

Section 1018 of Public Law 116-315, Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, adds new requirements for educational institutions participating in the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These new provisions became effective June 15, 2021 and will apply to Institutions of Higher Learning and Non-College Degree institutions beginning August 1, 2021. Many of the requirements are consistent with the requirements of the Principles of Excellence, currently in Executive Order 13607; however, there are requirements in addition to those embodied in the Principles of Excellence which schools must also satisfy to maintain approval for GI Bill® participation. Schools must satisfy the requirements of section 1018 by August 1, 2021.

Section 1018 codifies in statute the following requirements:

**Section 1:**

- Schools must provide a covered individual (a student using benefits under chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, or 35 of title 38, U.S.C., or chapter 1606 of title 10, U.S.C.) with a personalized shopping sheet that contains:
  - Estimated total cost of the course that includes tuition, fees, books, supplies and any other additional costs.
  - Estimated cost of living expenses.
  - Amount of costs above that are covered by VA Education Benefits.
  - Other types of Federal financial aid, not administered by VA that is offered by the institution, that the individual may be qualified to receive.
  - Estimated amount of student loan debt the individual would have upon graduation.
  - Information regarding graduation rates.
  - Information regarding job-placement rates for graduates, if available.
  - Information regarding the acceptance of transfer credits including military credits.
  - Any additional requirements including training, experience, or examinations that are required to obtain a license, certification or approval for which the course of education prepares the individual.
  - Other information to facilitate comparison by the individual about aid packages offered by different educational institutions.
- Personalized shopping sheets must be provided within 15 days after tuition and fees are determined for the academic year if there is a change.
- Schools must maintain policies that:
  - Inform an enrolled covered individual of the availability of federal financial aid, not administered by VA that is offered by the institution.
  - Alert the individual of the potential eligibility for other federal financial aid before packaging or arranging student loans or alternative financing.
  - Prohibit automatic renewal of a covered individual in a course and/or programs.
  - Ensure each covered individual approves of the enrollment in a course.
  - Allow enrolled members of the Armed Forces, including reserve components and National Guard to be readmitted if such members are temporarily unavailable or must suspend enrollment by reason of serving in the Armed Forces.
  - Accommodate short absences for such services in the Armed Forces.
- Schools must provide covered individuals the requirements for graduation and a graduation timeline.
- Accredited educational institutions agree to obtain approval of the respective accrediting agency for each new course or program.
- Schools must designate an employee of the educational institution to serve as a point of contact for covered individuals and family members seeking assistance with:
  - Academic Counseling.
  - Financial Counseling.
  - Disability Counseling.
  - Other information regarding completing a course of education at the education institution.

**Section 2:**

- State Approving Agency will take action when the education institution does any of the following:
  - Carries out deceptive or persistent recruiting techniques including on military institutions.
  - Misrepresents payment of incentive compensation.
  - During a 1-month period makes three or more unsolicited contacts to a covered individual via phone, email and/or in person.
  - Engages in same day recruitment and registration.
  - Provides a commission, bonus, or other incentive payment based directly or indirectly on success in securing enrollments or financial aid to any persons or entities engaged in any student recruiting or admission activities, or in making decisions regarding the award of student financial assistance. (Please note: schools are already subject to this requirement under 38 U.S.C. § 3696(d)(1)).

VA announced the requirements of section 1018 in an email on April 1, 2021. The above list is a digested version of the requirements. Please refer to the exact wording of the statute ([here](#)) for the authoritative requirements.

**Estimated total cost of the course that includes tuition, fees, books, supplies and any other additional costs.**

	<u>TEXAS RESIDENT</u>	<u>NON-RESIDENT</u>
	Charges Assessed by the University	
Tuition & Fees	\$9,310	\$21,550
	Incidental Charges NOT Assessed by the University	
Room & Board	\$9,980	\$9,980
Books & Supplies	\$1,200	\$1,200
Transportation	\$1,800	\$1,800
Miscellaneous	\$1,600	\$1,600
Total:	\$23,890	\$36,130

**Estimated cost of living expenses.**

Room & Board	\$9,980
Transportation	\$1,800
Miscellaneous	\$1,600

**Amount of costs above that are covered by VA Education Benefits.**

Benefit	Stipend (per full month)	Annual Book Stipend	Notes
Chapter 33	\$1221.00	\$1000.00	Post-9/11 GI Bill®
Chapter 30	\$2122.00	N/A	Montgomery GI Bill® (Active Duty)
Chapter 35	\$1265.00	N/A	Dependents Educational Assistance
Chapter 1606	\$397.00	N/A	Montgomery GI Bill® (Selected Reserve)
Chapter 31	\$1221.00	Full Cost	Veteran Readiness and Employment

VA Educational Benefits are limited to a monthly stipend and / or payment of mandatory tuition and fees to the University. Benefits only pay stipends for the months school attendance reported and these payments are pro-rated for partial (beginning and ending) months.

A beneficiary attending school for the approximated 8 months of the fall and spring semesters will earn approximately that many months of benefit. That is approximately \$9,768 for a 100% eligible Chapter 33 or Chapter 31, approximately \$16,976 for Chapter 30, approximately \$10,120 for Chapter 35, and approximately \$3,176 for Chapter 1606. This is generally insufficient to cover the full cost of living while attending school.

Chapter 31 and Chapter 33 benefits offer differing ways to providing funding for books and supplies. Chapter 33 will issue a book stipend prior to each term while chapter 31 provides all funding for books and supplies.

Other benefits such as Chapter 30, 35, and 1606 provide no tuition assistance or assistance with books and supplies.

For further information regarding your specific federal benefit please contact our office or you may find information on VA.gov. VA educational benefits provide a monthly stipend dependent on rate of pursuit and benefit type. These stipends are based on current data and fluctuates by region. For the Fall of 2021, the current calculation for benefits are as follows and based on full time and resident enrollment in undergraduate or graduate programs.

**Other types of Federal financial aid, not administered by VA offered by the institution, that the individual might be qualified to receive.**

Angelo State University financial aid packages, as well as the Carr Scholarship and ASU general scholarships, are applied automatically to your bill. The amount you are awarded is split between the fall and spring semesters and determined by application to federal and state agencies.

**Estimated amount of student loan debt the individual would have upon graduation.**

Source / Type of Loan	Percent of the class who borrowed	Average per-undergraduate-borrower cumulative principal borrowed
Any loan program: Federal Perkins, Federal Stafford Subsidized and Unsubsidized, institutional, state, private loans that your institution is aware of, etc. Include both Federal Direct Student Loans and Federal Family Education Loans.	66 %	\$ 24,277

**Information regarding graduation rates.**

Retention, Graduation and Course Completion	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2030
									Target
First-year Retention Rate	54.80%	62.50%	62.80%	67.30%	67.10%	66.90%	69%	71%	72%
Second-year Retention Rate	45.70%	44.20%	49.90%	50.40%	54.20%	53.10%	52%	55%	65%
Four-year Graduation Rate	20%	21%	25%	21%	27%	31%	31%	30%	40%
Six-year Graduation Rate	30%	31%	37%	36%	37%	34%	40%	42%	50%
Course Completion	84.10%	85%	85%	92.65%	93.30%	91%	93.60%	95.50%	91%

**Information regarding job-placement rates for graduates, if available.**

Angelo State University does not currently track job-placement rates, but we will report this if the university starts.

**Information regarding the acceptance of transfer credits including military credits.**

- Note: at Angelo State University, all transfer credits are accepted, however, not all transfer credits will apply to the degree program you choose.
- The Joint Service Transcript (JST) is the official transcript for Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard personnel. It validates and documents the American Council on Education (ACE) recommended college credits for professional military education, training courses and occupational experience of service members and veterans. Many military students receive ASU transfer credit from their JST.
- Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) transcripts show courses/training provided through the Air Force. Many courses from CCAF transfer to Angelo State University.
- Some National Cryptologic School (NCS) courses are shown on a Joint Services Transcript. However, some NCS courses have not been evaluated by ACE to appear on a JST. Angelo State University will review NCS transcripts to determine if additional credits can be awarded that are not already listed on the JST.
- Angelo State University accepts transfer credits from the Defense Language Institute.
- You may receive college transfer credit for credits earned through exams like the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) general and subject examinations, as well as the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) Subject Standardized Tests (DSST exams).
- Texas House Bill 269 allows military veterans who enroll in Texas universities and meet certain requirements eligible to receive undergraduate credit for the time they spent in the service for up to 12 credit hours of elective course work.
- ASU is a partner institution in the College Credit for Heroes program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission. As the only four-year institution currently serving as a partner school, we are honored to be a part of the program. The program seeks to maximize college credit awarded to veterans and service members for their military experience, ultimately resulting in those students receiving their degrees more quickly.

**Any additional requirements including training, experience, or examinations that are required to obtain a license, certification or approval for which the course of education prepares the individual.**

Depending on the program, some degree tracks may require a certification test at the conclusion of the program. Programs such as Education offers many different areas to specialize but will require certification test in order to obtain teacher certification. In order to ascertain whether or not your program may have a required certification test, please inquire with the program department.