

Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the transfers of entitlement to basic educational assistance under this section that were approved by each Secretary concerned during the preceding fiscal year.

(2) Each report shall set forth—

(A) the number of transfers of entitlement under this section that were approved by such Secretary during the preceding fiscal year; or

(B) if no transfers of entitlement under this section were approved by such Secretary during that fiscal year, a justification for such Secretary's decision not to approve any such transfers of entitlement during that fiscal year.

(m) SECRETARY CONCERNED DEFINED.—Notwithstanding section 101(25) of this title, in this section, the term “Secretary concerned” means—

(1) the Secretary of the Army with respect to matters concerning the Army;

(2) the Secretary of the Navy with respect to matters concerning the Navy or the Marine Corps;

(3) the Secretary of the Air Force with respect to matters concerning the Air Force; and

(4) the Secretary of Defense with respect to matters concerning the Coast Guard, or the Secretary of Homeland Security when it is not operating as a service in the Navy.

(Added Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title VI, §654(a)(1), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1153; amended Pub. L. 107-296, title XVII, §1704(d), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2315; Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title VI, §643(a), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2577; Pub. L. 110-252, title V, §5006(a), June 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2380.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3020 was renumbered section 5120 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(1), substituted “Authority to transfer unused education benefits to family members for career service members” for “Transfer of entitlement to basic educational assistance: members of the Armed Forces with critical military skills” in section catchline.

Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(1), added subsecs. (a) and (b) and struck out former subsecs. (a) and (b) which provided for transfers of entitlement to basic educational assistance from eligible members of the Armed Forces to certain dependents and described eligibility criteria for such members, respectively.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(2), added subsec. (d) and struck out former subsec. (d). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The total number of months of entitlement transferred by an individual under this section may not exceed 18 months.”

Subsec. (f)(1). Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(3), substituted “only while” for “without regard to whether”.

Subsec. (f)(2)(A). Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(4), inserted “as long as the individual is serving on active duty or as a member of the Selected Reserve” after “so transferred”.

Subsec. (f)(3). Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(5), added par. (3).

Subsec. (h)(5). Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(6), inserted “may use the benefit without regard to the 10-year delimiting date, but” after “under this section”.

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 110-252, §5006(a)(7), added subsec. (k) and struck out former subsec. (k). Prior to amend-

ment, text read as follows: “The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations for purposes of this section. Such regulations shall specify the manner and effect of an election to modify or revoke a transfer of entitlement under subsection (f)(2) and shall specify the manner of the applicability of the administrative provisions referred to in subsection (h)(5) to a dependent to whom entitlement is transferred under this section.”

2002—Subsec. (h)(2). Pub. L. 107-314, §643(a)(1), substituted “paragraphs (5) and (6)” for “paragraphs (4) and (5)” and struck out “and at the same rate” after “in the same manner”.

Subsec. (h)(3) to (7). Pub. L. 107-314, §643(a)(2), (3), added par. (3) and redesignated former pars. (3) to (6) as (4) to (7), respectively.

Subsec. (m)(4). Pub. L. 107-296 substituted “of Homeland Security” for “of Transportation”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENTS

Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title VI, §643(c)(1), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2578, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 3020 of title 38, United States Code, by section 654(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Public Law 107-107; 115 Stat. 1153).”

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-296 effective on the date of transfer of the Coast Guard to the Department of Homeland Security, see section 1704(g) of Pub. L. 107-296, set out as a note under section 101 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title VI, §654(c), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1157, provided that: “Not later than June 30, 2002, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report describing the manner in which the Secretaries of the military departments and the Secretary of Transportation propose to exercise the authority granted by section 3020 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a). The report shall include the regulations prescribed under subsection (k) of that section for purposes of the exercise of the authority.”

SUBCHAPTER III—SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

§ 3021. Supplemental educational assistance for additional service

(a) The Secretary concerned, pursuant to regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, may provide for the payment of supplemental educational assistance under this subchapter to any individual eligible for basic educational assistance under section 3011 or 3013 of this title who—

(1) serves five or more consecutive years of active duty in the Armed Forces after the years of active duty counted under section 3011(a)(1) of this title without a break in such service; and

(2) after completion of the service described in clause (1) of this subsection—

(A) is discharged from service with an honorable discharge, is placed on the retired list, is transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, or is placed on the temporary disability retired list;

(B) continues on active duty without a break in service; or

(C) is released from active duty for further service in a reserve component of the Armed Forces after service on active duty characterized by the Secretary concerned as honorable service.

