

SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR OMB NUMBER 2900-0594
Election to Apply Selected Reserve Service to Either Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty or to the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve

A. Justification.

1. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is authorized to pay educational benefits to veterans and other eligible persons pursuing approved programs of education under chapter 30, title 38 U.S.C. and chapter 1606, title 10, U.S.C. This information collection relates to elections between chapter 30 and chapter 1606 benefits. A member of the Selected Reserve can elect to have his or her service credited toward either chapter 30 (Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty) or chapter 1606 (Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve) education benefits. The reservist must make this election in writing.

The following administrative and legal requirements necessitate the collection:

- A. 38 U.S.C. 3033(c) and 10 U.S.C. 16132
 - B. 38 CFR 21.7042 and 21.7540
2. VA uses the election to determine which benefit is payable based on the individual's reserve service. Without this information, VA would not be able to determine under which education benefit the individual wishes to be paid.
3. Information technology cannot be used to reduce the burden. This election must be in writing and must be signed by the individual. At the present time, electronic signatures and authentication technologies are being evaluated and tested within the Department and will be deployed when possible. Until the technology is in place, however, the form cannot be submitted electronically.
4. VA is not aware of any duplication of this information collection.
5. Members of the Selected Reserve are the only sources for this information. The information collection does not have any impact on small businesses or other small entities.
6. Information is only collected once, when the individual applies for education benefits.
7. The collection of this information does not require any special circumstances.
8. The Department notice was published in the Federal Register on August 15th, 2014, Vol. 79, No. 158, page 48296. No comments were received in response to this notice.
9. VA does not provide any payments or gifts to respondents.

10. The claimant's election is retained permanently in the claimant's electronic file. Our assurance of confidentiality is covered by our System of Records, Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records – VA (58VA21/22/28) which are contained in the Privacy Act Issuances, 2001 Compilation.

11. None of the information collected is considered to be of a sensitive nature.

12. Estimate of Information Collection Burden

- a. Number of Respondents: 8,000
- b. Frequency of Response: Annually
- c. Annual Burden Hours: 2,667 Burden Hours
- d. Estimated Completion Time: 20 Minutes
- e. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Average Hourly Earnings, the cost to the respondent is \$24, making the total cost to the respondents an estimated \$64,008. (2,667 burden hours X \$24.00 per hour).

13. This submission does not involve any record keeping costs.

14. The estimated cost to the government is zero.

15. There is no change in burden.

16. VA does not publish this information or make it available for publication.

17. Expiration date does not apply since there is no form involved in the collection of this information.

18. This submission does not contain any exceptions to the certification statement.

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

This collection of information does not employ statistical methods.