

GI Bill

Comparison Tool

User Guide

Version 2.0

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Office of Information and Technology



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1. Overview

The GI Bill® Comparison Tool is a web-based application that provides a way for veterans and their families to learn about VA education benefits programs and compare benefits by approved school, employer, or training provider. Information is offered for facilities throughout the United States, as well as for other countries.

1.1. Access the Comparison Tool

You can access the Comparison Tool from several points on the VA.gov site with or without VA network sign-in:

- To access the tool directly, open this [Comparison Tool](#) in your browser.
- To access the tool from the [VA.gov](#) main page, choose the “[Compare GI Bill Benefits](#)” link on the “Top pages” panel:

Figure 1: Accessing the Comparison Tool From The Main VA.gov Page

The screenshot shows the VA.gov homepage with a search bar and a 'Top pages' section. The 'Top pages' section contains links such as 'Check your claim, decision review, or appeal status', 'Refill or track a prescription', 'Compare GI Bill benefits' (which is highlighted with a red box), 'Get mental health care', 'Review or update your dependents', 'File for disability compensation', 'Get reimbursed for travel pay', and 'Schedule or manage health appointments'. Below the search bar, there is a 'Other search tools' section with links to 'Find a VA location', 'Find a VA form', 'Find benefit resources and support', and 'Find an outreach event'.

A [GI Bill® Comparison Tool](#) link is also available on the [VA Education and Training Benefits](#) page.

Figure 2: Accessing the Comparison Tool From The VA Education And Training Benefits Page

The screenshot shows the "VA education and training benefits" page. At the top left, there's a breadcrumb navigation: "VA.gov home > VA education and training benefits". Below the title, there's a section titled "VA education and training benefits" with a sub-section "VA education benefits help Veterans, service members, and their qualified family members with needs like paying college tuition, finding the right school or training program, and getting career counseling. Learn how to apply for and manage the education and training benefits you've earned." To the right of this text is a red-bordered box containing a graduation cap icon and the text "GI Bill® Comparison Tool". Below this box, there's a link "Learn about education programs and compare benefits by school." Further down the page, there are sections for "On this page" (with links to "Get GI Bill® and other education benefits", "Manage your Veterans education benefits", "More information and resources", and "Other VA benefits and services"), "Ask questions" (with a "Collapse all" button), "Message us" (with a link "Contact us online through Ask VA"), and "Call us". At the bottom of the page, there's a five-star rating bar.

1.2. Get Started

To get started:

1. Use the [GI Bill® Comparison Tool Home page](#) search box to enter a full or partial institution name or use the search by location tab to enter a city, state, or zip/postal code. You can also apply filters that are located below the search box.
2. Press Search to display the results. Note that the filter list is now on the left, and an "[Update tuition and housing estimates](#)" option appears above the filter list. Press the "+" sign to expand this section and specify or update the benefits estimates contained within it.
3. Optionally use the "[Filter your results](#)" panel to refine your search by selecting or deselecting filter options.
4. View properties of up to three institutions at once by checking the **Compare** box on selected results from your search results set (or results from a new search set) to the "[Compare institutions](#)" tray at the bottom of the page, then press the Compare button on the tray to open the comparison page.

5. Open an institution detail page by using the name link on any institution card to review additional guidance and enter or modify benefits options that correspond to your current personal situation and requirements.

You can return to your searches and filters at any time during your session to refine, expand, or modify your results or selections, or create new searches.

Tip: If a new or updated search shows no results or the results aren't what you expected, you may need to review your filter settings.

Mobile users: Though the display format differs on various mobile devices, all features described in this document are available in mobile versions of the GI Bill Comparison tool.

Note: Though this document is reviewed and updated periodically to provide the most accurate information available, institution details and benefits values and calculations shown within images can change. This data represents sample data and values and should be considered as such. To be sure you have the most accurate data and values when making your decisions, please follow the procedural guidance contained in this document and in [related information and resources](#) on [VA.gov](#).

2. Locating Institutions and Benefits

The GI Bill Comparison Tool entry page provides search fields that let you locate school, employer, or training providers by name or by location.

