UTSA
School Certifying Officials
We Assist Students
Quick Facts

UTSA certifies an average of 1,800 Veterans per semester, and that number continues to climb (does not include Hazlewood)

UTSA has the largest Veterans population of any 4 year state supported University in the state of Texas
Quick Facts

Veterans Educational Benefits include:

- **Chapter 30 - Montgomery GI Bill**
- **Chapter 31 - Vocational Rehabilitation**
- **Chapter 35 - Dependents Educational Assistance**
Quick Facts

Veterans Educational Benefits include:

• **Chapter 1606 - Reserve Educational Assistance GI Bill**

• **Chapter 1607 – Selected Reserve GI Bill**

• **Chapter 33 - Post 9/11 GI Bill**
Chapter 30
Montgomery GI Bill

- Honorable Discharge
- 36 months of Active Duty
- Other requirements as dictated by enlistment
  - Category I, II, III, & IV
- Pays student monthly depending on classification
  - Full or part time
Chapter 31
Vocational Rehabilitation

• Honorable / General Discharge
  • Must be approved by individual VA case manager
  • Full fair education or training
Chapter 35
Dependents Educational Assistance

- Spouse or child of veteran who died or is permanently & totally disabled as the result of a service connected disability or died from causes deemed service connected

- Spouse or child of veteran who is MIA, or detained by a foreign government
  - Pays student monthly
Chapter 1606 Reserve Educational Assistance GI Bill

- Military member who has joined a State National Guard or a Reserve Unit but has never been called to active duty
  - Basic Training & Technical School Training does not count
  - Must be ordered to active duty by the Federal Government, not the State
  - Pays student monthly
Chapter 1607
Selected Reserve GI Bill

- Military member who is a member of a National Guard or a Reserve Unit that has been called to active duty
  - Iraq, Afghanistan, or deployed in support of such missions
- Pays student monthly
Chapter 33
Post 9/11 GI Bill

• Military member who was or has been on Active Duty since September 12, 2001
  ▪ Program began on 1 August 2009
  ▪ Can be transferred to spouse or child
  ▪ Student may also be eligible for Hazlewood*
Post 9/11 Quick Facts

Since the Post-9/11 GI Bill was implemented on Aug. 1, 2009, VA has provided educational benefits to 1,473,000 Veterans and their family members, amounting to more than $XX billion in benefits.

Nearly 1 million eligible individuals participated in 2012, a 15 percent increase over FY 2011, a 71 percent increase over FY 2010, and a 90 percent increase over FY 2009.
HAZLEWOOD ACT
(Texas Only Program)

- Veteran must have designated Texas as Home of Record or entered the service in Texas
- Have honorable or general discharge under honorable conditions
- Served at least 181 days on active duty
- Exhausted all Federal Benefits*
HAZLEWOOD ACT  
(Texas Only Program)

- The veteran, spouse & children are eligible.
- Exemption of tuition & most fees.
- Total of 150 hours of credit at State supported schools.
School Certifying Official (SCO)

Definition:
“The person at the institution who has been delegated authority to sign enrollment certifications, other certifications, documents and reports relating to VA benefits.”
School Certifying Official (SCO)

4 Full-time School Certifying Officers

Andrea M. Watts – Team Leader
Joe Polasek – Main campus
Reuben Aleman – Main campus
Tom Hawthorne - DT campus
School Certifying Official (SCO)

UTSA’s Veteran Certification Offices

Main campus  210-458-4540
MHB  Room 3.01.26

DT campus  210-458-2077
Ground Floor of Frio Building

www.utsa.edu/va
QUESTIONS?
So you serve Veterans.

How much do you know?
1. Famous celebrities who have used the GI Bill for their education are:

a) Bill Cosby & Johnny Cash
b) Steve McQueen & Gene Hackman
c) Harry Belafonte & Paul Newman
d) All of the above
2. The Yellow Ribbon program is:

a) A group of students wearing a yellow ribbon to support veterans.
b) A program a school is required to participate in to pay for veterans’ tuition and books.
c) A program a school can choose to participate in that helps veterans awarded 100% of Ch 33 pay but still have unpaid tuition and the school agrees to pay a portion and the VA matches that payment.
d) None of the above
3. The Post 9/11 GI Bill represents how much investment in our Veterans:

a) $9 Billion  
b) $50 Billion  
c) $20 Billion  
d) $15 Billion
4. Veterans:

a) Are not encouraged to apply for Federal Financial Aid.

b) **Are encouraged to apply for Federal Financial Aid.**

c) Will loose their GI Bill money if they get Federal Financial Aid.

d) None of the above
5. Veterans using the Post 9/11 GI Bill education money:

a) Receive a check for Tuition/fees, books and a monthly living stipend.

b) **Receive a check for books and a monthly living stipend, and their college receives the tuition/fees payment.**

c) Receive a check for a monthly living stipend only.

d) None of the above.
6. If a veteran registers for a class and doesn’t drop it, but never attends even one day of class:

a) The veteran must pay the VA back for any pay received for the class.
b) The college must pay the VA back for any pay received for the class.
c) The college and the veteran must pay the VA back for any pay received for the class.
d) **No money must be paid back to the VA.**
7. Schools receiving VA money must:

a) Evaluate all transcripts before the veteran graduates from your institution for any college the veteran ever attended.

b) Evaluate a transcript from only the colleges the veteran attended that will have credits transfer into your school.

c) Evaluate a transcript from every college the veteran attended including their military transcript before the end of their 2nd term at your school.

d) Must evaluate transcripts only if the veteran wants them transferred.
8. Certifying Officials must report to the VA any changes in a student's schedule:

a) Any time during the term
b) Changes don’t need to be reported if the student passes at least one class
c) Within 30 days of them being notified of the change
d) They aren’t required to report changes at all
9. The hidden wounds of war today are:

a) TBI
b) PTSD
c) Both TBI and PTSD
d) None of the above
10. Veterans education benefits:

a) Do not have a time limit to use it.
b) **Have a specific number of months to use by a specific number of years.**
c) If not used in a specific number of years, can have the time extended.
d) None of the above
11. The total number of veterans living in the USA based on the 2010 Census:

a) 21.8 million
b) 19.2 million
c) 40 million
d) none of the above
12. Women make up 45% of the Military:

   a) True
   b) False
13. It is always best for Veterans to use the new Chapter 33 Benefit:

a) True

b) False
14. All colleges and universities are approved to certify enrollment for any veteran:

a) True
b) False
15. Only those who have served in a battle zone will have the potential to develop PTSD:

a) True
b) False
16. You may have veterans and family members attending your school and all may be eligible for some VA education benefits:

a) True
b) False
17. Veterans often do not identify with the term ‘disabled’:

a) True
b) False
18. The biggest challenge families have with long or multiple deployments is from the changes in family roles while the veteran is gone:

a) True
b) False
19. When a veteran has a Dr. appointment at the VA, they can cancel the appointment and usually get right back into for another appointment:

a) True
b) False
20. 40% of military personnel in the U.S. have had job assignments that involve information resource management duties:

a) True
b) False
21. The military is one of the most demanding professions in the world:

a) **True**
b) **False**