

Longitudinal Study Survey

Department of Veterans Affairs, Education Service Division is conducting a Longitudinal Study of Veterans participating in the Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33). This study will take place over the next 20 years.

You have been randomly selected to participate in this study. We are requesting that you complete a survey each year, for the next 20 years. Information gathered will be used to help understand the long-term benefits of the Chapter 33 program and help us improve services for other Veterans.

Please take a few moments to complete this yearly survey. Your feedback is very important to us. Data reported to outside sources will be reported in aggregate form and not be specific to you. Your responses will also be kept private to the extent of the law and will not be used for any purposes other than for this study.

If you have any questions about the survey, please call 1-800-XXX-XXXX or email info@xxxxxxxx.com. Your participation is very much appreciated.

Please mail the survey in the enclosed pre-addressed postage-paid envelope.

Current Status

0a. How have you used the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits so far? (Check all that apply.)

- Took college or university coursework leading to a degree
- Took college or university coursework not leading to a degree
- Attended business, technical or vocational school training leading to a certificate or diploma
- Participated in an apprenticeship or on-the-job training program
- Took correspondence courses
- Took flight training
- Received tutorial assistance, refresher courses, or deficiency training
- Attended a teacher certification program
- Other: _____

1. Are you currently using your Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, or using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits that were transferred to you? (Check only one.)

- Yes ———> **(Skip to item 3)**
- No

1a. Why are you no longer using the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits? (Check only one.)

- Successfully completed classes or training ———> **(Skip to item 3)**
- Used all eligible months available ———> **(Skip to item 3)**
- Suspended by school ———> **(Skip to item 3)**
- Voluntarily withdrew or stopped attending classes or training
- Other: _____

2. Why did you voluntarily withdraw or stop attending classes or training? (Check all that apply.)

- Medical reasons
- Financial reasons
- Family responsibilities
- Found a job prior to program completion
- Successfully met my educational or training goals
- Transportation difficulties
- Training or educational program did not meet my needs
- Training or educational program requirements were too difficult
- Lost interest in training or educational program
- To pursue another education benefit (Ch31, State Voc Rehab, etc)
- Other: _____

Benefits

3. At any time in the past 12 months, did you receive any of the following benefits from Social Security? (Check all that apply.)

- Did not receive SS benefits

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Medicare
- Retirement
- Survivor's or Dependent
- Other: _____

Employment

4. During the last week, were you...

(Check only one.)

- Working, or on paid vacation or sick leave from work? ———→ *(Skip to item 5)*
- Not working, but looking for work? ———→ *(Skip to item 5)*
- Not working and not looking for work?

4a. What is the main reason you were not looking for work? (Check only one.)

- Going to school
- Ill, or disabled and unable to work
- Retired
- Taking care of home or family
- Could not find work
- Other: _____

5. Were you employed at any time in the past 12 months? (Check only one.)

- Yes
- No ———→ *(Skip to item 9)*

6. During the past 12 months (52 weeks), how many weeks were you employed? (Fill in number of weeks.)

Weeks employed: _____

7. During the past 12 months, in the weeks you worked, how many hours did you usually work each week? (Fill in number of hours.)

Hours per week: _____

8. During the past 12 months, how much did you earn from all jobs or businesses before taxes and other deductions? (Check only one and fill in the number.)

- Yearly salary _____
- Hourly rate _____

9. During the past 12 months, did you receive any counseling, training, job search assistance, or other assistance to help you find or keep a job?

- Yes
- No → (Skip to item 10)

9a. How much did this assistance contribute to your success in finding or keeping a job?

- A lot
- Some
- A little
- None

10. What was your gross income during the past 12 months, from each of the following sources?

- a. Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips from all jobs \$ _____
 - b. Interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty, Income, or income from estates and trusts \$ _____
 - c. Social Security or Railroad Retirement \$ _____
 - d. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) \$ _____
 - e. Any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office \$ _____
 - f. Retirement, survivor, or disability pension (NOT including Social Security) \$ _____
 - g. Any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony \$ _____
- TOTAL INCOME (add a – g) \$ _____

11. At any time in the past 12 months, did you receive unemployment compensation?

- Yes
- No ———→ *(Skip to item 12)*

11a. How many weeks of unemployment did you receive? (Fill in number of weeks.)

Number of weeks: _____

Education

12. At any time in the past 12 months, were you enrolled in an Institution of Higher Learning (IHL)? (An Institution of Higher Learning is defined as a college, university, or similar institution offering postsecondary level academic instruction that leads to an associate or higher degree if the school is empowered by the appropriate State education authority under State law to grant an associate or higher degree.)

- Yes
- No ———→ *(Skip to item 16)*

12a. What was the major subject or field of study of the education or training program in which you were enrolled?

