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Our Staff:

Celina Dugas
Director of Veteran Services

Lakeshia Villegas
Assistant Director of Veteran Services

El Kevin Sar
Program Coordinator

Follow us on: Veteran Services | @UHVetServices | vets@uh.edu | 832.842.5490
AMENITIES & DIRECT SERVICES

- Computer lab and study area
- Kitchenette
- Lockers
- Free B/W copies *(color upon request)*
- Wheelchair accessibility
- Camaraderie & peer-to-peer counseling
- Snacks/ Coffee/ Water
- Updates on VA benefits
- Referrals for academic and personal challenges
- Information about university procedures and community involvement

OPEN TO ALL MILITARY-AFFILIATED STUDENTS

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Virtual Office

- We are currently using MS Teams as a virtual office space
- Work study will be live to answer questions via voice chat or text chat in real time
- Available from 0800-1600 Mon-Fri

Join code is:

13qkggj
HOURS OF OPERATION

Fall and Spring Semesters
M - Th: 0800 – 1900
Fri: 0800 – 1700

Summer Sessions and Breaks
M - Fri: 0800 – 1700

During Total UH Closure; Opening TBA
Virtual Office Closed Th: 1300 – 1400 for training

https://www.uh.edu/veterans/
Federal Benefits:
Montgomery G.I. Bill – Chapter 30
Post 9/11 G.I. Bill – Chapter 33
DEA - Chapter 35
VRE - Chapter 31
Selected Reserves - Chapter 1606
APPLY FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS

Apply through
https://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/

Ready to apply?
Select Correct Form

- Are you applying for a new benefit or updating your current education benefits?
  - Applying for a new benefit
  - Updating my current education benefits

Are you receiving education benefits transferred to you by a sponsor Veteran?
- No, I’m using my own benefit.
- Yes, I’m using a transferred benefit.
- No, I am using the Fry Scholarship or DEA (Chapter 35)

Apply now
VETS.GOV (cont’d)

• Fill in the required fields
• You will be able to input your direct deposit information at this time
• When you have completed your form, hit submit
• You have successfully applied for your benefits
• You will receive a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) in the mail
• If you do not have time to wait for a mailed CoE, you may submit a screenshot of the “You have successfully applied” page at the end of the application in lieu of a CoE.
POST 9/11 GI BILL (CH 33)

- Mandatory Tuition & Fees at the In-State tuition rate
- Book stipend of is $500 per regular term (Spring/Fall semesters only). You will receive a percentage if enrolled less than full-time.
- MUST MAKE SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS TO RECEIVE BENEFITS – GPA 2.0 or higher
- YOU CAN ONLY TAKE CLASSES THAT ARE ON YOUR DEGREE PLAN.* MINORS DO NOT COUNT UNLESS YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DECLARE ONE AS PART OF YOUR MAJOR (Liberal Arts)

Housing stipend – based on the zip code of your school (77004) at initial enrollment

1st Month of FULL BAH
- Fall – October
- Spring – March
ENROLLMENT STATUS

**Undergraduate** – Full-time is 12 Credit Hours (Fall/Spring)

**Graduate** – Full-time is 9 Credit Hours (Fall/Spring)

**Summer** – Specific to session (See following slide)

- If you are enrolled in less than 12 credit hours (full-time status), your BAH will be based on your enrollment percentage (ex: 9 Credit Hours is 75%)
- You must be enrolled in a minimum of 7 Credit Hours to receive BAH
- You must be enrolled in at least 1 Face-to-Face class, hybrids DO count.
- VA will re-coup the benefits already paid for dropped classes. You will pay the VA back if you take a W grade.
- If you fail a course, you may retake it at no cost, however, it will **adversely** affect your GPA.
Summer Sessions:

What does it take to be full time during the summer?

- Mini Session (3 Weeks): 2 Credit Hours
- Session 1 (10 weeks): 7 Credit Hours
- Session 2 (5 weeks): 4 Credit Hours
- Session 3 (7 weeks): 5 Credit Hours
- Session 4 (5 weeks): 4 Credit Hours
Who Processes My GI BILL Certification?

