



# VA Student Information Sheet

April 2023

**How do you apply for benefits?** <https://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/>

**How does Calvary serve students who want to use their VA benefits?**

Calvary's web page for Military and Veterans: <https://www.calvary.edu/military-and-veterans/>.

Financial Information: <https://www.calvary.edu/finances/>. Note: You are eligible for Calvary scholarships and Federal Student Aid (FSA).

Our School Certifying Official (SCO) certifies enrollments on behalf of students who desire to use their VA benefits, using the VA's on-line system (VA ONCE).

**Point of contact:**

Regretfully, Calvary does not have a full-service support office for Military and Veteran students, however, we do have qualified counselors in the Financial Aid and Admissions offices.

Contact the Financial Aid office first. **Financial Aid** [finaid@calvary.edu](mailto:finaid@calvary.edu). If a Counselor is unable to answer your question directly, they will consult with our SCO, or other office, and get back to you.

**What is needed from you in order to start receiving your Education benefits?**

In order to certify your enrollment to the VA, you need to be registered for classes AND provide the Financial Aid office with a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility (COE).

If you have used your VA benefits before (at another school), the VA requires us to have a 22-1995 (Change of Program or Place of Training) on file. <https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1995-ARE.pdf>

**What if you add or drop classes?**

Most likely, your benefits will be impacted in some way. **Please** contact the Financial Aid office, as soon as possible.

**Does having all on-line classes reduce my housing allowance?** Yes (see other information)

**Do Calvary have Hybrid classes?** No. [https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/988](https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/988)

**Other important things you should know:**

We do not work for the VA.

The VA has policies and processes that are often different from Calvary's.

We do not compute, or have anything to do with a Housing Allowance; that is the VA's job

The VA considers our 6 month semesters and our Cycles to be non-standard terms. This can have an impact on how the VA calculates benefits; especially, the Housing Allowance and, especially, on Graduate students, who are not full-time.

**Observations about our Cycles format and impact on a Housing allowance:**

Undergraduates need to take at least 6 hours, per Cycle, to be considered full-time.

Graduates need to take at least 4.5 hours, per Cycle, to be considered full-time.

(Note that these are “general observations; there are several factors the VA considers)

The VA uses a 30-day month; so, breaks between classes and Cycles may reduce benefits.

**Other information:**

VA Education and Training website: <https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

VA FAQs (there are dozens of questions with answers): <https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/>

VA contact information:

[Ask a Question](#) Submit a question to our support team.

[Call Us](#) If you wish you can call us at 1-888-442-4551 (1 888 GI BILL 1) from 7AM - 7PM Central Time.

**How is the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) is determined?**

[https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/1584](https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/1584)

**Monthly Housing Allowance**

[https://benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/resources/benefits\\_resources/rates/ch33/ch33rates080120.asp#Housing](https://benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/resources/benefits_resources/rates/ch33/ch33rates080120.asp#Housing)

**What are the current rates of payment?**

[https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/14](https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/14)

**How is my housing allowance paid if I'm not a full-time student?**

[https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/1480](https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/1480)

**Do I get Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) while enrolled in distance learning?**

[https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/969](https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/969)

The effective MHA rate for those enrolled solely in distance learning is 1/2 the national average MHA. [For the current MHA rates click here.](#)

**My payment amount is less than the amount I was told the monthly rate would be. Why did that happen?**

[https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/118](https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/118)

Chapter 33 pamphlet: [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/pamphlets/ch33\\_pamphlet.pdf](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/pamphlets/ch33_pamphlet.pdf)