

Certifying Training Programs Through the VA

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Agenda

- What is the GI Bill?
- GI Bill programs
- Training available with the GI Bill
- NTW relevant information
- How to apply for certification

Veterans earn this BENEFIT

What is the GI Bill?

- Federal effort to provide financial and social benefits to World War II veterans after they returned home (1944)
- There have been several iterations of the bill since its inception, and today it provides education benefits to active service members and honorably discharged veterans
- These benefits have been extended to vocational and technical training programs
- Other military benefits, such as the Yellow Ribbon Program, are available for what the GI Bill does not cover
- Veterans can elect to have these benefits transferred to their immediate family member (spouse and children) while on active duty

GI Bill Programs

- Post-9/11 GI Bill
- Active Duty Montgomery GI Bill
- Reserve and Guard Montgomery GI Bill
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Education Program

Training Available

- Vocational/Technical Training including non-college degree programs
- College degree programs including Associate, Bachelor, and advanced degree programs
- On-the-job/Apprenticeship Training
- Licensing & Certification Reimbursement
- National Testing Programs such as SAT, CLEP, AP, etc
- Flight Training
- Correspondence Training
- Work-study programs
- Tuition Assistance Top-Up
- Tutorial Assistance

What's relevant to us?

- College Degree Programs
 - Cooperative Extension Programs
 - Boots-2-Bushels, Master Gardener Volunteer
- Non-College Degree Programs - examples
 - Holistic Management International
 - Beginning Farmer training programs
(<https://www.beginningfarmers.org/beginning-farmer-training-programs/>)
- Apprenticeships and On-the-job training

Each requires VA accreditation

How to Apply

Step 1: Contact your VA State Approving Agency:

<http://www.nasaa-vetseducation.com>

Step 2: Develop a course catalog that addresses required information

Step 3: Submit to State Approving Agency using appropriate approval packet

Refer to Handout

- Items to include with your application
- Catalog must include
 - Policies and Tuition/Refund Information
 - Grading system
 - Minimum grades considered satisfactory
 - Conditions for interruption for unsatisfactory grades or progress
 - A description of the probationary period
 - Remedial courses offered
 - Conditions of reentrance
 - How records are maintained
 - Standards of conduct
 - Attendance standards

- Suitable Agricultural Employment
- Veteran to Civilian ratio
- Course must have been conducted at least 2 years before approval
- Fees cannot be more for veterans
 - Sliding scale?

You got this!

- Think outside the box
- The VA wants to have as many opportunities for veterans as possible
- Work with your SAA well and often...squeaky wheel gets the grease