*UH OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR*

Representatives are also available to assist you on the phones Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Please feel free to call a records associate at (713) 743-1010, option 7.
VA Certification eForm Instructions

Office of the University Registrar
CERTIFICATION PROCESS

1. Log into your Peoplesoft account and select ‘Student Center’

2. Click ‘Drop-Down to See Forms Available’

To be completed Each Semester
CERTIFICATION PROCESS cont.

For More information you can Click on the Links

VA Certification eForm Links

Click the links for more information on each form.

- [VA Certification Instructions](#)
- [Add a Veteran Certification Form](#)
- [Update a Veteran Certification Form](#)
- [View a Veteran Certification Form](#)
- [VA Adjustment Form](#)
- [View VA Adjustment Form](#)

To be completed Each Semester

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VA Certification Instructions

Click this tab to view instructions and frequently asked questions regarding submitting your VA enrollment.

To be completed Each Semester
Add a Veteran Certification Form

In the dropdown menu, select 'Add a Veteran Certification' to begin submitting your enrollment information for the term.
Add a Veteran Certification Form (cont.)

- Your student ID, name, contact information, and date of birth will pre-populate on the certification page.
- Certain VA benefit chapters will request additional information. Click the links below to see an example of the VA Certification Form for your chapter.
  - [Chapter 30, 33, 1606, 1607](#)
  - [Chapter 31](#)
  - [Chapter 35](#)
Add a Veteran Certification Form - Ch. 30,33,1606,1607

This is an example of the information that will be requested for Chapter 30, 33, 1606, and 1607 benefits. 'Student info' will include the student's ID and name. The student will need to indicate the 'Academic Career' (undergrad or grad) as well as the term that the student will be requesting benefits for. The student will be prompted to indicate the 'Intended Major' if they are currently in a pre-plan. Students will also be asked to indicate if this is their first term using benefits, number of hours to be certified, and confirm final graduation term for the semester.
Add a Veteran Certification Form- Ch. 31

This is an example of the information that will be requested for Chapter 31 benefits. 'Student info' will include the student's ID and name. The student will need to indicate the 'Academic Career' (undergrad or grad) as well as the term that the student will be requesting benefits for. The student will be prompted to indicate the 'Intended Major' if they are currently in a pre-plan. Students will also be asked to indicate if this is their first term using benefits, number of hours to be certified, and confirm final graduation term for the semester.

*Ch. 31 will request the student’s VA counselor’s email and the VA authorization number.
Add a Veteran Certification Form- Ch. 35

This is an example of the information that will be requested for Chapter 35 benefits. 'Student info' will include the student's ID and name. The student will need to indicate the 'Academic Career' (undergrad or grad) as well as the term that the student will be requesting benefits for. The student will be prompted to indicate the 'Intended Major' if they are currently in a pre-plan. Students will also be asked to indicate if this is their first term using benefits, number of hours to be certified, and confirm final graduation term for the semester.

*Ch. 35 will request the full SSN of the veteran whose benefits the student is using.
Add a Veteran Certification Form (cont.)

The next sections on the ‘Add a Veteran Certification Form’ includes:

- **Student Term Enrollment** - Review your classes for the term
- **File Attachments** - Upload a Certificate of Eligibility (COE), test scores, and/or other necessary documents in this section.
  - Click **Upload** under File Attachments
  - Select **Choose From My Device**
  - After selecting the desired file, click **Upload then Done**
  - You can choose a **Description** to name the file
  - Click **Add** to include another document

- **Form Action Items “Acknowledgements”** – Read and agree to the Acknowledgements before submitting the certification form.
- **Comments** - Add any necessary comments regarding the certification.
Once the form is successfully submitted, you will receive a confirmation with the status marked as ‘Pending’. The Certifying Officials will review and submit your enrollment certification to the VA.
Certification Process Continued

Update a Veteran Certification
You can update your submission while it is still in the ‘Pending’ phase. This form is similar to the Add a Veteran Certification form. Here you can update previously submitted information and upload any necessary documentation before it is approved.

