

Post-9/11 (Chapter 33) GI Bill® Recipients

Please read this carefully as it explains your responsibilities as a recipient of Chapter 33 funds:

- You are responsible for immediately informing the school certifying official (SCO) of any changes in your academic schedule (increases or decreases).
- If changes in your academic schedule (decreases) are caused by circumstances out of your control, you should report those circumstances to the school certifying official (SCO) as they may be considered by VA as mitigating circumstances and lessen or eliminate your debt. Mitigating circumstances are between you and VA.
- If you reduce (decrease) your academic schedule, either by dropping a class or classes or withdrawing from school completely, be aware that a debt may be established against you for funds that were paid to you or on your behalf to the school/institution. Debt may be established for funds the VA paid to your school for tuition, fees, Yellow Ribbon and/or for funds the VA paid to you for the monthly housing allowance.
- If you reduce (decrease) your academic schedule and VA determines that a debt is established, you will receive a debt letter from the Debt Management Center, St. Paul, MN. You should read and comply with that first letter immediately. Be sure to read each and every page carefully. For additional information visit: www.va.gov/debtman.
- If you have questions about your debt, call the DMC at 1-800-827-0648 or e-mail at dmc.ops@va.gov. Debt is between you and VA.

Debt is established on the student for tuition/fees/Yellow Ribbon when:

- The student withdrew after the first day of the term.
- The student reduced hours whether the reduction occurred before or during the term.
- If the student attended more than one day of any of the classes certified and a payment has been issued (by VA), any debt created by the withdrawal will be charged to the student.
- The school submitted a change in enrollment (1999b) and reported a reduction in tuition, fees, and/or Yellow Ribbon due to student action reducing or terminating training.
- If a student drops a course and adds a course so that there is no net change in rate of pursuit, any other change to tuition, fees, and/or Yellow Ribbon is student debt.

Reference, page 93, School Certifying Official Handbook, Revision 5.0 (5th Edition) September 18, 2015.

For additional information refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the GI Bill Web site, www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL, especially questions 9, 403, 1424, 1429, 1434, and 1565.

GI Bill® is a registered trademark attribution of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available to the official U.S. government Web site at: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL>