

Christendom College

VA Education Benefits Guide

For Students and Families

Important Notice: The information in this guide is provided for general informational purposes and is accurate to the best of our knowledge as of the date of publication. VA education benefit rules, rates, and procedures are subject to change. Students and families should verify all details with the appropriate VA officials before making decisions based on this information.

VA Education Call Center: 1-888-442-4551

VA Website: www.va.gov/education

Ask VA (online inquiries): ask.va.gov

This guide covers the two most common VA education benefit programs: Chapter 33 (Post-9/11 GI Bill) for veterans and their eligible dependents, and Chapter 35 (Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance) for dependents of disabled or deceased veterans. Please read the section that applies to your situation.

Chapter 33: Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides education benefits to veterans who served on active duty after September 10, 2001, and to eligible dependents who have received transferred benefits.

What Chapter 33 Covers

Tuition and Fees	Paid directly to Christendom College. Private school cap for 2026–2027: \$30,908.34 per academic year at 100% eligibility.
Monthly Housing Allowance	Paid directly to the student. Based on E-5 with dependents BAH rate for Front Royal (ZIP 22630). Verify your rate at travel.dod.mil . Requires more than half-time enrollment.
Books and Supplies Stipend	Up to \$1,000 per year, paid directly to the student.
Yellow Ribbon	If Christendom's tuition exceeds the VA cap, check with the Financial Aid Office about Yellow Ribbon availability to cover the difference.

Steps for Students and Families

Step 1: Apply for Benefits. Veterans apply using VA Form 22-1990 at VA.gov. Dependents using transferred benefits apply using VA Form 22-1990E. If you are transferring from another school, submit VA Form 22-1995 (Change of Place of Training). When applying, use Christendom's facility code: 31001546.

Step 2: Receive Your Certificate of Eligibility (COE). The VA will mail or email your COE after processing your application. This document shows your eligibility percentage and months of entitlement remaining.

Step 3: Submit Your COE to the School Certifying Official. Provide a copy of your COE to the Financial Aid Office. The School Certifying Official (SCO) will certify your enrollment to the VA each semester.

Step 4: Request Certification Each Semester. Notify the Financial Aid Office each term that you wish to use your benefits. The SCO cannot certify your enrollment automatically.

Step 5: Verify Your Enrollment Monthly. Chapter 33 students receiving housing allowance must verify enrollment each month with the VA. You can opt in to text verification when you start using benefits, or verify online at [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov) or by calling 1-888-442-4551. Failure to verify for two consecutive months will result in withheld payments.

Important Notes

The VA will only pay for courses required for your degree program. If you add, drop, or withdraw from courses, notify the SCO immediately; changes may result in adjustments to your benefits or create a debt.

Housing allowance is paid at the beginning of each month for the previous month. Partial months are prorated. If you are enrolled exclusively in online courses, the housing allowance is reduced to half the national average.

Chapter 35: Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA)

Chapter 35 provides education benefits to the spouse or child of a veteran who is permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected condition, or who died on active duty or from a service-connected condition.

What Chapter 35 Covers

Monthly Stipend	\$1,574/month at full-time (Oct 2025–Sept 2026); paid directly to the student
3/4-Time Rate	\$1,244/month
Benefit Duration	Up to 36 months (45 months if training began before August 1, 2018)
Payment Method	All payments go directly to the student; no tuition is paid to the College

Steps for Students and Families

Step 1: Apply for Benefits. The dependent (not the veteran) applies using VA Form 22-5490 at VA.gov. If transferring from another school, submit VA Form 22-5495. When applying, use Christendom's facility code: 31001546.

Step 2: Receive Your Certificate of Eligibility (COE). The VA will issue a COE showing your eligibility period and months of entitlement.

Step 3: Submit Your COE and Veteran's Information to the SCO. Provide a copy of your COE to the Financial Aid Office. The School Certifying Official (SCO) will also need the qualifying veteran's full 9-digit VA file number or Social Security Number (your COE shows only the last 4 digits).

Step 4: Request Certification Each Semester. Notify the Financial Aid Office each term that you wish to use your benefits so the SCO can certify your enrollment.

Step 5: Verify Your Enrollment Monthly (NEW as of January 2026). All Chapter 35 students must now verify their enrollment each month with the VA to receive payments. This is a change from prior years when payments were automatic after certification. If you do not verify, your payment will be held until you do.

Monthly Verification Options

Text Message	Opt in when you start using benefits; respond "yes" to the monthly text from VA
Online	VA.gov → Verify School Enrollment
Email	If you don't opt in to text, VA will send email verification requests
Phone	1-888-442-4551

Eligibility Notes

Children are generally eligible between ages 18 and 26. However, if your eligibility began on or after August 1, 2023, there is no longer a time limit to use DEA benefits.

Spouses typically have 10 to 20 years to use the benefit, depending on when eligibility was established.

If you are receiving Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), you will need to give up those payments when you start using DEA.

Christendom College Contact

School Certifying Official: Philip Ashton, Chief Financial Officer

Christendom College

134 Christendom Drive, Front Royal, VA 22630

Facility Code: 31001546