Figure 3: Comparison Tool Entry Page Search and Filter Options

The screenshot shows the "GI Bill® Comparison Tool" entry page. At the top, there are two main search options: "Search by name" and "Search by location". Below these is a search bar labeled "School, employer, or training provider" with a "Search" button. The "Search by name" section is active. Under "Filter your results", there are sections for "School types", "About the school", "Other", and "Community focus". The "School types" section includes checkboxes for Public, For-profit, Private, Foreign, Flight, Correspondence, and High School, all of which are checked. The "About the school" section includes checkboxes for Has no cautionary warnings, Is accredited, Has a Student Veteran Group, and Offers Yellow Ribbon Program. The "Other" section includes a checked checkbox for On-the-job training and apprenticeships. The "Community focus" section lists various demographic categories with checkboxes: Alaska Native-Serving Institutions, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions, Hispanic-Serving Institutions; Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Men's colleges and universities, Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions; Predominantly Black Institutions, Religiously-affiliated institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities; and Women's colleges and universities. At the bottom, there are "Apply filters" and "Reset search" buttons, and a link to "Learn more about community focus filters".

VA.gov home > Education and training > GI Bill® Comparison Tool (Search By Name)

GI Bill® Comparison Tool

Learn about and compare your GI Bill benefits at approved schools, employers, and training providers.

Search by name **Search by location**

School, employer, or training provider

Filter your results

School types

Public For-profit Private Foreign Flight Correspondence High School

About the school

Has no cautionary warnings Is accredited Has a Student Veteran Group Offers Yellow Ribbon Program

Other

On-the-job training and apprenticeships

Community focus

[Go to community focus details](#)

<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska Native-Serving Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic-Serving Institutions
<input type="checkbox"/> Historically Black Colleges and Universities	<input type="checkbox"/> Men's colleges and universities	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions
<input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly Black Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Religiously-affiliated institutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Colleges and Universities
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's colleges and universities		

[Learn more about community focus filters](#)

Tip: You can run separate searches by name and location. Whether searching by name or location, you can check the **Compare** check box on any institution in your search results and your marked selections (to a maximum of three) will be retained for comparison until you remove or replace them.

2.1. Searching by Name

Select the “Search by name” tab and enter a full or partial name of a school, employer, or training provider in the search field.

As you enter the name, a dropdown list of possible matches appears:

Figure 4: Comparison Tool Search By Name Option

The screenshot shows the 'Search by name' tab selected. In the search bar, the text 'university of oklahoma' is entered. A dropdown menu displays a list of matches, with 'UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA-NORMAN CAMPUS' highlighted. To the right of the search bar, there are filter options: 'Correspondence' (checked), 'High school' (checked), 'Student Veteran Group' (unchecked), and 'Offers Yellow Ribbon Program' (unchecked). Below the search bar, there is an 'Other' section with a checked checkbox for 'On-the-job training and apprenticeships'.

You can select from the list of possible matches, continue to enter or modify the name, or restart the search by clearing the text you've typed. You can also clear the search field by pressing the “x” icon next to the **Search** button.

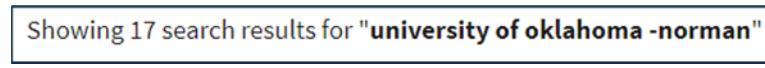
You can also select or deselect any filters that may aid you in your search by clicking the selection boxes in the filter sections.

When you've identified the institution, you want (full or partial), and you've selected or deselected any filters that might help you in your search, press the **Search** button

Your search results are then displayed below the Search form on the right side of the page, with filter options provided on the left. Additional filters are also shown in the results view that can help you narrow large result sets.

Note that in addition to a specific institution name you enter or select, the search results may also include similar or nearby options that relate to your search parameters. For example, if you select or enter "university of oklahoma-norman campus" and press **Search**, the following banner appears at the top of the results:

Figure 5: Search Results Count



Showing 17 search results for "**university of oklahoma -norman**"

If more than 10 related results are found, a navigation tool is provided at the bottom of the results page to let you view additional options:

Figure 6: Navigation Tool to View Additional Results



A separate card for each school, employer, or training provider option provides basic information on the institutions revealed in your search.

Institution types are identified by color, as follows:

- **School** cards have a blue header.
- **On-the-job training/Apprenticeship** cards have a green header.

Figure 7: Institution Types Are Differentiated By Heading Colors On Result Cards



Figure 8: Benefits Information Example

You may be eligible for up to:	
Tuition benefit:	Housing benefit:
100% in-state	\$1,404 /mo

Each result card contains the following information:

- Tuition and housing benefits to which the applicant may be eligible, e.g.
Note: Benefits may be modified if you make changes to the parameters in the "Update tuition and housing estimates" section of the results page. For details on this capability, see "[Updating Tuition and Housing Benefits Estimates](#)" later in this document.
- Accreditation and number of GI Bill students at the selected institution, e.g.

Figure 9: Accreditation and GI Bill Student Count Information

Accreditation:	GI Bill students:
Regional	1475

- The **Compare** check box lets you compare various attributes of up to three institutions at a time.

Figure 10: Check the Compare check box to select attributes for up to three facilities

 Compare

When checked, the institution card is added to the Compare institutions panel on the results page. All elements of the comparison feature are discussed in detail later in this document.

2.2. Searching by Location

The location search lets you select and compare institutions by city, state, or zip/postal code, along with a "within distance" selector and zoom features. You can also move the map view in any direction and modify any of the search parameters at any time.

The results list is contained in a scrollable, single-column card format, with numbers assigned to each institution in the visible result set.

The total number of search results appear at the top of the list.

Figure 11: Searching By Location

Search by name

City, state, or postal code: Norman, Oklahoma, United States

Use my location

within 25 miles

Search

Showing 71 search results for "Norman, Oklahoma, United States"

Update tuition and housing estimates

Filter your results

1

On-the-job training / Apprenticeship

NORMAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

NORMAN, OK

You may be eligible for up to:

Tuition benefit: N/A

Housing benefit: \$1,404 /mo*

* Housing rate and the amount of entitlement used decrease every 6 months as training progresses

Accreditation: GI Bill students:

Compare institutions (0 of 3)

Each numbered card in the scrollable list corresponds to the numbers on the map. Selecting any number in the map automatically scrolls the list to the corresponding card.

Institution cards in the map view contain the same information as those in the institution name search.

3. Updating And Filtering Your Search Results

Your search results can be updated to refine selections and provide additional information regarding your benefits.

3.1. Updating Tuition and Housing Benefits Estimates

Press the “+” icon on the “Update tuition and housing estimates” dropdown section on the search results page to view and select options that can impact the benefits available to you at institutions listed in your search results.

Figure 12: Opening The “Update Tuition and Housing Estimates” Panel

The screenshot shows the 'Update tuition and housing estimates' panel for 17 search results. The panel includes dropdown menus for military status ('Veteran'), GI Bill benefit ('Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch 33)'), service type ('Cumulative Post-9/11 active-duty service'), and class format ('36+ months: 100%'). It also includes a note about modifying tuition and housing benefits. At the bottom are 'Update estimates' and 'Reset search' buttons, and a 'Filter your results' section.

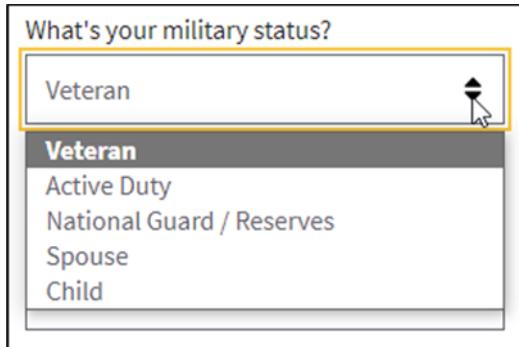
School	School: United Methodist
<u>UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA-NORMAN CAMPUS</u> NORMAN, OK Not yet rated by Veterans	<u>OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY</u> OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Not yet rated by Veterans
You may be eligible for up to: Tuition benefit: \$27,120 Housing benefit: \$1,536 /mo Accreditation: Regional GI Bill students: 113 <input type="checkbox"/> Compare	
On-the-job training / Apprenticeship <u>OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY-OKLAHOMA CITY</u> OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Not yet rated by Veterans	
You may be eligible for up to: Tuition benefit: N/A Housing benefit: \$1,536 /mo* <small>* Housing rate and the amount of entitlement used decrease every 6 months as training progresses</small> Accreditation: Regional GI Bill students: 3 Accreditation: N/A GI Bill students: 0	