Please note: Changes cannot be made to the form after it is approved. You will need to submit a VA Adjustment Form to update information.
View a Veteran Certification

You can view the status of your VA certification here. If the form is still marked as ‘Pending’, it is currently under review. When the form is approved, you will be able to view your Enrollment ID and any comments added by the approver. Your Enrollment ID can be used to contact the VA for an update on your enrollment certification.
VA Adjustment Form

In the dropdown menu, select 'VA Adjustment Form' to update your enrollment information for the term. This will assist the Certifying Officials with updating your enrollment certification for the VA.
The student’s name and ID will automatically pre-populate. Please select the ‘academic career’ and term that you would like to update. Under ‘Student Term Enrollment’, select the class(es) that need to be updated. Please also include a reason for the add, drop, or withdrawal in the ‘Reason’ box before submitting the update.
Certification Process Continued

View VA Adjustment Form

You can view the status of your VA Adjustment Form here. If the form is still marked as ‘Pending’, it is currently under review. When the form is approved, you will be able to view your new Enrollment ID and any comments added by the approver. Your Enrollment ID can be used to contact the VA for an update on your enrollment certification.
Questions?
Please contact the Office of the University Registrar (OUR)
Phone: 713-743-1010, option 7
Email: UHGIBill@uh.edu
Veteran Readiness & Employ. (CH 31)

• Mandatory Tuition & Fees at the In-State tuition rate
• Parking Permits are free under VRE (Economy)
• All required books/software are paid for via purchase order.
• If additional items are required by your course, please speak with your VRE Counselor

Your VRE Counselor will provide you with your instructions for certification. Keep in contact with them.

• Must be at least 20% Service Connected to receive educational benefits
• If you have <20%, you may still receive employment support
You will receive two authorization codes from your VRE counselor. Email uhgibill@uh.edu. Leave your name and student ID #, request the Voc Rehab link be added to your to do list:

Send the other code for your books to the campus bookstore Team Leader, Sujey Lopez: s.lopezmoreno@follett.com. With the code on file, she will be able to approve your purchase.
Montgomery GI Bill (CH 30)

- Monthly direct deposit into your account with which you are expected to pay for classes.
- It is ONLY a flat amount each month.

- Must maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- This benefit can be stacked with the Hazlewood Act benefit. This will technically make you more monthly money than the Post - 9/11 GI Bill, but you will burn through two benefits. Think of your dependents!
- Kicker Program info:

- **Full-time enrollment**: $2,210.00 for each full month
- **3/4-time enrollment**: $1,657.50 for each full month
- **1/2-time enrollment**: $1,105.00 for each full month
Dependents Educational Assistance (CH 35)

- Monthly direct deposit into your account with which you are expected to pay for classes.
- It is ONLY a flat amount each month.

- Dependents are eligible for this benefit if their sponsor is KIA or has a 100% service-connected disability rating. (Also see the Hazlewood Act)
- Must maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- This benefit can be stacked with the Hazlewood Act or Hazlewood Legacy Act benefit.

- Full-time enrollment: $1,401 for each full month
- 3/4-time enrollment: $1,107 for each full month
- 1/2-time enrollment: $812 for each full month
Eligible Reservists will have a 6-year Selected Reserve Obligation and will have completed their Initial Entry Training (IET).

Certification begins at your reserve unit. You must have a signed Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE) in order to certify.

https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/pamphlets/ch1606_pamphlet.pdf

Monthly direct deposit into your account with which you are expected to pay for classes.

It is ONLY a flat amount each month.

- Full-time enrollment: $439.00 for each full month
- 3/4-time enrollment: $329.00 for each full month
- 1/2-time enrollment: $219.00 for each full month
- Less than 1/2-time enrollment: $109.75 for each full month
THIS IS IMPORTANT

UH WELCOME CENTER

Office of the University Registrar
713.743.1010, Option 7
Fax: 713.743.8342

You can email your inquiries to

UHGIBILL@UH.EDU

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Active-Duty Tuition Assistance (TA)

- Your branch of service will pay a certain amount per credit-hour for every credit you take with a yearly cap.
- Eligibility differs between branches. You may have to serve a certain amount of time at your unit before you are eligible.
- Amount differs between branches