13. Were you in school part-time, full-time, or both during the past 12 months? (Check only one.)

- Part-time
- Full-time
- Both part-time and full-time

14. During the past 12 months, how many academic credit hours did you complete? (Check only one.)

- 1 to 10
- 11 to 20
- 21 to 30
- 31 to 40
- 41 or more
- Credits were not recorded
- Did not complete any credits this year

15. How did you pay for this education or training? (Check all that apply.)

- VR&E VetSuccess Program (Chapter 31)
- Veterans Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 32)
- GI Bill (Chapter 30 or Chapter 33)
- Reserve Educational Assistance (Chapter 1607)
- Military Tuition Assistance
- Pell Grant
- Federal Loan (e.g., Stafford Loan)
- Grants or scholarships from the state or my institution
- Loan or line of credit from my institution
- Private student loan (non-federal bank loans)
- Loan from family or friends
- Personal funds (e.g., income from a job or savings)
- Other: _____

16. During the past 12 months, did you receive any of the following degrees? (Check all that apply.)

- Did not receive a degree in the past 12 months

- Regular high school diploma
- GED
- Associate's degree (e.g., AA, AS)
- Bachelor's degree (e.g., BA, BS)
- Master's (e.g., MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA)
- Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD)
- Other Professional degree (e.g., MD, JD, PharmD): _____

17. During the past 12 months, did you receive a certificate, diploma, or license from a business, technical, or vocational school?

- Yes
- No ———→ *(Skip to item 18)*

18. List the certificates, diplomas, or licenses you received from a business, technical, or vocational school during the past 12 months (e.g., CDL license, HVAC Certification, etc.).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

19. Were you enrolled in any other education or training programs during the past 12 months? (Check all that apply.)

- Was not enrolled in any other education or training programs in the past 12 months

- Non-College degree program (NCD)
- On-the-job training (OJT)
- Volunteer work experience
- Non-paid work experience (NPWE)
- Apprenticeship
- Special Employer Incentive (SEI)
- Compensated Work Therapy (CWT)
- Other: _____

19a. What was the major subject or field of study of the education or training programs in which you were enrolled?

Medical

20. During the past 12 months, how many times did you go to a VA Medical facility for each of the following reasons? (Fill in each one with a number. Put zero if you did not go to a VA Medical facility for that reason.)

- a. Emergency visits: _____
- b. Routinely scheduled visits (checkups, screenings, etc.): _____
- c. Treatment visits (PT, OT, counseling, etc.): _____

21. During the past 12 months, how many times did you go to a non-VA medical facility for each of the following reasons? (Fill in each one with a number. Put zero if you did not go to a non-VA Medical facility for that reason.)

- a. Emergency visits _____
- b. Routinely scheduled visits (checkups, screenings, etc.) _____
- c. Treatment visits (PT, OT, counseling, etc.) _____

Household

22. During the past 12 months, what was your gross household income? (Your household income is the combined before-tax income of people who share their income and live in the same home. Typically, this would be you and your spouse).

\$ _____

23. Do you own your principal residence? (Your principal residence is the home where you live for at least half of the year.)

Yes

No

24. How many dependents do you currently have? (Dependents include a spouse, children under 18, children between the ages of 18 and 23 who are attending school, children who are permanently incapable of self-support because of disabilities arising before age 18, and dependent parents).

Spouse: _____

Children under 18: _____

Children 18-23 years old attending school: _____

Children who are permanently incapable of self-

support because of disabilities arising before age 18: _____

Dependent parents: _____

Overall Experience

25. Thinking about ALL aspects of your experiences and outcomes during the past 12 months with your most recently attended educational institution, please rate it overall, using 1 to 9 scale where 1 is *Unacceptable*, 5 is *Average*, and 9 is *Outstanding*. (Mark only one.) If you did not attend an educational institution during the past 12 months, check that box.

Did not attend an educational institution in the past 12 months

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Unacceptable				Average				Outstanding

**26. What is the primary reason you applied for the Post-9/11 GI Bill program?
(Check only one.)**

- Further my education for self-improvement
- Further my education so I could become employed or qualify for a higher paying job
- Further my education so I could keep my current job
- Further my education to start my own business
- Other (Specify): _____

27. If you are working, does your current job generally match the training you received while you participated in the Post-9/11 GI Bill program?

- Yes
- No
- Somewhat
- Not currently working

28. Thinking about your experience with the Post-9/11 GI Bill program, please rate the following statement, using a 1 to 9 scale where 1 is *Strongly Disagree*, 5 is *Neither Agree or Disagree*, and 9 is *Strongly Agree*. (Mark only one.)

The Post-9/11 GI Bill program assisted in my ability to develop the skills that I need to get a job.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Strongly Disagree				Neither Agree or Disagree				Strongly Agree