

Post 9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33 Eligibility

Veterans of Active Duty Service

Veterans who have served at least 90 days of active duty service after September 10, 2001, and received an honorable discharge will qualify for Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill). To qualify for the full benefit a veteran must have served at least three years of active duty service after September 10, 2001. Active duty veterans serving more than 90 days, but less than three years of post-9/11 active duty service, are eligible for a percentage of the full Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill):

Post-9-11 Active Duty Service	Percentage of Post-9-11 Benefits (of Tuition, Books & Living Allowance)
90 Cumulative Days	40%
6 Cumulative Months	50%
12 Cumulative Months	60%
18 Cumulative Months	70%
24 Cumulative Months	80%
30 Cumulative Months	90%
36 Cumulative Months	100%
30 Consecutive Days & Discharge due to Service Connected Disability	100%

Active Duty Service Members

Service members can use Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill) while on active duty, but do not qualify for the housing stipend or book stipend. However, because of a loophole in the new GI Bill active duty servicemembers do qualify for unlimited tuition/fees charges. For example, if you go to Harvard Medical School while on active duty they will pay your entire tuition/fees bill but not a living allowance or a book stipend. To see how this works at your school, please check out our [GI Bill benefits calculator](#).

Post 9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33 Eligibility

National Guard/Reserve

Veterans who have served at least 90 days of active duty service after September 10, 2001, will qualify for Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill). Unlike in Chapter 1607 (REAP), benefits for active duty service are based on cumulative active duty service, not the single longest deployment. National Guardsmen and reservists with three years of active duty service post-9/11 now qualify for full benefits under Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill). As a general rule, only federal activations count toward total active duty service. Training, state call-ups and 32 AGR service do not qualify.

The following chart outlines the breakdown of benefits based on amount of service.

Post-9/11 Active Duty Service	Percentage of Post-9/11 Benefits (of Tuition, Books, & Living Allowance)
90 Consecutive Days	40%
6 Cumulative Months	50%
12 Cumulative Months	60%
18 Cumulative Months	70%
24 Cumulative Months	80%
30 Cumulative Months	90%
36 Cumulative Months	100%
30 Consecutive Days & Discharge due to Service Connected Disability	100%

Medically Discharged Veterans

Veterans who served at least 30 days of post-9/11 active duty service and were discharged due to a service-connected disability qualify for the full Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill). Although it is not absolutely clear from the VA rules, but it appears that servicemembers whose only active duty was during BASIC or advanced skills training still qualify.

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VEAP-Eligible or Opted Out of MGIB

Any veteran or service member who served at least 90 days of active duty service post-9/11 will qualify for Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill). Those veterans who did not opt in to the Chapter 30 (Montgomery GI Bill) and/or participated in the Chapter 32 (VEAP) program will still be eligible for this benefit.

Officers (ROTC/Academy Grads)

Officers who graduated from service academies or received ROTC scholarships do qualify for Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill). However, time spent satisfying the ROTC/Service Academy active duty obligation does not count toward the active duty service necessary to qualify for the benefits. These requirements are typically 5 years for academies and 4 years for ROTC grads. If an ROTC graduate becomes a reserve officer and then is activated on federal orders it is possible that this active duty service would qualify for Post-9/11 eligibility.

Took Student Loan Repayment

Service members who enlisted under the student loan repayment plan (SLRP) qualify for Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill). However, the initial three years of service do not count toward Chapter 33 eligibility. For example, a service member who took SLRP and served 5 years of active duty service would have 2 years of qualifying service toward Chapter 33 benefits (80% rate). Reenlistment student loan repayment programs do not affect GI Bill benefits.

Military Spouse/Dependents

Chapter 33 (the new, post-9/11 GI Bill) allows the Secretary of Defense to provide currently serving troops the opportunity to transfer education benefits to a spouse or to one or more of the individual's children at the Secretary of Defense's discretion. Congress also just created a program for the children of servicemembers who die on active duty, the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship. For more information see Fry Scholarship below.

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ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for transferability a servicemember must:

1. Qualify for the education benefits themselves.
2. Served at least 6 years on Active Duty or in the National Guard or Select Reserves.
3. Agree to commit to 4 more years of service starting after August 2009. EXCEPTION: If a veteran is retirement eligible, than no additional service will be required. If a veteran is less than 4 years to becoming retirement eligible than that veteran just needs to finish the years remaining to retirement eligibility (e.g, 18 years in the service, 2 more years are required).
4. Have a spouse or dependent(s) enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS) to transfer benefits to.

For additional information and a complete list of all benefits please go to www.va.gov.