

Department of Veterans Affairs

§21.5133

§21.5131 Educational assistance allowance.

(a) *General.* Statements in this section concerning payments of educational assistance allowance assume that the veteran or servicemember:

- (1) Is eligible for educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 32;
- (2) Has remaining entitlement; and
- (3) Has not passed the 10-year delimiting date and any applicable extension to that date.

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

(b) *Payment of educational assistance allowance for pursuit of programs of education and other courses.* (1) VA will pay educational assistance allowance at the rate specified in §21.5136 or §21.5138 while the veteran or servicemember is pursuing:

- (i) An approved program of education;
- (ii) A refresher or deficiency course; or
- (iii) Special education or training which is necessary to enable the veteran or servicemember to pursue an approved program of education.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, VA will not pay educational assistance allowance for pursuit of any course unless the course is:

- (i) Part of the veteran's or servicemember's program of education;
- (ii) A refresher or deficiency course; or
- (iii) Special education or training which is necessary to enable the veteran or servicemember to pursue an approved program of education.

(3) VA may withhold a payment until it receives verification or certification of the veteran's or servicemember's continued enrollment and adjusts accordingly the veteran's or servicemember's account.

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

(c) *Payment for taking a licensing or certification test.* VA will pay educational assistance allowance to an eligible veteran or servicemember who takes an approved licensing or certification test and applies, in accordance with the provisions of §21.1030(b), for that assistance. VA will not pay educational assistance for a licensing or

certification test that neither a State approving agency nor VA has approved.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3689)

[72 FR 16978, Apr. 5, 2007]

§21.5132 Criteria used in determining benefit payments.

(a) *Training time.* The amount of benefit payment to an individual in all types of training except cooperative training, correspondence training and apprenticeship and other on-job training depends on whether VA determines that the individual is a full-time student, three-quarter-time student, half-time student or one-quarter-time student.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3241, 3688; Pub. L. 99-576, Pub. L. 100-689)

(b) *Contributions.* The amount of benefit payment to an individual also depends on:

- (1) The amount the individual has contributed to the fund.
- (2) The amount the Secretary of Defense has contributed to the fund for the individual.

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

[45 FR 31, Jan. 2, 1980, as amended at 47 FR 51746, Nov. 17, 1982; 48 FR 3369, Jan. 25, 1983; 52 FR 3429, Feb. 4, 1987; 53 FR 34498, Sept. 7, 1988; 55 FR 31582, Aug. 3, 1990; 61 FR 29030, June 7, 1996]

§21.5133 Certifications and release of payments.

A veteran or servicemember must be pursuing a program of education in order to receive payment of educational assistance allowance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 32. To ensure that this is the case, the provisions of this section must be met when a veteran or servicemember is seeking such payment.

(a) *General.* VA will pay educational assistance to a veteran or servicemember (other than one pursuing a program of apprenticeship, other on-job training, or a correspondence course; one seeking reimbursement for taking an approved licensing or certification test; or one who qualifies for an advance payment) only after: