# GI BILL BENEFITS & APPRENTICESHIP/OJT PROGRAMS

## Who is eligible?

Veterans National Guard members Selective Reserves Eligible Dependents

Did you know that it is possible to use GI Bill benefits for Apprenticeship Training and On-The-Job Training (OJT)? It is possible to receive a monthly educational benefit check from the Department of Veterans Affairs for training in an approved Apprenticeship or OJT program.

## What is Apprenticeship Training?

Apprenticeship training is supervised on-the-job training coupled with related technical instruction (usually 144 hours per year). Apprenticeships are normally from one to five years in length. All apprenticeships must be registered with the Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards.

There are time limits involved and approval of a program may be back-dated for up to one year for benefit purposes. As a general rule, veterans have 10 years after their separation from service to use their GI Bill Benefit. Chapter 34 GI Bill (Vietnam Era) ended on December 31, 1989; however, some Chapter 34 veterans are eligible for benefits under Chapter 30. Chapter 33, the Post-9/11 GI Bill does NOT cover apprenticeship training. However, veterans who elect to be under the Chapter 33 GI Bill who previously had entitlements under a different chapter may use that previous chapter for apprenticeship or OJT training.

## What is On-the-Job Training (OJT)?

OJT is training received while actually performing a job and earning wages. OJT programs must be at least six months up to normally not more than two years in length to qualify. An OJT program differs from an apprenticeship program in that there is not a related technical instruction portion to an OJT program.

#### HOW TO BEGIN

- Contact Schneider National and ask about the Military Apprenticeship Program. You
  may call 1-800-44-PRIDE (1-800-447-7433) or visit www.schneiderjobs.com for more
  information about Schneider National.
- Contact the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-888-442-4551 to determine your specific eligibility for educational benefits or your local County Veterans Service Officer.



1-800-44-PRIDE (1-800-447-7433) www.schneiderjobs.com

(Information provided courtesy of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs)

#### What is the amount of a monthly benefit check?

**Chapter 30** applies to those entering active duty after July 1, 1985, and to those who contributed to the Montgomery GI Bill. **Effective October 1, 2010** for veterans whose period of active duty was three years or more, the monthly allowance will be:

First 6 months \$1,069.50 Second 6 months \$784.30 Remainder of Training \$499.10

Or, for veterans whose initial period of active duty was less than three years:

First 6 months \$868.50 Second 6 months \$636.90 Remainder of Training \$405.30

Participation in specific programs may create eligibility for kickers.

**Chapter 32** applies to veterans who entered active duty between January 1, 1977 and June 30, 1985, and contributed toward the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP). The rate payable is based upon contributions. Contact the VA Regional Office for information on a specific allowance.

**Chapter 1606** applies to members of the National Guard or Reserves with a six year period of obligation after October 1, 1990. Veterans should contact their unit for eligibility.

Effective October 1, 2010 the monthly allowance will be:

First 6 months \$252.75 Second 6 months \$185.35 Remainder of Training \$117.95

Must remain in active NG/Reserve status to draw benefits.

**Chapter 1607**, Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP). Applies to members of the National Guard or Reserves with *continuous* deployment days since 9/11/01 as follows: **Effective October 1, 2010**: 90 to 364 days=\$427.80 per month; 365 to 729 days=\$641.70 per month; 730+ days=\$855.60 per month. Special circumstances (e.g.: temporary disability) may impact REAP benefits. Benefits decrease after 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 6-month periods. Please contact the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-442-4551 with any specific questions. Must remain in active NG/Reserve status to draw benefits.

**Chapter 34** applies to veterans who entered active duty between February 1, 1955 and December 31, 1976. You may be eligible to receive benefits under Chapter 30. **Effective October 1, 2010** the monthly allowance will be:

 First 6 months
 \$1,172.45

 Second 6 months
 \$ 840.68

 Third 6 months
 \$ 522.90

 Remainder of Training
 \$ 511.00

NOTE: Increased monthly rate for covered dependents

**Chapter 35** applies to a child or spouse of a service-connected deceased or 100 percent permanently disable veteran. Effective **October 1, 2010** the monthly allowance will be:

First 6 months \$682.00 Second 6 months \$511.00 Third 6 months \$337.00 Remainder of Training \$170.00