(b) The Secretary concerned, pursuant to regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, may provide for the payment of supplemental educational assistance under this subchapter to any individual eligible for basic educational assistance under section 3012 or 3018 of this title who—

(1) serves two or more consecutive years of active duty in the Armed Forces after the years of active duty counted under section 3012(a)(1) of this title and four or more consecutive years of duty in the Selected Reserve after the years of duty in the Selected Reserve counted under such section without a break in service; and

(2) after completion of the service described in clause (1) of this subsection—

(A) is discharged from service with an honorable discharge, is placed on the retired list, is transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, or is placed on the temporary disability retired list; or

(B) continues on active duty or in the Selected Reserve.

(c) Continuity of service of a member in the Selected Reserve for purposes of subsection (b)(1) of this section shall not be considered to be broken—

(1) by any period of time (not to exceed a maximum period prescribed by the Secretary concerned by regulation) during which the member is not able to locate a unit of the Selected Reserve of the member's Armed Force that the member is eligible to join or that has a vacancy; or

(2) by any other period of time (not to exceed a maximum period prescribed by the Secretary concerned by regulation) during which the member is not attached to a unit of the Selected Reserve that the Secretary concerned, pursuant to regulations, considers to be inappropriate to consider for such purpose.

(d) A period of active duty or duty in the Selected Reserve that occurs before the period of duty by which the individual concerned qualifies for basic educational assistance may not be counted for purposes of this section.

(Added Pub. L. 98-525, title VII, §702(a)(1), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2558, §1421; amended Pub. L. 99-576, title III, §321(5), (6), Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3278; Pub. L. 100-689, title I, §103(b)(5), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4166; Pub. L. 101-237, title IV, §423(b)(4)(B), Dec. 18, 1989, 103 Stat. 2092; renumbered §3021 and amended Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), (c)(1), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 406.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior section 3021 was renumbered section 5121 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), renumbered section 1421 of this title as this section.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-83, §5(c)(1), substituted “3011 or 3018” for “1411 or 1418” in introductory provisions and “3011(a)(1)” for “1411(a)(1)” in par. (1).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 102-83, §5(c)(1), substituted “3012 or 3018” for “1412 or 1418” in introductory provisions and “3012(a)(1)” for “1412(a)(1)” in par. (1).

1989—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 101-237 inserted “of Defense” after second reference to “Secretary”.

1988—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 100-689 inserted reference to section 1418 of this title.

1986—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 99-576, §321(5), substituted “after” for “in addition to”.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 99-576, §321(5), substituted “after” for “in addition to” in two places.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 99-576, §321(6), substituted “the member’s” for “his”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 702(b) of Pub. L. 98-525 provided that: “Subchapter III of chapter 30 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect on July 1, 1986.”

§ 3022. Amount of supplemental educational assistance

(a) The amount of payment of educational assistance under this chapter is subject to section 3032 of this title. Except as otherwise provided under subsection (b) of this section, supplemental educational assistance under section 3021 of this title shall be paid—

(1) at a monthly rate of \$300 for an approved program of education pursued on a full-time basis; or

(2) at an appropriately reduced rate, as determined under regulations which the Secretary shall prescribe, for an approved program of education pursued on less than a full-time basis.

(b) In the case of a member of the Armed Forces for whom the Secretary concerned has provided for the payment of supplemental educational assistance who has a skill or specialty designated by the Secretary concerned, pursuant to regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, as a skill or specialty in which there is a critical shortage of personnel, the Secretary concerned, pursuant to such regulations, may increase the rate of the supplemental educational assistance allowance applicable to such individual to such rate in excess of the rate prescribed under subsection (a) of this section as the Secretary concerned considers appropriate, but the amount of any such increase may not exceed \$300 per month.

(Added Pub. L. 98-525, title VII, §702(a)(1), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2559, §1422; amended Pub. L. 100-689, title I, §111(a)(5)(B), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4171; Pub. L. 101-237, title IV, §423(b)(1)(A), (4)(C), Dec. 18, 1989, 103 Stat. 2092; renumbered §3022 and amended Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), (c)(1), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 406.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior section 3022 was renumbered section 5122 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), renumbered section 1422 of this title as this section.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-83, §5(c)(1), substituted “3032” for “1432” and “3021” for “1421” in introductory provisions.

