

§ 21.5076

38 CFR Ch. I (7-1-10 Edition)

the amount of monthly educational assistance the individual is otherwise eligible to receive for full-time pursuit of a residence course as provided in § 21.5138(c) of this part. When the amount of tutorial assistance paid to the individual in excess of \$600 is less than the amount of monthly educational assistance the individual is otherwise eligible to receive, the entitlement charge will be prorated.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3234; Pub. L. 100-689)

(h) *Flight training courses.* (1) A charge against the period of entitlement for pursuit of a flight training course will be one month for each sum of money paid equivalent to the dollar value of a month of entitlement as determined under § 21.5138(a)(5)(viii). When this computation results in a period of time other than a full month, the charge will be prorated.

(2) If the individual is contributing to the fund at the same time that benefits are being used or subsequently contributes a sum or sums, the entitlement charges will not be recomputed. Thus, if the monthly rate arrived at under § 21.5138(a)(5)(viii) is \$150 at the time educational assistance allowance is paid for a period of flight training, the individual will be charged one month of entitlement for each \$150 paid. If a different monthly rate is computed at the time of a subsequent payment for such training, no adjustment will be made in the entitlement charged for the previous payment(s) even though the value of each month's entitlement may vary from payment to payment.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3231(f); Pub. L. 102-16)(Apr. 1, 1991)

(i) *Entitlement charge may be omitted for course discontinuance due to orders to, or changing, active duty in certain instances.* VA will make no charge against the entitlement of a servicemember or veteran for a payment of educational assistance when—

(1)(i) A veteran not serving on active duty had to discontinue course pursuit as a result of being ordered, in connection with the Persian Gulf War by orders dated before September 11, 2001, to serve on active duty under 10 U.S.C. 688, 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12302, or 12304, or former 10 U.S.C. 672(a), 672(d),

672(g), 673, or 673b (redesignated effective December 1, 1994, as 10 U.S.C. 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12302, and 12304, respectively); or

(ii) A veteran not serving on active duty had to discontinue course pursuit as a result of being ordered, by orders dated after September 10, 2001, to serve on active duty under 10 U.S.C. 688, 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12302, or 12304; or

(iii) A servicemember serving on active duty had to discontinue course pursuit as a result of being ordered, in connection with the Persian Gulf War by orders dated before September 11, 2001, to a new duty location or assignment or to perform an increased amount of work; or

(iv) A servicemember serving on active duty had to discontinue course pursuit as a result of being ordered, by orders dated after September 10, 2001, to a new duty location or assignment or to perform an increased amount of work; and

(2) The veteran or servicemember failed to receive credit or lost training time toward completion of his or her educational, professional, or vocational objective as a result of having to discontinue course pursuit as described in paragraph (i)(1) of this section.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3231(a)(5)(B)(i); sec. 2, Pub. L. 102-127, 105 Stat. 619-620; sec. 103, Pub. L. 107-103, 115 Stat. 979-980)

[45 FR 31, Jan. 2, 1980, as amended at 47 FR 51745, Nov. 17, 1982; 48 FR 50530, Nov. 2, 1983; 52 FR 3429, Feb. 4, 1987; 53 FR 34497, Sept. 7, 1988; 55 FR 31582, Aug. 3, 1990; 58 FR 31910, June 7, 1993; 58 FR 34369, June 25, 1993; 58 FR 34526, June 28, 1993; 73 FR 2426, Jan. 15, 2008]

§ 21.5076 Entitlement charge—overpayment cases.

(a) *Overpayment cases.* VA will make a charge against an individual's entitlement of an overpayment of educational assistance allowance only if:

(1) The overpayment is discharged in bankruptcy; or

(2) VA waives the overpayment and does not recover it; or

(3) The overpayment is compromised.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3231)

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(b) *Debt discharged in bankruptcy or is waived.* If the overpayment is discharged in bankruptcy or is waived and is not recovered, the entitlement charge will be at the appropriate rate for the elapsed period covered by the overpayment (exclusive of interest, administrative costs of collection, court costs and marshal fees).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3231; Pub. L. 94-502)

(c) *Overpayment is compromised.* (1) If the overpayment is compromised and the compromise offer is less than the amount of interest, administrative costs of collection, court costs and marshal fees, the charge against entitlement will be at the appropriate rate for the elapsed period covered by the overpayment (exclusive of interest, administrative costs of collection, court costs and marshal fees).

(2) If the overpayment is compromised and compromise offer is equal to or greater than the amount of interest, administrative costs of collection, court costs and marshal fees, the charge against entitlement will be determined by—

(i) Subtracting from the sum paid in the compromise offer the amount attributable to interest, administrative costs of collection, court costs and marshal fees.

(ii) Subtracting the remaining amount of the overpayment balance determined in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section from the amount of the original overpayment (exclusive of interest, administrative costs of collection, court costs and marshal fees),

(iii) Dividing the result obtained in paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section by the amount of the original debt (exclusive of interest, administrative costs of collection, court costs and marshal fees), and

(iv) Multiplying the percentage obtained in paragraph (c)(2)(iii) of this section by the amount of the entitlement otherwise chargeable for the period of the original overpayment.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3231)

[45 FR 31, Jan. 2, 1980, as amended at 52 FR 45181, Nov. 25, 1987]

§21.5078 Interruption to conserve entitlement.

(a) *Interruption to conserve entitlement generally prohibited.* No one may interrupt a certified period of enrollment for the purpose of conserving entitlement. A school may not certify a period of enrollment for a fractional part of the normal term, quarter or semester if the individual actually is enrolled and is pursuing his or her program of education for the entire term, quarter or semester.

(b) *Exceptions.* The Department of Veterans Affairs will charge entitlement for the entire period of enrollment certified if the individual otherwise is eligible for benefits, except when benefits are interrupted under any of the following conditions:

(1) Enrollment actually is terminated.

(2) Enrollment is canceled and the individual has not negotiated an educational benefits check for any part of the certified period of enrollment.

(3) The individual:

(i) Interrupts his or her enrollment at the scheduled end of any term, quarter, semester or school year within the certified period of enrollment; and

(ii) Has not negotiated any check for educational benefits for the succeeding term, quarter, semester or school year.

(4) The individual requests interruption or cancellation for any break when a school was closed during a certified period of enrollment and payments were continued under an established policy based upon an Executive order of the President or due to an emergency situation. This exception applies whether or not the individual has negotiated a check for educational benefits for the certified period.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3241, 3680)

COUNSELING

§21.5100 Counseling.

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of counseling is:

(1) To assist in selecting an objective;

(2) To develop a suitable program of education or training; and

(3) To resolve any personal problems which are likely to interfere with the successful pursuit of a program.