

**VR&E INFORMATION SHEET**

Student Name: Student ID #: Date:

I have been briefed on and understand:

## VA PRINCIPLES OF EXCELLENCE – PERSONALIZED SHOPPING SHEET

 Students using VA and TA education benefits are eligible to apply for federal financial aid by filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> using school code 004432. Assistance can be found at the MCC Financial aid website <https://mccneb.edu/fa>

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 Students who have submitted a completed FASFA to MCC can access their **College Financing Plan (Federal Shopping Sheet),** including federal aid when packaged, on their MCC MyWay account, under Self Service, Financial Aid, Financial Aid, Federal Shopping Sheet. (MyWay.MCCneb.edu) Students who have not submitted a FAFSA to MCC may view their estimated CFP under the Military and Veteran Services FAQ page. See below. Students may also contact the MVS office for a copy of their CFP.

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MCC Net Price Calculator –Students confidentially submit financial information to receive an estimated cost of attendance to include tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board and other related expenses – minus estimated grant and scholarship aid (loans not included) for three quarters of study. Net Price Calculator - https://apps.mccneb.edu/NetPrice/.

**NOTE:** Some specialized programs require additional fees – HIMC1, HIMO1, ASNAS, LPNCE, PMPMC, PHPMO, PTWAS, WEAAS, IBMSD, HDIAS. Information can be found at the MVS FAQ page.

Cost per quarter = total cost of attendance ÷ 3. Program cost = program quarters x cost per quarter. Other information to help compare aid packages offered by different schools can be found at the Student Aid.gov website - https://studentaid.gov/complete-aid-process/comparing-aid-offers

 Timeline to Graduate - To determine the estimated number of full-time quarters of study required to complete a program, divide the total required credit hours by 12.

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 Degree and certificate programs, including the total number of credits required for a program, broken down by general education, electives, and major requirements are located on the MCC Programs A-Z webpage and in the MCC catalog. https://mycatalog.mccneb.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=403.

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 The MVS FAQs page includes information on graduation rates, VA benefits rates, credit for military service, when classes will be offered, graduate employment rates and specialized program fees. MVS FAQs - https://mccneb.edu/Prospective-Students/Student-Tools-Resources/Military-Connected-Student-Resources/Military-Veteran-Services/Student-Resources/Military-Veteran-Services-FAQs

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## PREPARING FOR USE OF BENEFITS

 The VA pays irregularly, and I will not base my budget solely on anticipated payments. Information on monthly stipend rates can be obtained by contacting my VR&E counselor and at the VA website: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/subsistence_allowance_rates.asp>

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 I understand the VA gives me three quarters to have any prior college transcripts (including military transcripts) sent to Metropolitan Community College for evaluation of credit to apply to my program.

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## VA BENEFITS IMPLEMENTATION

 I understand it is in my best interest to enroll in classes at a minimum of 30 days prior to the start of the term to help minimize the possibility of my benefits being delayed and/or interrupted.

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 I must carefully plan my course load each quarter; any additions and withdrawals to my enrollment will potentially increase VA processing time and the chance for errors and/or delays in payment.

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 **Only classes that fit within my VR&E-approved program will be certified to the VA for funding.** Exceptions must be approved by my VR&E counselor.

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 The VA only pays for remedial and developmental courses taken in-residence (i.e., in the classroom). The VA will not pay for remedial/deficiency courses taken online.

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 VR&E will generally pay for a course no more than two times.

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 I understand once I have completed a course with the required minimum punitive grade, additional attempts will not be covered unless an improved grade is required for my declared program of study or approved by my VR&E counselor.

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 The VA does not pay for classes I elect to audit.

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 **If I would like to use VR&E benefits for a program of study different than my currently approved VR&E program, I must receive approval from my VR&E counselor to change my program,** and MCC must receive updated documentation. After receiving VR&E approval, I must contact my MCC advisor to change my program of study with MCC.

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 The VA considers each month to be a 30-day period and will prorate my monthly stipend/MHA based on the number of days I am in class each month during the term. The VA will pay my monthly stipend/MHA at the beginning of each month following the month I attended school.

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 Classes starting and ending within seven days of the actual start and end of the term will be certified using the published term dates. All other classes are considered non-standard term classes and will be certified by the individual class start and end dates.

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 I understand that books can be charged to the MCC Bookstore during Bookstore Charge Dates for the quarter (approximately 7 days before the start of the quarter until census date). If I have questions about Bookstore Charge Dates, I can contact my Veteran Certifying Official.

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 If I withdraw from a class (or classes) and receive a “W” non-punitive grade, I understand I will very likely incur a debt from the VA and be required to repay the VA some to possibly all of the money I received for the class (or classes). Depending on the date of the withdrawal(s) I may also have to pay the school the associated tuition and fee costs of the withdrawn class(es).