1989—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 101-237, §423(b)(1)(A), substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101-237 inserted “of Defense” after third reference to “Secretary”.

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-689 substituted “The amount of payment of educational assistance under this chapter is subject to section 1432 of this title. Except” for “Subject to section 1432 of this title and except”.

§ 3023. Payment of supplemental educational assistance under this subchapter

The Secretary shall increase the monthly basic educational assistance allowance paid to an individual who is entitled to supplemental educational assistance under this subchapter by the monthly amount of the supplemental educational assistance to which the individual is entitled.

(Added Pub. L. 98-525, title VII, §702(a)(1), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2560, §1423; amended Pub. L. 101-237, title IV, §423(b)(1)(A), Dec. 18, 1989, 103 Stat. 2092; renumbered §3023, Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 406.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior section 3023 was renumbered section 5123 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-83 renumbered section 1423 of this title as this section.

1989—Pub. L. 101-237 substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator”.

SUBCHAPTER IV—TIME LIMITATION FOR USE OF ELIGIBILITY AND ENTITLEMENT; GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

§ 3031. Time limitation for use of eligibility and entitlement

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) through (g), and subject to subsection (h), of this section, the period during which an individual entitled to educational assistance under this chapter may use such individual's entitlement expires at the end of the 10-year period beginning on the date of such individual's last discharge or release from active duty, except that such 10-year period shall begin—

(1) in the case of an individual who becomes entitled to such assistance under clause (A) or (B) of section 3012(a)(1) of this title, on the later of the date of such individual's last discharge or release from active duty or the date on which the four-year requirement described in clause (A)(ii) or (B)(ii), respectively, of such section 3012(a)(1) is met;

(2) in the case of an individual who becomes entitled to such assistance under section 3011(a)(1)(B), on the later of the date of such individual's last discharge or release from active duty or January 1, 1990; and

(3) in the case of an individual who becomes entitled to such assistance under section 3011(a)(1)(C) or 3012(a)(1)(C) of this title, on December 27, 2001.

(b) In the case of any eligible individual who has been prevented, as determined by the Secretary, from pursuing a program of education under this chapter within the 10-year period prescribed by subsection (a) of this section because such individual had not met the nature of discharge requirement of this chapter before the nature of such individual's discharge or release was changed by appropriate authority, such 10-year period shall not run during the period of time that such individual was so prevented from pursuing such program of education.

(c) In the case of an individual eligible for educational assistance under the provisions of this chapter who, after such individual's last discharge or release from active duty, was detained by a foreign government or power, the 10-year period described in subsection (a) of this section shall not run (1) while such individual is so detained, or (2) during any period immediately following such individual's release from such detention during which such individual is hospitalized at a military, civilian, or Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility.

(d)(1) In the case of an individual eligible for educational assistance under this chapter who is prevented from pursuing the individual's chosen program of education before the expiration of the 10-year period for the use of entitlement under this chapter otherwise applicable under this section because of a physical or mental disability which is not the result of the individual's own willful misconduct, such 10-year period—

(A) shall not run during the period the individual is so prevented from pursuing such program; and

(B) shall again begin running on the first day after the individual's recovery from such disability on which it is reasonably feasible, as determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, for the individual to initiate or resume pursuit of a program of education with educational assistance under this chapter.

(2)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), in the case of an individual eligible for educational assistance under this chapter who is prevented from pursuing the individual's chosen program of education before the expiration of the 10-year period for the use of entitlement under this chapter otherwise applicable under this section by reason of acting as the primary provider of personal care services for a veteran or member of the Armed Forces under section 1720G(a) of this title, such 10-year period—

(i) shall not run during the period the individual is so prevented from pursuing such program; and

(ii) shall again begin running on the first day after the date of the recovery of the veteran or member from the injury, or the date on which the individual ceases to be the primary provider of personal care services for the veteran or member, whichever is earlier, on which it is reasonably feasible, as so determined, for the individual to initiate or resume pursuit of a program of education with educational assistance under this chapter.

(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to the period of an individual as a primary provider of personal care services if the period concludes with the revocation of the individual's designation as such a primary provider under section 1720G(a)(7)(D) of this title.

(e)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, in the case of an individual described in section 3011(a)(1)(B), 3011(a)(1)(C), 3012(a)(1)(B), or 3012(a)(1)(C) of this title who is entitled to basic educational assistance under this chapter, the 10-year period prescribed in subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by an amount of time equal to the amount of time that such individual was not serving on active