu/>

Information below provides a summary of each VA program as well as documentation that should be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid.

<p><b><u>Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill® Active Duty</u></b></p> <p>This program provides benefits to individuals who have at least (2) two years of active-duty service. The monthly benefit <b>paid to you</b> is based on the type of training you take, length of your service, your category, and any college fund eligibility. Entitlement period is 36 months. Benefits usually expire 10 years from last discharge or separation, but the time limit could be less depending on the situation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Certificate of eligibility received from the VA.</b></li> <li>• <b>Veterans Registration Form (each semester)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Chapter 31 – Vocational Rehabilitation /Disabled Veterans</u></b></p> <p>Eligibility for this program is determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The program provides payment of all approved tuition, fees, books, and supplies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PO from Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor with contact email</b></li> <li>• <b>Veterans Registration Form (each semester)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Chapter 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill® now called the Forever Bill</u></b></p> <p>This program provides financial support for education and housing to Veterans with at least 90 days of aggregate active-duty service (excluding entry level and skill training) on or after September 10, 2001, (or) discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge. For those eligible, it will <b>pay tuition and fees directly to the school</b> and a books and supplies stipend to the student. A housing allowance is also available, if eligible. Chapter 33 offers transfer of eligibility to dependents while service member is still serving. Chapter 33 elections are irrevocable. Eligibility is determined by length of service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Certificate of Eligibility received from the VA.</b></li> <li>• <b>Veterans Registration Form (each semester)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Chapter 35 – Survivors’/Dependents Educational Assistance</u></b></p> <p>This program provides benefits for dependent children and spouses of Veterans who died or who are 100 percent disabled due to service-connected causes. There is an entitlement period of 45 months. Dependent children must be between the ages of 18 and 26. In some cases, it is possible to begin before the age of 18 and to continue after the age of 26. Spouses are eligible for 10 years; 20 years if the veteran is rated permanently and totally disabled within 3 years of discharge. A surviving spouse is eligible for 20 years if veteran death occurs while on active duty. The monthly benefit will be <b>paid to you</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Certificate of eligibility received from the VA.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>You must provide the Veteran’s File number to the School Certifying Official</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Veterans Registration Form (each semester)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Chapter 1606 – Montgomery GI Bill® for Selected Reservist/National Guard</u></b></p> <p>This program provides benefits for members of the Selected Reserve/National Guard who enlisted, re-enlisted or extended their enlistment for a period of six years after July 1, 1985. Requires completion of initial active duty for training. Must be active reservist with a 6-year obligation. There is an entitlement period of 36 months. Eligibility ends on the day you leave the Selected Reserve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Certification of eligibility received from the VA.</b></li> <li>• <b>Copy of DD-214 or Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE) Form #2384 (this form is provided to you by your unit), if NOBE is provided it can only be used for short term, then your DD-214 – Member 4 copy, if available, must be turned in.</b></li> <li>• <b>Veterans Registration Form (each semester)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship</u></b></p> <p>This benefit is for children and surviving spouses of an active-duty member of the Armed Forces who died in the line of duty on or after September 11, 2001. A child may be married or over 23 and still be eligible, although their eligibility ends on their 33<sup>rd</sup> birthday. A spouse will lose eligibility upon remarriage. Under this benefit, eligible persons are entitled to 36 months of benefits at the 100% level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Certificate of Eligibility received from the VA</b></li> <li>• <b>Veterans Registration Form (each semester)</b></li> </ul>

### **TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA) OVERVIEW**

The Tuition Assistance (TA) program provides financial assistance for voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a Soldier's personal and professional self-development goals.

Tuition Assistance (TA) is available for courses that are offered in the classroom or by distance learning that is part of an approved academic degree or certificate program.

Current Army policy limits Tuition Assistance (TA) to 130 semester hours of undergraduate credit or baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first. There is a 39-semester hour limit that applies to all credits taken after completion of a baccalaureate degree.

**All eligible Service members will request Tuition Assistance (TA) through ArmyIgnitEd and get Approval prior to Enrollment.**

Non-Army service members must obtain Tuition Assistance (TA) through their branch of service.

All Tuition Assistance (TA) for Active Duty, USAR and ARNG soldiers must be requested through ArmyIgnitEd.

Service members must meet all required requirements.

For more information on Tuition Assistance (TA) go to <https://www.armyignited.army.mil/student/public/welcome>

### **WARTIME VETERANS' SURVIVOR GRANT**

This grant provides higher education financial aid to the spouses and children of wartime veterans.

The coordinating board for higher education shall award annually up to 25 grants to survivors of qualifying military members.

The eligible recipients shall be continued to be awarded annually if the recipient achieves and maintains a cumulative grade point average of a 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

The child must be the natural, adopted or stepchild who is less than 25 years of age.

The veteran must meet certain guidelines to be classified "Qualifying military member."

The coordinating board for higher education shall provide the necessary forms and determine who is eligible for this grant.

For more information on the Wartime Veterans Survivors Grant go to

<https://dhewd.mo.gov/ppc/grants/wartimevetsurvivor.php>

### **MISSOURI NATIONAL GUARD**

Missouri State Tuition Assistance (TA) provides 100% tuition assistance for students with 10 years or less of military service; for students with 10 to 17 years of service it covers 50% of tuition.

Missouri State Tuition Assistance (TA) pays for tuition only.

The program covers up to 39 undergraduate credit hours per year.

Missouri State Tuition Assistance (TA) is available to all Army National Guard members who meet the required requirements.

For more information go to

<https://www.moguard.ngb.mil/Programs/Education-and-Incentives/>

**All soldiers MUST apply and be approved for Federal TA through ArmyIgnitEd before being eligible to being awarded State TA.**

<https://www.armyignited.army.mil/student/public/welcome>

### **MISSOURI RETURNING HEROES EDUCATION ACT**

The tuition charged to combat veterans will be \$50.00 per credit hour if the criteria for "combat veteran" is met and the veteran achieves and maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

The veteran must be enrolled in a degree program leading to a certificate or an associate degree.

The combat veteran's eligibility for the \$50.00 tuition limitation will expire at the end of the 10-year period beginning on the date of the veteran's last discharge from service.

The \$50.00 tuition limitation will be provided before all other federal and state aid including Veterans educational benefits for which the veteran is eligible has been applied.

For more information on the Missouri Returning Heroes Education Act go to

<https://dhewd.mo.gov/ppc/returningheroesact.php>

College Scorecard - Search and compare college costs, degree programs, admissions, graduation and post-college earnings, to help select a college at <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

College Navigator - Free consumer information tool designed to find the right college. Searches may be refined to include but not limited to costs, location, degrees, retention and graduation rates, default rates, etc. at <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>.

**\*College navigator collects selected IPEDS data. The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System is a data collection program used by U.S. Department of Education.**

Paying for College - Explains the ins and outs of student financial aid and repaying student loans to make smarter decisions about how to pay for school <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/paying-for-college/>