- Apply for TA through your branch of service’s online portal
- Submit your TA voucher to Melissa Villarreal in Student Business Services: mmvillar@central.uh.edu
- You will automatically be enrolled in a deferment plan and your branch of service will be billed after your grades post.
Texas Hazlewood & Texas Hazlewood Legacy
TEXAS HAZLEWOOD ACT

- For qualified Veterans, spouses, and dependent children (181 days Active Duty service)
- Provides up to 150 credit hours of tuition exemption
- Must be used at a Texas Public Institution
- Must reside in Texas and have enlisted out of Texas
- Must maintain a Satisfactory GPA (2.0)

You are responsible for Mandatory Student Fee (~$260)

THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE LIVING EXPENSES, MEAL PLANS, PARKING PERMITS, BOOKS, OR SUPPLY FEES.
• Hazlewood Act can be passed down to qualifying dependents (Hazlewood Legacy Act)

• Transferring the benefit prevents veterans from using it themselves.

• If transferred to the child of a veteran, the child must be UNDER 26 on the first day of class in order to use it.

• If a veteran has a 100% service-connected disability rating or KIA, then all children, their spouse, and the veteran get their own Hazlewood benefit (150 hours each). This is not considered Hazlewood Legacy.
TExAS HAZLEWOOD ACT

COMPLETED APPLICATION

- Hazlewood/Hazlewood Legacy Application
  - If Legacy: Relationship Documentation to Veteran & DD214
- Hazlewood Database Printout (Texas Veterans Commission website)
- Degree Plan signed by Academic Advisor
- Turned in via e-mail or in-person (NOT UPLOADED LIKE GI BILL)
- If you are using your own Hazlewood Act you must show proof that you have exhausted your Post -9/11 GI Bill, or that you were never eligible. Submit a COE that shows there is nothing left.
TEXAS HAZLEWOOD ACT

SUBMISSION

UH Welcome Center
Student Business Services
713.743.1010, Option 6
Fax: 713.743.3330
Email: Hazlewood@uh.edu

DEADLINE
All documents must be submitted by the Official Reporting Date (ORD)

FALL/SPRING
12th Term Day
SUMMER
4th Term Day
PAYMENT & DEFERMENT PLANS

- All students have the option to apply for payment or deferment plans.
- Those who are living on campus can apply for the 45 day deferment.
- We strongly recommend you apply for the 90 day deferment.
  1. Defers payment of tuition and mandatory fees only.
  2. Does not cover prior unpaid balances or optional fees such as, housing, parking, or a meal plan.
  3. If you choose not to apply for the 90-day deferment, and VA payment is not received by the due date, YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM YOUR CLASSES!
  4. If this happens, your classes may not be available when you re-register.

UH BOOK LOAN

- Is for the exact amount of $400.00 fall/spring semesters ($200.00 for the summer semester) Has a $5.00 non-refundable origination fee.
- Is for the same amount, regardless of how many sessions in which the student is enrolled.
- Post - 9/11 will direct deposit the book stipend. It is your responsibility to pay the loan!

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Find them on Access UH!

Student Financials Collection

Select New Payment Plan

Make a Payment
Charges Due
Self Service 1098T
Account Balance
Payment Plans
Pending Financial Aid
Account Summary
Self Service Refund Request
Payment History
Optional Fees
UH in 4 Fixed Rate Tuition Plan

Balance
Summary
Charges Due
Payments
Pending Financial Aid
Make a Payment
Payment Plans
Refund
1098T

Select New Payment Plan

Please select the payment plan that you would like to add to your account. Only one payment plan may be selected for each term.

Payment Plan Options

Short Term Tuition Deferment Loan
On Campus Housing Only
Select This Plan

Emergency Deferment Loan
Select This Plan

Everyone Else

Installment Payment Plan
Select This Plan

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Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Depending on your income level, you could be eligible to receive Federal Assistance.
- You are entitled to apply even if you are using Veteran Benefits.
- Federal Student Aid offers Pell Grants, Subsidized/Unsubsidized loans, and scholarships.
- Any grants received on top of educational benefits that produce an overpayment will be refunded back to you around the Official Reporting Day of the term.
- Visit: www.fafsa.ed.gov to begin your application!
• Your FAFSA is calculated based on a previous year’s income, which for veterans means that the school still sees you as receiving active duty pay.

