

Are you a GI Bill student?

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COVID-19

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) worked with Congress to pass special COVID-19 rules to protect your GI Bill® benefits and support you during this time.



My school changed my courses from resident (physically in-person) to online (distance learning). Will VA still pay my GI Bill benefits and MHA?

If your school moves your resident courses to online solely due to COVID-19, you will continue to receive benefits, including Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA), at the resident rate until December 31, 2021, or until the school resumes normal operations of resident training, whichever comes first.



How do these protections impact me if I'm a new student?

VA will afford these same protections if you are a new student. While there is no requirement that you must have a previous history of taking resident courses, you must at least be enrolled (at a rate of pursuit of more than 50%) in an officially "converted course" (a course which your school previously offered as resident training prior to COVID-19, but now offers online due to COVID-19) to continue receiving your benefits.



What if my school temporarily closed due to COVID-19? What happens to my education benefits?

If your school is temporarily closed, VA will continue to pay your benefits through the end of the term or for 28 days after the school closure date, whichever is sooner. Upon school closure, you will receive a letter from VA updating you of any changes related to your benefits, including instructions on applying for restoration of entitlement for any VA education benefits you used for classes you took and didn't get credit for because of a school closure.

If you have questions about your specific circumstance, please **submit your question electronically** or contact the Education Call Center at: 1-888-442-4551 (domestic) or 001-918-781-5678 (from overseas) between 8 AM and 7 PM Eastern Time, Monday-Friday.

For more information, including details on Apprenticeship, On the Job Training (OJT), and Work Study, visit our [FAQs page](#).

JANUARY 2021



Have you been affected by COVID-19?

HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES THAT COULD HELP YOU

Whether you're focused on wellness, personal finance, education, or employment, there are COVID-19 resources out there for you. Many of these were made possible by the **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act**, which provides fast and direct economic assistance to American workers and families.



Do you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine?

VA is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal partners to provide COVID-19 vaccines to Veterans and VA health care personnel. Read the latest [COVID-19 vaccine information](#) and see [VA's answers to your most asked questions](#).

Do you need a COVID-19 test?

Review this [COVID-19 Fact Sheet](#) for what you need to know about your VA health care benefits and [schedule an appointment](#) online at your nearest VA health care facility.

Looking for ways to help you build healthy habits?

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) developed the COVID Coach App to support self-care and mental health during COVID-19. [Download the app](#) for iPhone or Android today to help you cope with feelings of stress, manage personal goals, and learn healthy habits.



Do you have a VA-guaranteed home loan?

Regardless of your loan's default status, the CARES Act provides [multiple protections on your VA-guaranteed loan](#) if you experience financial hardship caused directly or indirectly by COVID-19.

Looking for advice on protecting and managing your personal finances?

Below are a few resources and tools created by the **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)**:

- » [Learn more about housing assistance and protections for renters.](#)
- » If you're worried about COVID-19 scams, here are [three tips on how to keep your money safe from fraudsters.](#)
- » [Check out these budget tools and tips](#) from CFPB's "Your Money, Your Goals" financial empowerment toolkit.

Have you been affected by COVID-19?

HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES THAT COULD HELP YOU—CONTINUED



Do you have questions about your federal financial aid?

Below are a few resources created by **The U.S. Department of Education:**

- » [6 things you need to know about COVID-19's potential impact on your federal financial aid.](#)
- » Visit the [**Federal Student Aid Coronavirus page**](#) to view more general COVID-19 resources for students and families.



Have you been recently unemployed?

Below are a few resources and tools created by **The U.S. Department of Labor:**

- » GI Bill students may still be eligible to receive unemployment benefits. [Contact your state's unemployment insurance office](#) to learn more about what benefits are available to you.
- » If you have questions about your health care coverage due to a recent job loss, [use these resources to answer some of your questions.](#)

Are you returning to work soon or already back to work?

Take a look at [**these safety resources**](#) when returning to work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

