

Veterans Benefits

To access your VA Educational Benefit funds, you must complete three steps:

1. You must apply to the VA for approval of your eligibility
2. You must be admitted to the Law School
3. You must complete the Veterans Request for Enrollment Certification and provide supporting documentation of eligibility

Applying for VA Eligibility Approval

The OFA does not determine initial eligibility for any VA Educational Benefit program. The educational arm of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is the sole determinant body of benefit eligibility.

Time is the key factor in the application process and often determines how you may apply for approval. The VA requests 30-45 business days (5-9 calendar weeks) to process an application. In certain circumstances this time period may be extended. Applications can be submitted to the VA before a student is officially admitted to the Law School.

You may submit the application and supporting documents in one of two ways:

1. Directly to the VA Regional Processing Center (RPO) in Decatur, Georgia. Use this option only if you are submitting the application at least two (2) months before your first (1st) planned semester of attendance.
If the application is approved, you need only provide the resulting Certificate of Eligibility along with your DD-214 to the OFA.
2. Through the VA's online application system, at [VONAPP](#).

All VA Educational Benefits are part of what's commonly called the GI BILL. The VA classifies all recipients of benefits by the different chapters of the bill. In order to send the correct application to the VA you must know what chapter you are.

Enrollment Certification

Enrollment certifications will be sent to the Department of Veteran Affairs as follows:

1. Initial enrollment hours are reported each semester at the close of registration.
2. Tuition and fees are reported each semester **AFTER** the drop/add period to avoid VA overpayments.
3. You are responsible for immediately reporting any changes in your enrollment status to your schools certifying official.

Enrollment Requirements

- Students receiving VA education benefits must maintain full-time enrollment (a minimum of 12 credit hours during standard semesters) throughout the certified enrollment period to qualify for MHA payments at the full-time rate otherwise payments will be prorated based on your rate-of-pursuit as determined by the VA (i.e. if you enroll in 9 credits and 12 is considered full-time, your rate of pursuit is .75 which qualifies you for only 80% of your MHA).

Chapter 33 Post 9/11 Book Payments

- Post 9/11 book payments are reimbursed to students directly from the Department of Veteran Affairs at the rate of \$41.67 per credit hour up to your maximum eligibility (\$1000 max for 100% tier.....all others are prorated. You must be prepared to purchase your books out of pocket or use other available resources.

Yellow Ribbon

AJMLS and Savannah Law School has elected to enter into an agreement with the Department of Veteran Affairs to make additional coverage available to those qualify for the Yellow Ribbon program as outlined by the VA (Veterans, Spouses and Dependents eligible for Post 9/11 at the 100% tier).

*****Please contact your school certifying official for additional information.

Vocational Rehabilitation/Chapter 31

*****Please meet directly with your school certifying official for specific instructions.

For Department of Veterans Affairs benefits recipients: The Law School will refund the unused portion of prepaid tuition and fees on a pro-rata refund basis. Any amount in excess of \$10.00 for an enrollment or registration fee will also be pro-rated.

The Law School agrees to maintain a positive attendance record that also reflects late arrivals and early departures.

The Law School agrees not to exceed a student teacher ratio of 25:1 as established by the State Approving Agency (SAA).