

SO YOU WANT TO USE YOUR GI BILL??

HOW TO GET STARTED

(Hint) Before getting started it is very important that you personally know what GI Bill Educational benefit you are eligible for.

(Hint) If you're a dependent make sure the Veteran has transferred the benefits to you through MilConnect

Go to this website <https://www.va.gov> and click on the APPLY FOR EDUCATION BENEFITS button which is located toward the bottom of the page. You will follow the instructions and proceed to fill out and submit online the proper form.

(Hint) For Veterans/Service Members with Ch. 33, Ch. 30 or Ch. 1606 please fill out and submit online form "22-1990"

(Hint) For Ch. 31 – Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment please visit <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/>

(Hint) For Ch. 33 – Transfer of Entitlement to Dependent please fill out and submit online form "22-1990e"

(Hint) For Ch. 35 – Dependents Education Assistance please fill out and submit online form "22-5490"

Within 30-45 days upon completion and submission of the appropriate form, you will receive a Certificate of Eligibility in the mail. This document is very important, always maintain a copy for your records.

The next form you will need is a VA Advisement form. This form can be obtained from a USM VA office personnel or online at <https://www.usm.edu/military-veterans/>. This form needs to be taken to your academic advisor for approval of your curriculum. Please make sure this form is completed in its entirety.

(Hint) This VA Advisement form will be accomplished before every academic term you wish to use your GI Bill Educational Benefits. Failure to do this will delay payments.

Once you have received and completed all these actions, bring these forms by the Center for Military Veterans, Service Members and Families located at 3503 Morningside Drive across from the Day Care Center so your certification of benefits can be submitted to the Federal VA office for processing. The accomplishment of these actions are your responsibility please do not rely on others to get your benefits started.

If you need any information pertaining to your eligibility or what benefits you will receive please review the official website <http://www.va.gov>, create an account at the "Ask A Question" website – https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/utils/login_form or call 1-888-442-4551.

Our office can be reached at 601-264-4629 or email va@usm.edu