• If you are a single student with no job, or in a household with no income, your EFC should read as zero.

• Often times this is not the case, so a Financial Reconsideration Appeal (FRA) must be submitted to the office of Financial Aid.

• Turn in the FRA form (Found at Financial Aid or this office), your DD-214, your last Leave and Earning Statement (LES), your tax returns from 2 years prior, and a letter detailing your current situation and why your EFC has changed.
Financial Aid Reconsideration Form

**Step 1: Certification Statement**

Your signature on this document confirms your acknowledgement of the following:

- Has the information submitted for review been true and correct in all respects?
- Has the information been corrected where necessary?
- The information submitted for review has been submitted by the student named above.

**Student Signature:**

**Date:______**

**Step 2: Personal Information**

- Full Name:
- Last Name:
- Date of Birth:
- Gender:
- Social Security Number:

**Step 3: Educational Information**

- School:
- Degree Program:
- Major:
- Expected Graduation Date:

**Step 4: Income Information**

- Income source:
- Income received:
- Income not received:

**Step 5: Certification Statement**

Your signature on this document confirms your acknowledgement of the following:

- Has the information submitted for review been true and correct in all respects?
- Has the information been corrected where necessary?
- The information submitted for review has been submitted by the student named above.

**Student Signature:**

**Date:______**

University of Houston - Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid - Main Campus - 4011 University Drive, Houston, TX 77204-2000

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Financial Aid Reconsideration Form
You need a permit to park on campus!

If you have:

- DV Plates
- Purple Heart
- Bronze Star

You are eligible to receive a Disabled Parking permit at **NO COST**

**ONLY IF YOU HAVE ISA SYMBOL OR BLUE HANGING TAG PER TEXAS LAW**

If You have DV plates, but do not have the Blue tag or ISA symbol, you can receive a Zoned Parking Pass at no cost to you.

* DV plates process (Bring a copy of car registration with drivers license to UH Parking office to receive your free parking pass. Note: if you receive a charge, contact the parking office for removal)
Getting The Most Out of the University

• Transitioning can be challenging. This is a different kind of stress.
• You are responsible for your own grades. Utilize campus resources. (VS IS A CAMPUS RESOURCE!!!)
• Plan your degree around your career, not the other way around.
• Your goals may change, and that’s okay. Come see us if you are feeling overwhelmed. We can help more than you think.
• The Honors College offers exclusive courses and opportunities.
• Student organizations provide professional networking opportunities, access to internships, and camaraderie.
GET INVOLVED!

Cougar Red Friday

Student Orgs.

Cougar Sports

VS Work Study

DSA Programming
QUICK TIPS

UH Navigate: This is how you schedule appointments with your Advisor
**Campus Resources:**

**CASA Tutoring:** Any MATH Classes

**Launch Tutoring:** Most non-Major classes (Engineering/Business/Lib. Arts go here)

**Writing Center:** Will read and review any paper you submit to them.
Self-Study Resources:

- Math/Physics/Engineering
- Free and Premium version
- Step-by-step solutions

- Math/Natural Sciences/Economics/Pre-Health
- Free to use
- Detailed videos

- Math/Physics/Computer Science
- Step-by-step solutions
QUICK TIPS

• If you have a VA Disability rating, register with the Justin Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center

✓ Obtain contact info for your advisors; most of them prefer e-mail.

✓ Sign up for the Emergency Deferment every semester.

✓ Ensure the Registrar’s office knows you are a veteran so you can get priority enrollment for courses.

✓ Make Sure you have access to VA.GOV account
The SVA is a student-led organization that provides both a social network and activism for student veterans.

The SVA works closely with VS but is a separate entity. Most activities are after school hours.

Volunteer work, social events, professional development, and more are available.

National Conference in January provides a massive networking opportunity.