

CHAPTER 35 DEPENDENT'S EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Welcome to EWU and The Veterans Resource Center!

The Dependent's Education Assistance (DEA) – also called Chapter 35, provides educational benefits to dependents of a Veteran or service member who has died, is captured or missing, or has service-connected disabilities. You may be able to get help paying for school or job training through the DEA program if you qualify.

- Tuition and fees for students using DEA are **the responsibility of the student**.
- VA pays a monthly stipend while enrolled in classes **paid directly to the student** and may be used in any way the student deems necessary.
- Spouse eligible for 10 years on the date VA concludes you qualify.
- Child(ren) eligible between ages of 19 and 26 (except in certain cases)

To Start We Will Need the Following:

- 1. VA Approval** – We will need a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility (COE). Please scan/email back to our office.
 - a. If you need to apply for it, go to the VA Online Application to apply: <https://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/>
 - b. If you have already been using this benefit, provide us a copy of your most recent letter from the VA
 - c. If you don't have your letter, follow directions in #2 below to submit for a new letter.
- 2. Change of Program/Change of Place of Training** – This form is needed if VA Education Benefits were used at another school, there has been a break in attendance, or your degree program has changed.
 - a. **Dependent of a Veteran** submit a Dependent's Change of Program or Place of Training (VA Form 22-5495). These forms are available on our website, in person at the EWU Veterans Resource Center (VRC) or online at: <https://www.va.gov/education/change-gi-bill-benefits/>. If submitted via the VA Website to VA, print the confirmation page and send it to us for your file. You should get a letter in approximately 30 days stating the update. It will tell you to take it to your school so the enrollment can be submitted. VA will not request enrollment information on your behalf.
- 3. Class Schedule** – Once your final student course registration has been completed, you are required to submit your final Concise Student Schedule to the EWU VRC office. You can do this by sending via email or delivering in person to our office. Follow the instructions at the EWU VRC website for the correct format we require: <https://inside.ewu.edu/veterans/schedule-submission/>. Enrollments will not be reported to the VA until we receive your Concise Student Schedule.

Other Key Points:

EWU Admission Application Fee –

- **Undergraduate:** There is a \$60 application fee that is required at the time it is submitted. This is not a fee the VA benefit will pay.
- **Graduate:** There is a \$75 application fee that is required at the time it is submitted. This is not a fee the VA benefit will pay.

EWU Admission Confirmation Fee – All new undergraduate students must confirm their intent to enroll by paying a \$250 confirmation fee. This is not a fee the VA benefit will pay.

Full Time Enrollment – The VA uses the below minimum credits for determining full time enrollment. Any credits below this number is prorated. Courses must fulfill degree requirements as outlined by the EWU Catalog. The VA will also cover courses for a second major or any minors. If a you take a course that does not fulfill your degree requirement, it cannot be certified for VA purposes. Excessive electives, for example, cannot be certified.

Quarter	Undergraduate	Graduate
Fall-Winter-Spring	12 Credits	10 Credits
Summer	8 Credits	6 Credits

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- See how summer credits work: <https://inside.ewu.edu/veterans/how-summer-quarter-works/>.
- If a student makes a change to their course schedule after their course certification has been submitted to the VA, the student may be responsible for paying back the VA for any payments submitted to the school or student.

Payment Distribution:

- VA pays a monthly stipend while enrolled in classes.
- Payment occurs at the end of each month for the month that ended, i.e. November is paid on December 1.
- Payment processes by direct deposit to the bank account indicated when applying for the benefit.
- Payments are prorated in relation to the start and stop of the term. If the term ends on December 10, then the VA pays only 10 days in December. VA does not pay benefits during breaks or before or after a term.
- See the GI Bill® Comparison Tool for the most current DEA rates based on campus location: <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool/profile/11112047>

Tuition/Fees/Housing Charges – VA DEA Benefit does not pay tuition, fees or housing charges. All fees are due to the University by the published deadline per the Academic Calendar.

Tuition Waiver – Washington State has a Veterans Spouse/Dependent Tuition Waiver that you may also qualify for in addition to the VA DEA Education Benefit.

- The tuition waiver is not in any way linked to the VA DEA education benefit paid by VA.
- To qualify you and the veteran must meet all the requirements of the WA State tuition waiver.
- A new tuition waiver application must be submitted each academic year.
- Eligibility requirements are reviewed each quarter by EWU VRC staff and forwarded to EWU Financial Aid & Scholarships Office to be awarded.
- The tuition waiver funding cannot apply toward the mandatory fees charged by the University; however, course fees, web/online tuition, and overload tuition are covered.
- View the form and eligibility requirements online at: <https://inside.ewu.edu/veterans/waivers/>

Grading/End of Term Processing – At the end of each term the EWU VRC Office is required to report academic progress back to VA. Status and performance such as academic probation, academic dismissal, failing grades, no credit earned must be reported to VA and could create an overpayment (debt) to the VA of any benefits received.

Schedule Changes/Dropping/Withdrawing/Leaving the University – If a student makes a change to their course schedule after their course certification has been submitted to the VA by EWU VRC Office, the student may be responsible for paying back the VA any payments the VA paid the student. Note that after each term's 50% refund deadline, EWU will not issue a refund to a student who has dropped a course. Additional fees may occur for schedule changes which the student is responsible for paying.

At the time your schedule is submitted to EWU VRC, a VRC registration hold will be placed on your account that will prevent you from making changes to your class schedule. If you need to make changes, contact our office so that we can take the hold off. You will be required to submit an updated copy of your schedule before your enrollment can be updated with the VA. The hold will come off during the priority registration cycle for the next term.

To learn more about Chapter 35 benefits please review the VA site:

<https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/dependents-education-assistance/>