Options for the “Update tuition and housing estimates” fields can be adjusted to reflect your current military status, benefit selections, and other important considerations. The

following provides a guide to the default selections, along with examples of other selection combinations that may impact your benefit estimates that are displayed on each school, employer, or training facility card in your results set.

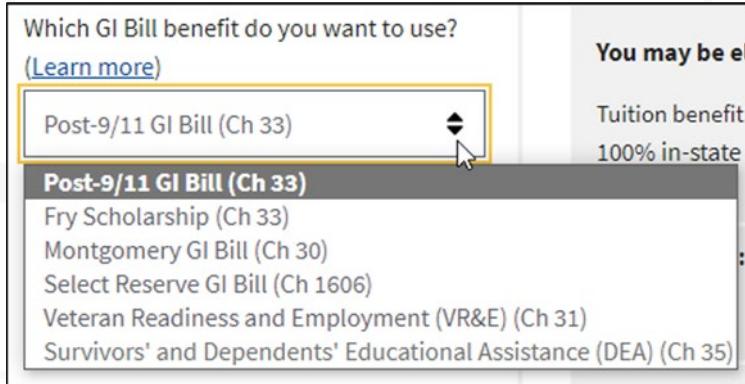
3.1.1. Military Status

Figure 13: Military Status Adjustment Options



3.1.2. GI Bill Benefit Selection

Figure 14: Gi Bill Adjustment Options

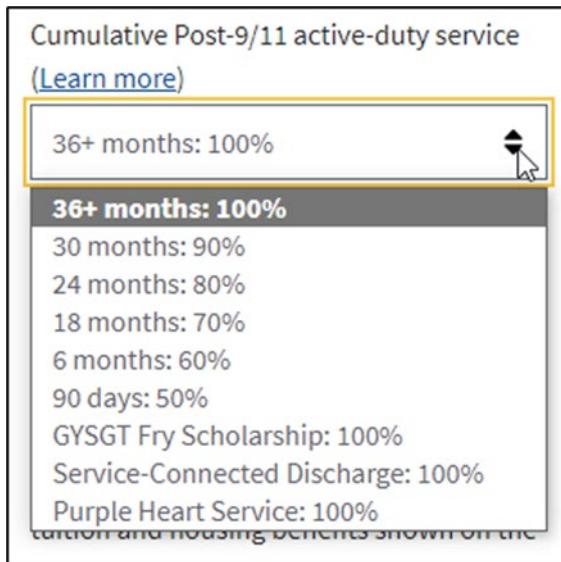


Additional guidance for the question, "Which GI Bill benefit do you want to use?" is provided in the "Learn more" link within the application:

- You may be eligible for multiple types of education and training programs. Different programs offer different benefits, so it's important to choose the program that will best meet your needs. Use this tool to compare programs and schools.
- Learn more about [GI Bill program benefits and eligibility requirements](#).

3.1.3. Cumulative Post-9/11 active-duty service

Figure 15: Cumulative Post-9/11 Service Options

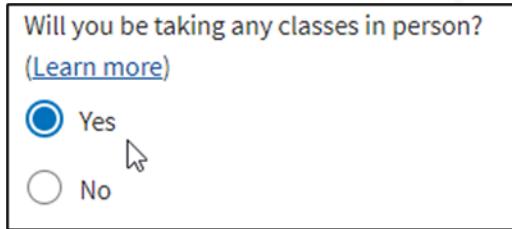


Additional guidance for the “Cumulative Post-9/11 active-duty service” status option (also provided in the “Learn more” link within the application):

- The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and a housing allowance. To qualify for this program, you must have served after September 10, 2001, for at least 90 days or, if you were discharged with a service-connected disability, for at least 30 days. The service period for these benefits doesn’t include your entry and initial skill training. You also need to have received an honorable discharge.

3.1.4. In-Person Attendance

Figure 16: In-Person Attendance Adjustment Options



Additional guidance for the “Will you be taking any classes in person” question (also provided in the “Learn more” link within the application) is as follows:

- Your housing allowance is determined by where you take classes.

- Under the GI Bill you're eligible to receive a monthly housing allowance. We calculate this monthly housing allowance based on where you take classes.
- If you use Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to take at least 1 in-person class, your housing allowance is based on where you do most of your coursework. If you take online courses only, your housing allowance is based on 50% of the national average.
- Through Dec. 21, 2021, current and new students can receive in-person allowance rates if their school's approved program changed from in-person to online learning due to COVID-19.
- Click this [link](#) to view the current housing allowance payment rates

3.1.5. Saving and Applying Your Estimates

After adjusting your tuition and housing benefits estimates, be sure to press the “**Update estimates**” button to save your options. The updates will be immediately applied to your search results set. You can then collapse the panel by pressing the dash (–) icon after making your selections.

Figure 17: Saving Your Estimates



If you choose to review a selected institution's details page (by pressing the name of the institution on a result card), the choices you make in the “**Update tuition and housing estimates**” section are synced to the details page and can be modified on that page as well.

3.2. Filtering Your Results

You can refine your search results by using the “**Filter your results**” panel and selecting or deselecting filter options.

- The filter lists comprise three sections: Community focus institutions, School types (including a separate option for on-the-job training and apprenticeships), and a Location filter that can be used to narrow results to a specific country or state.
- When you’re through, be sure to press the “**Apply Filters**” button below the filter list to view your updated result set.
- A “**Reset search**” button is also available below the filter lists should you wish to set the filter sets to their defaults.

Figure 18: The “Filter Your Results” Panel After Running A Search

Showing 17 search results for "university of oklahoma -norman"

Update tuition and housing estimates +

Filter your results -

Type of institution

Community focus (i.e., Single-gender, Religious affiliation, HBCU)

Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Men's colleges and universities

Women's colleges and universities

School

[UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA-NORMAN CAMPUS](#)

NORMAN, OK

You may be eligible for up to:

Tuition benefit:	Housing benefit:
100% in-state	\$1,536 /mo

Accreditation: Regional **GI Bill students:** 1475

Compare

School: United Methodist

[OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY](#)

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

You may be eligible for up to:

Tuition benefit:	Housing benefit:
\$27,120	\$1,536 /mo

Accreditation: Regional **GI Bill students:** 113

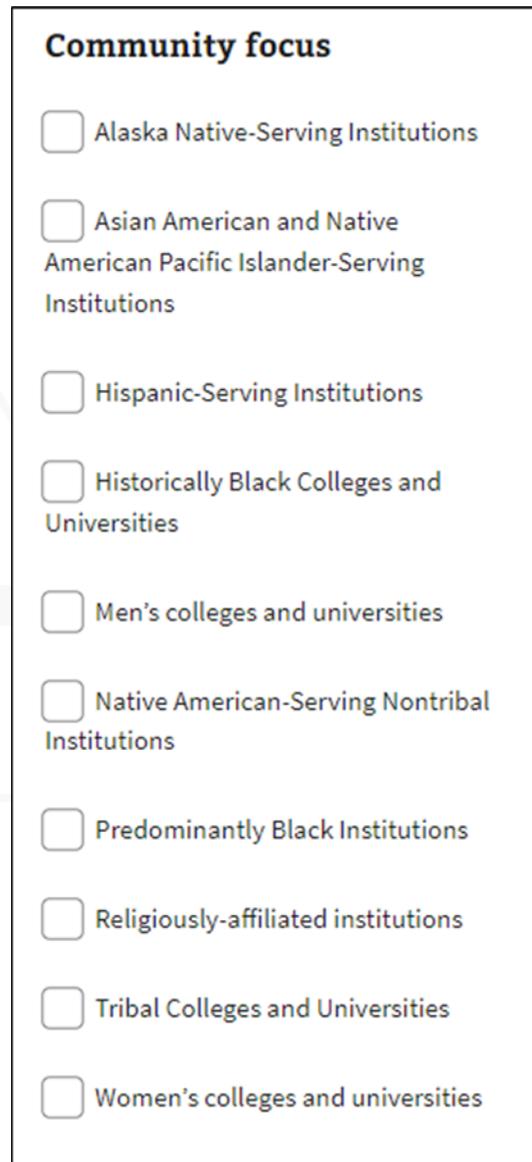
Compare

3.2.1. Type of Institution

3.2.1.1. Community Focus

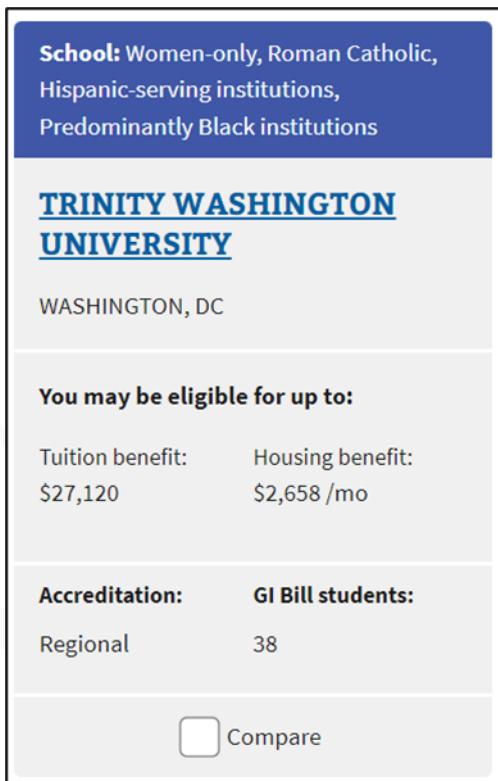
The Community focus filter lets you select institutions from your search results that meet specific community support criteria. You can include or exclude any institution types from consideration in your search results by pressing an item's check box to select or clear the type.

Figure 19: Community Focus Filter Options



Community focus institutions that are included in your search results have their community or affiliation identified in the title bar of the institution's base information card. For example, the following institution is identified as having multiple affiliations: "Women-only," "Roman Catholic," "Hispanic-serving institutions," and "Predominantly Black institutions."

Figure 20: School Information Card With Community Focus Identifiers In the Title Bar



The “Learn more about community focus filters” dropdown provides additional details on community support filters.

Figure 21: Community Focus Filter Definitions

Alaska Native-Serving Institutions

An Alaska Native-Serving Institution (ANSI) is a college or university that receives federal funding to help serve Alaska Native students. At least 20% of the school’s full-time undergraduate students identify as Alaska Native.

Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions

An Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) is a college or university that receives federal funding to help serve Asian Americans and Native American Pacific Islanders and low-income students. At least 10% of the school’s full-time undergraduate students identify as Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander.

Hispanic-Serving Institutions

A Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) that receives federal funding to help serve Hispanic and low-income students. At least 25% of the school’s full-time undergraduate students identify as Hispanic.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are colleges and universities founded before 1964 and were originally intended to provide higher education to African American communities.

Men’s colleges and universities

Men’s colleges in the United States are primarily those categorized as being undergraduate, bachelor’s degree-granting single-sex institutions that admit only men.

Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions

A Native American-Serving Nontribal Institution is a postsecondary institution that is not affiliated with American Indian and Native Alaskan tribes and receives federal discretionary funding to improve and expand its capacity to serve Native American students.

Predominantly Black Institutions

A Predominantly Black Institution (PBI) receives federal funding to help serve black students, as well as low-income and first-generation students. At least 40% of the school’s undergraduate students are Black.

Religiously-affiliated institutions

A religiously-affiliated institution identifies with a specific religious group.

Tribal Colleges and Universities

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) are schools that tribal nations and the federal government set up to serve Native American and Alaskan Native students. Most TCUs are on or near reservation lands.

