GI Bill benefits can help you gain the education and skills you need to get the job you want – outside the military or within your own command. Active duty personnel, veterans, and certain dependents are eligible to use the GI Bill for a variety of educational and career training purposes.

Tidewater Community College can help you take full advantage of your benefits. TCC has campuses located in Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Norfolk, and Chesapeake. Courses are offered in a variety of formats, both traditional and innovative. Schedules can be mixed to include days, evenings, weekends and online.

Many degree and certificate programs meet the requirements for training benefits. TCC is an institutional member of Service Members Opportunity Colleges (SOC), a group of over 1800 colleges and universities providing voluntary postsecondary education to members of the military throughout the world.
APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Before any request for benefits can be processed, you must complete an application and be admitted to the college. Any person who has a high school diploma or the equivalent, or is at least 18 years of age and is able to benefit from a program of instruction, may be admitted to Tidewater Community College.

An Office of Veterans Affairs (OVA) is located on each of the four campuses. Advisors are ready to discuss the opportunities available, help you determine eligibility and apply for benefits, as well as answer questions specific to your goals.

EDUCATION BENEFITS AND REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW

CHAPTER 30: MONTGOMERY GI BILL
To qualify, you must have entered active duty on or after July 1, 1985, have contributed $100.00 a month for 12 months, and have received an honorable discharge. To initiate benefits, submit the following to the Office of Veterans Affairs on campus:

- Completed VA Form 22-1990, or Certificate of Eligibility from the VA
- Copy of DD Form-214
- Any information pertaining to kickers or incentive programs

CHAPTER 31: VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
To qualify for vocational rehabilitation, you must have a service-connected disability. If you have not applied for vocational rehabilitation benefits, contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-827-1000 or see a VetSuccess counselor on any campus of TCC.

CHAPTER 33: POST-9/11 GI BILL
The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill will pay eligible individuals:

- Your full tuition & fees directly to the school for all public school in-state students.
- A monthly housing allowance (MHA) based on the Basic Allowance for Housing for an E-5 with dependents at the location of the school.
- An annual books & supplies stipend of $1,000 paid proportionately based on enrollment.

This benefit provides up to 36 months of education benefits. Generally, benefits are payable for 15 years following your release from active duty.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill also offers some service members the opportunity to transfer their GI Bill to dependents.

To initiate benefits, submit the following to the Office of Veterans Affairs on campus:

- Completed VA Form 22-1990, or Certificate of Eligibility from the VA
- Copy of DD Form-214

CHAPTER 35: SURVIVORS’ AND DEPENDENTS’ EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DEAP)
Sons, daughters, spouses and surviving spouses of veterans who have perished or are totally disabled as a result of a service-connected disability arising from active service in the armed forces, or who perished from any cause while such disability was in existence, may take advantage of this program.

Included in this program is the child or spouse of a person who is on active duty as a member of the Armed Forces and for a period of 90 days has been listed by the Department of Defense as a POW/MIA, or has otherwise been forcibly detained by a foreign government or power.

To initiate benefits, submit the following to the Office of Veteran Affairs on campus:

- Completed VA Form 22-5490, or Certificate of Eligibility from the VA

CHAPTER 1606: MONTGOMERY G.I. BILL - SELECTED RESERVE
A selected reservist must be enlisted, reenlisted, or have extended an enlistment obligation in the selected reserve for a period of not less than 6 years following the date of such action, and this action must have been completed on or after July 1, 1985. In addition, the selected reservist must meet or have completed the requirements leading to a high school diploma or equivalency certificate before completing Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT). You may not use 12 hours toward a college degree to meet this requirement, and must remain in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit. To initiate benefits, submit the following to the Office of Veteran Affairs on campus:

- Completed VA Form 22-1990
- Copy of DD-214
- DD Form 2384 Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE)
- Any information pertaining to kickers or incentive programs

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

To qualify for student financial aid, you must be admitted as a regular student in an eligible program of study and make satisfactory progress. Federally funded aid programs require U.S. citizenship, permanent residency, or refugee status. State funds are available only to students domiciled in Virginia.

EDUCATION BENEFIT GUIDELINES AND RULES

Credit may be granted by TCC for previous education, training or experience, including military training. Transcripts should be requested during the first semester from all colleges previously attended. To receive educational benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs beyond the second semester, a credit evaluation must be completed.

All students receiving veterans benefits are required to keep the TCC Office of Veterans Affairs informed of any changes to class status such as class withdrawal, add/drop, degree program changes and contact information.

PAYMENT PROCEDURES & INFORMATION

The VA will only pay for required courses that lead to the degree that you have selected at Tidewater Community College. All veterans will receive educational benefits based on the number of days the class is in session. If you are applying for benefits for the first time, it may take the Department of Veterans Affairs 10 to 12 weeks to process your claim.

Subsequent certifications may take up to 8 to 10 weeks to process. Chapter 30, 33, 35 and 1606 applications and enrollment certifications are processed in the Eastern Veterans Affairs Regional Office located in Buffalo, NY.

Chapter 30 and 1606 beneficiaries must remember to call the VA at 1-877-823-2378 or use the internet www.gibill.va.gov on the last day of each calendar month to confirm enrollment.

Applications may be requested by written correspondence or by visiting the campus nearest to you. Information in this brochure is subject to change. Contact your local Campus Veterans Affairs office for the latest information.