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 If I intend to withdraw from a class (or classes) due to mitigating circumstances (as defined by the VA) I will contact the MVS and my VR&E counselor prior to dropping/withdrawing.

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 MVS will promptly notify the VA in the event I am placed on academic suspension. If placed on academic suspension I jeopardize my ability to use VA educational benefits at MCC and other schools.

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## WORKING WITH THE MVS OFFICE

 **If I plan to change my program of study, I will IMMEDIATELY notify MVS. If I fail to do so, it will likely impact the ability to certify my courses to VA.**

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 Every quarter MVS has documentation of my active VR&E approval, MVS will automatically certify my classes with the VA unless I inform them I do not want to use my benefit. This notification must be in writing and received by the MVS prior to the start of the term for which I do not want to use the benefit. Additionally, I understand I must notify the MVS when I want to start re-using my benefit.

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 **If I believe there is an error with my enrollment certifications or if I do not receive my stipend/MHA payment, I will contact MVS and my VR&E counselor immediately to inform them.**

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 I understand my VR&E agreement is unique to me. It is my responsibility to communicate with MVS staff to assist in implementing the agreement.

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 MCC’s Student Veterans Organization is an officially recognized/chartered student-led chapter of Student Veterans of America, open to all student Veterans, reservists, guard members, and active-duty personnel.

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 Any student receiving VA educational benefits at the ¾ time rate or higher is eligible to apply for an MVS VA Work-Study position.

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My signature is my acknowledgement that I have reviewed all items with my Veterans Certifying Official and understand my benefits rights and responsibilities as outlined.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

VCO Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Additional VR&E Information

**CERTIFICATION**

Note: If an authorization is issued for a CH31 Veteran who is currently enrolled under chapter 33, Post 9/11 GI GI Bill®, the certification for CH31 cannot begin until the start of a new semester or term. A change in the election of VA benefits is not allowed in the middle of a semester or term.

GI Bill® trademark & “GI Bill®” is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

**48-MONTH RULE**

Effective April 1, 2021, Education Service stopped counting entitlement used in CH31 toward the potential 48 months of entitlement available under two or more VA education programs, as specified in title 38 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) section 3695. However, VR&E will continue to count entitlement used in other VA education programs, such as the Post 9/11 GI Bill®, towards the potential 48 months of entitlement under CH31. Based on Education’s new interpretation, it is generally best for an SM or Veteran to use his or her CH31 benefits prior to using other VA education benefits.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) BY CHAPTER 31 PARTICIPANTS**

**Q. I can’t get in contact with my VRC and need books, supplies etc. What should I do?**

A. If you are unable to reach your VRC, call or visit your VA Regional Office and ask to speak to the VR&E Supervisor. Someone will assist you in your VRC’s absence. (800) 827-1000

**Q. I need books and supplies for my classes. What will VR&E pay for?**

A. VR&E will pay for all supplies that VA determines are necessary for the SM’s or Veteran's rehabilitation program. Supplies necessary to accomplish the purposes of a SM’s or Veteran’s rehabilitation program may include, but are not limited to, the following: books, office supplies, tools, consumable goods, computer packages and 14 other material.

* Pre-approval is required prior to obtaining needed supplies. Your VRC is solely responsible for determining the need for supplies.
* VR&E will only provide supplies for SMs or Veterans who are participating in an active plan of service.

**Q. I am experiencing medical/emotional/dental issues that are impacting my schoolwork. What should I do?**

 A. Contact your VRC to ask about a referral for care at the nearest VA Medical Center to address the issue that is impacting your training. VR&E participants may be eligible for services for a wide range of medical, counseling, or dental services if enrolled in a plan of service, and the medical service is needed for you to continue your training.

**Q. How can I get paid the Post-9/11 GI Bill® rate for my Vocational Rehabilitation program**

A. A Veteran participating in the VR&E Program who qualifies for Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits can elect to receive an alternate subsistence allowance rate that is equal to the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rate associated with the zip code of the training facility. VR&E refers to this alternate rate as the “Post 9/11 Subsistence Allowance” (P911SA) rate. In most cases, the P911SA rate is higher than the regular CH31 subsistence allowance rate. To elect the P911SA rate, the Veteran must have remaining eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill® and must formally choose (or “elect”) the P911SA rate. Your VRC can help you with the election.

Unlike the Post 9/11 GI Bill®, Veterans participating in the CH31Program who elect the P911SA rate are paid at the 100% of the rate, which is then prorated based on the rate of pursuit.

For example, if you are not attending school at the full-time rate, the actual subsistence allowance paid will be based on the 100% rate but reduced based on the percentage of training time you are attending. Additional benefits are also available through the CH31 Program, such as payment of all required books, fees and supplies as well as other supportive services.