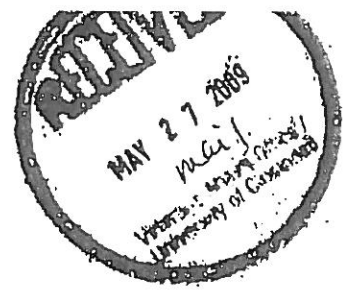




DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
 REGIONAL PROCESSING OFFICE
 PO Box 4616
 BUFFALO NEW YORK 14240-4616



May 7, 2009

In Reply Refer To:

SAMPLE

Dear

Certificate of Eligibility

This certifies that you are entitled to benefits for an approved program of education or training under the Post-9/11 GI Bill beginning August 1, 2009.

You must take this letter to your school. Your school must certify your enrollment before you can get paid.

You have 23 months and 12 days of full time benefits. You have until August 11, 2022 to use your benefits under this program which is fifteen years from the date of your last separation from active duty.

You're entitled to receive 100% of the benefits payable under the Post-9/11 GI Bill program for training offered by an institution of higher education. We determined this percentage based on your length of creditable active duty service. We based our decision on the following service information:

<u>Begin Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Length (in Days)</u>
08/10/2003	08/10/2007	1,461

Total Aggregate Service in Days 1461

Yellow Ribbon Program

Because you are eligible at the 100% benefit rate, you may also be eligible to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program. The Yellow Ribbon Program allows schools to enter into an agreement with VA to provide additional financial assistance to individuals who are charged tuition and fees that exceed the in-State maximum amount payable under the Post-9/11 GI Bill program. This benefit is only payable if the Post-9/11 GI Bill tuition and fee payment does not cover the full cost of your school's tuition and fees.

Internet: www.gibill.va.gov
 Toll-Free Number: 1-888-442-4551 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. CDT
 Making a Difference in VBA

Note: Individuals on active duty are not eligible for this program. The Yellow Ribbon Program is not available at all schools. You may wish to contact your school certifying official to determine if your school plans to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program.

Eligibility for Other Types of Training

Individuals electing to receive Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits by relinquishing eligibility under the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB), the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR), or the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP), can also receive educational assistance for training programs that are not authorized to be available under the provisions of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, but are available under the relinquished benefit. Examples include, but are not limited to, approve on-the-job training, apprenticeship training, flight training, correspondence training, and non-college degree programs offered at institutions other than colleges or universities. For these types of training VA will award educational assistance at the rate payable under the relinquished benefit.

Prior VA Training

Generally, you can use up to 48 months of educational benefits under two or more VA education programs. You have used 12 months and 18 days of entitlement under the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB). This may limit the amount of your available entitlement under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

What You Should Do

Once you've chosen your program and school, please use the enclosed VA Form 22-1995 to tell us what they are. **NOTE:** Since all training facilities and programs aren't approved for VA benefits, please contact www.va.gov to confirm the program is approved for education benefits before you enroll.

You are responsible for ALL debts resulting from reductions or terminations of your enrollment even if the payment was submitted directly to the school on your behalf.

Career Counseling

You are eligible for VA's professional career counseling at any time during your period of eligibility for education benefits. For more information about career counseling, call 1-800-827-1000.

Other Information

You should promptly notify your school's veterans certifying official and VA if there is any change in your enrollment. You are responsible for ALL debts resulting from reductions or terminations of your enrollment even if the payment was submitted directly to the school on your behalf. Generally, we can't pay you for—

- *N/A classes*
- Courses you don't attend;
- Courses from which you withdraw; or
- Courses you complete but receive a grade which will not count towards graduation.

You may notify VA via

- The Internet by visiting www.GIBILL.va.gov (click on Questions and Answers on the left side of the screen. You can then send VA a message using the Ask a Question tab); or
- Telephone by calling toll-free at 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551);
- Postal mail by sending correspondence to the address at the top of this letter.

If You Have Questions or Need Assistance

If you have questions or need assistance, contact us. See the *If You Need Help* enclosure for contact information. If you disagree with us, you have the right to appeal our decision. You must write and tell us why you disagree. The enclosed VA Form 4107 explains your rights.

Sincerely yours,

Education Officer

Enclosure(s): If You Need Help
VA Form 4107
VA Form 22-1995