



## POST 9/11 GI BILL® (CHAPTER 33) VETERANS EDUCATION BENEFITS STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**Submit to:**  
Veteran Services  
322 Student Union  
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-1013  
405-744-6343, Fax 405-744-8426  
veteransbenefits@okstate.edu

The Post 9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. Please visit the Department of Veterans Affairs website <https://www.vets.gov> for more information on eligibility requirements for the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Different benefit programs can function in various capacities and may vary based on the individual's contractual agreements with the Military Department. Length of active/reserve service, stipulations of individual military service contracts and character of service discharges are but a few of the conditions that may affect the rate of payment and requirements. The OSU Veteran Benefits Services office is available to assist with questions and processing of your individual education benefits package.

### **Changes in Enrollment/Drops/Adds, or Withdrawal from University**

After enrollment information has been submitted, any increase or decrease in credit hours must be reported to the VA. These changes may result in a change of benefit amount received and possible overpayment debts incurred by the student. It is the student's responsibility to immediately notify the OSU VA office of any changes in enrollment. Should overpayments occur due to a change in student's initial class schedule, the student is responsible to make repayment arrangements with the VA. If mitigating circumstances exist, a student must correspond directly with the VA for individual review. Only the VA can rule that mitigating circumstances exist to set aside or lessen overpayment debts.

\*Veteran education beneficiaries are required to have all previous credit evaluated including military training. To establish military credit, students must submit a copy of their JST (Joint Services Transcript) and/or a DSST transcript to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions for evaluation.

### **Enrollment Requirements**

Enrolled courses must be *degree applicable* to qualify for receipt of benefits. Changes in your class schedule may result in overpayments to the Veterans Administration and/or OSU. The Basic Housing Allowance (BAH) may also be affected by reducing credit hours. Your enrollment status must remain above 51% to qualify for BAH benefits. Contacting the university Veterans Benefits Services representative **BEFORE** making changes to your enrollment schedule will be critical in avoiding overpayment situations.

### **Certification of Benefits**

After the restrictive drop/add period of each semester, enrollment and benefits certification information will be submitted on behalf of the student to the Veterans Administration by the OSU Veteran Benefits Services office. Benefits will be released to you after the VA has processed your benefits certification (approximately 30- 60 days). It is advisable to make any changes to your class schedule **before** submitting your Veterans Advisory Form to the OSU Veteran Benefits Service office to lessen possible overpayments and delay of future receipt of benefits.

### **Benefit Payment**

Tuition and fee benefits (including Yellow Ribbon Program benefits) will be directly credited to the student's OSU bursar account each semester. Other Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits, such as the monthly housing allowance, books and supplies stipend, etc. will be issued by the VA directly to the student after the VA has processed their benefits certification.

### **Overpayments**

Students are responsible for all overpayments of VA benefits. Additionally, you will be responsible for payment to OSU for any outstanding charges on your bursar account not paid by the VA. If an overpayment is created with the Veterans Administration (VA), you will not receive further education payments until the debt has been cleared.

### Student's Responsibility

I understand that as a Chapter 33 benefit recipient, it is in my best interest to monitor the Department of Veteran Affairs web site (<https://www.vets.gov>) for any changes that may affect my individual receipt of Post 9/11 (Chapter 33) GI Bill benefits. The OSU Veteran Benefits Services office will also monitor any changes that may occur regarding the implementation of this program and will notify me via my OSU email account of changes that could affect Chapter 33 benefit recipients. If any enrollment changes are made after submission of enrollment information I must notify OSU's Veteran Services office immediately - preferably before any course changes are made.

### **Additional benefits for those who qualify under the Chapter 33 - Post 9/11 GI Bill**

#### **Yellow Ribbon Program**

Chapter 33 recipients whose residency classification status is considered out-of-state by the University and who are certified at the 100% benefit level are encouraged to apply for additional tuition and fee benefits offered through the VA's Yellow Ribbon Program. This program, offered to 65 eligible undergraduate and 15 graduate Chapter 33 students who apply on a first-come, first-serve basis, is designed to cover the gap in tuition and fees that are unmet by their VA Chapter 33 tuition and fee benefits. OSU offers 65 Yellow Ribbon Program scholarships to qualifying undergraduate students, up to \$5000 per student per academic year and 15 Yellow Ribbon Program scholarships to qualifying graduate students, up to \$5000 per academic year. The VA matches OSU's Yellow Ribbon scholarship with an additional \$5000 each year for a combined benefit total of \$10,000 per year. Yellow Ribbon Program recipients must maintain continuous enrollment with the university and maintain good academic standing to remain eligible for the scholarship.

**Example:** If a Yellow Ribbon student had \$6000 in unmet tuition and fees for a new fall semester, he or she would be eligible for the following benefits that fall semester:

- 50% of \$6000 = \$3000 OSU Yellow Ribbon tuition waiver; and
- \$3000 matching Yellow Ribbon award from VA;
- For a total Yellow Ribbon benefit of **\$6000**.

The immediately following spring semester, the same student would have a maximum of \$2000 *remaining Yellow Ribbon benefits from OSU or a \$4000 total* for the academic year. If this student has another \$6000 in unmet tuition and fees for the spring semester, he would be eligible for the following benefits that spring:

- \$2000 Yellow Ribbon tuition waiver from OSU; and
- \$2000 matching Yellow Ribbon award from VA;
- For a total Yellow Ribbon benefit of **\$4000**.

The student above would have **no** Yellow Ribbon benefits remaining for the immediately following summer term, but would be eligible for Yellow Ribbon benefits again the next academic year (provided that the student still qualifies, the student remains matriculated, and OSU is still a Yellow Ribbon participant).

**"I certify I have read and understand the above information."**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student ID

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
OSU VA staff initials

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill).

\*38 CFR 21.4253(d)(3) – Federal Law

Oklahoma State Senate Bill 1863 (Post-Military Service Occupation, Education and Credentialing Act) – Oklahoma State Law