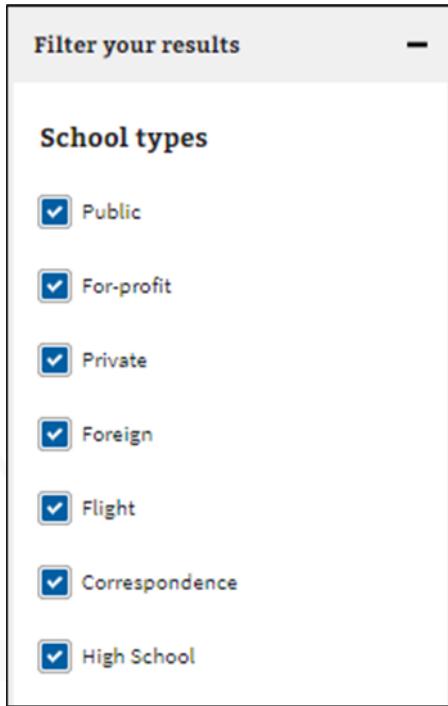
Women’s colleges and universities

Women’s colleges in the United States are private single-sex U.S. institutions of higher education that only admit female students.

3.2.1.2. Schools

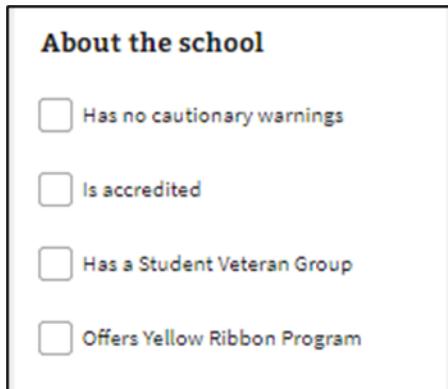
The “School types” filter section lets you select or deselect one or more school types. The default is all school types. You can exclude or include any school type from consideration in your search results by pressing its check box to clear or reselect the type.

Figure 22: School Types Filter Options



The Schools section of the results filter panel also lets you refine your results by pressing the check box of one or more of the following “About the school” options (check boxes are unselected by default).

Figure 23: “About The School” Filter Options



Additional information for the "About the school" options:

- **Has no cautionary warnings**

- Additional guidance for this selection (also provided in the "Learn more" link within the application) is as follows:
 - Cautionary warnings and school closings
 - VA applies caution flags when we, or another federal agency, have increased regulatory or legal scrutiny of an educational program. We recommend students consider these warnings before enrolling in flagged programs.
 - When VA receives notice that a school or campus location will be closing, we add a school closing flag to that profile. Once the closing date passes, we remove the institution from the Comparison Tool during the next system update.
 - To learn more about caution flags, visit the [About this tool](#) page.

- **Is accredited**

- Additional guidance for this selection (also provided in the "Learn more" link within the application) is as follows:
 - Accreditation and why it matters
 - The goal of accreditation is to ensure that the education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality. Schools can be accredited by private educational associations of regional or national scope.
 - Accreditation matters if you plan to start school at one institution and transfer to another to complete your degree. Be sure to ask any potential school about their credit transfer policy.

- **Has a Student Veteran Group**

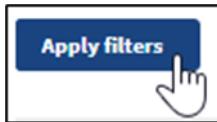
- To learn more about student veterans groups, visit the [About This Tool](#) page.

- **Offers Yellow Ribbon Program**

- To learn more about the Yellow Ribbon Program, visit the [About This Tool](#) page.

- An additional filter option, "**On-the-job training and apprenticeships**", is also available in the "**Type of institution**" filter section. For additional details on the on-the-job training and apprenticeships option, visit [On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeships](#) page.

Reminder: After making any changes to filters, press the "**Apply filters**" button at the bottom of the filters section to refresh the results set.

