

Veteran Education Benefits FAQs

Clear answers and current resources for students using VA education benefits at McMurry University.

QUESTIONS ABOUT McMURRY CERTIFICATION?

Mrs. Carrie Marsh

Assistant Registrar | School Certifying Official

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Maedgen Administration Building

VA GI BILL HELP

[888-GIBILL-1 \(888-442-4551\)](tel:888-618-1111)

Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Central

[VA education contact options](#)

Getting started

1

How do I find out whether I am eligible for VA education benefits?

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs makes the final eligibility decision. Review the [VA eligibility requirements](#) or [apply online](#). After VA approves your claim, provide your Certificate of Eligibility (COE) to McMurry's School Certifying Official. Carrie Marsh can help you understand McMurry's certification steps, but she cannot determine VA eligibility.

2

What will my VA benefit cover?

Coverage depends on your benefit program, eligibility percentage, enrollment level, course format, and other factors. Depending on the program, benefits may help with tuition and fees, housing, books, or supplies; not every program pays every type of expense. Review the [current VA education benefit rates](#) and your COE, then contact the School Certifying Official to discuss how the benefit may apply to your McMurry account.

3

Can I receive financial aid while using VA education benefits?

Using VA education benefits does not automatically prevent you from receiving federal, state, or institutional aid. Complete the FAFSA each year and review your offer with Financial Aid. Some tuition-specific awards may affect the net tuition and fees McMurry reports to VA. Students using Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E, Chapter 31) should confirm current institutional scholarship rules with Financial Aid and the School Certifying Official.

4

How long will VA processing and payment take?

VA currently reports an average of 30 days to decide an education claim, but actual times vary. A claim decision, McMurry's enrollment certification, and VA payment processing are separate steps. Apply early and review [what happens after you apply](#).

Programs and enrollment

5

Does McMurry participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program?

Yes. McMurry participates for qualifying students who are eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill at the 100% benefit level. Yellow Ribbon may help cover eligible net tuition and fees above VA's annual private-school cap. VA determines eligibility, and program availability and awards are subject to current rules. Review the [VA Yellow Ribbon requirements](#). **Current rule:** Active-duty service members and spouses using transferred benefits may qualify if all VA requirements are met; the former exclusion ended August 1, 2022.

6

Does McMurry accept the Hazlewood Act exemption?

No. McMurry is a private university and cannot participate in the Texas Hazlewood Act exemption, which is available through eligible Texas public institutions. Contact the public institution you plan to attend for its eligibility and application process.

7

How does VA know that I am registered for classes?

McMurry's School Certifying Official submits eligible, degree-applicable enrollment information to VA. This school certification does not replace any monthly enrollment verification VA may require from you. Follow the instructions VA sends for your benefit program and use the [VA enrollment verification page](#) when required.

8

What happens if I drop, withdraw from, or stop attending a course?

Contact the School Certifying Official before making the change whenever possible. A schedule change can reduce tuition and fee payments, housing or stipend payments, or other benefits and may create a debt. McMurry's refund schedule and VA's benefit calculations are separate. If circumstances outside your control caused the change, tell the SCO because VA may consider mitigating circumstances. Review the [VA guidance on withdrawals and debt](#).

REPORT CHANGES QUICKLY

Tell Mrs. Carrie Marsh about added, dropped, withdrawn, repeated, or non-attended courses, changes to your major, and changes in enrollment status. Early notice can reduce delays and unexpected debt.

Degree progress and next steps

9

Will VA pay for a course that is not required for my degree?

Generally, VA education benefits can be certified only for courses that apply to your approved program. A course may qualify as a general elective if your degree still requires elective hours. Before registering, ask your academic advisor and the School Certifying Official to confirm that the course applies to your degree plan.

10

Can I change my major while using VA education benefits?

Yes, but notify the School Certifying Official before or as soon as you change programs. The change may affect whether current or future courses can be certified, and VA may require updated program information. Only eligible courses that apply to the approved program can be submitted for payment.

EACH TERM

Register for degree-applicable courses, complete McMurry's certification steps, respond to VA enrollment-verification requests, and report schedule or program changes immediately.

Verified links and resources

McMurry Veteran Education Benefits	McMurry contacts, required documents, accepted benefits, and student support.	mcm.edu/student-success-and-support/veteran-education-benefits/
VA Eligibility and Application	Current eligibility requirements and the official education-benefit application.	www.va.gov/education/eligibility/
Current VA Benefit Rates	Current rates by education benefit program.	www.va.gov/education/benefit-rates/
Enrollment Verification	Official monthly enrollment-verification instructions.	www.va.gov/education/verify-school-enrollment/
Yellow Ribbon Program	Current eligibility rules and program explanation.	www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/yellow-ribbon-program/
Course Withdrawal and VA Debt	How withdrawals, mitigating circumstances, and debts may be handled.	www.va.gov/resources/how-your-reason-for-withdrawing-from-a-class-affects-your-va-debt/
VA Education Contact Information	GI Bill hotline hours and official contact options.	www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/contact_us.asp

Information reviewed July 29, 2026. VA rules, benefit rates, and institutional procedures may change. VA makes final decisions about benefit eligibility and payment. For McMurry certification questions, contact Mrs. Carrie Marsh at marsh.carrie@mcm.edu.