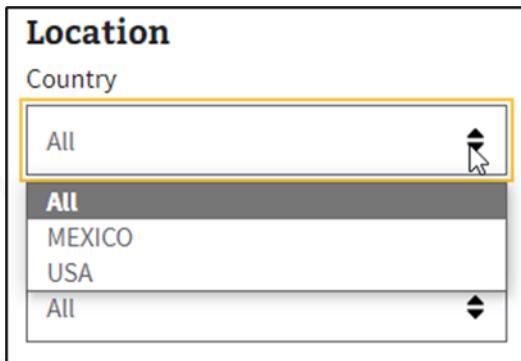
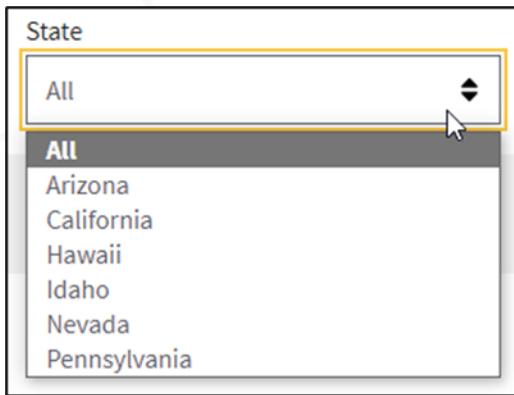
Figure 24: Saving Your Filtered Results

3.3. Location

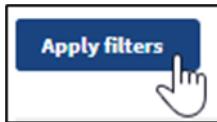
The Comparison Tool's filter panel also offers filtering of results by country and state.

The **Country** dropdown selector lists countries in which VA-approved institutions are present and are included in your current result set.

Note: If your current results do not have locations outside of the USA or are not affiliated with any foreign institutions, only "USA" appears on the Country list.

Figure 25: Country Location Filters**Figure 26: State Location Filters**

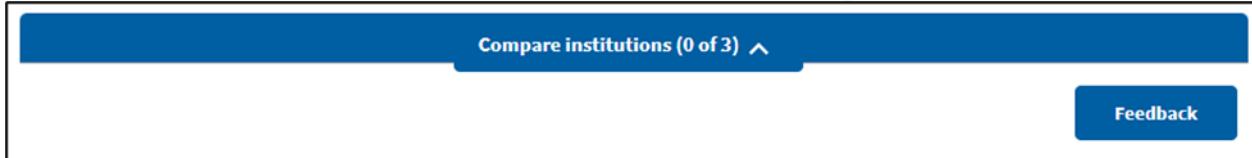
Reminder: After making any changes to any filters, press the "**Apply filters**" button at the bottom of the filters section to refresh the results set.

Figure 27: Saving Your Filtered Results

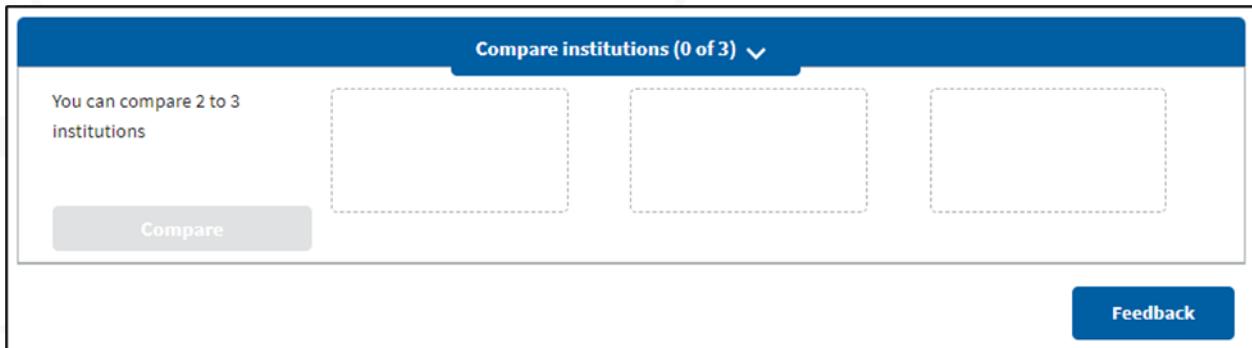
4. Selecting Institutions for Comparison

Whether searching by name or location, you can use the **Compare** feature to evaluate attributes of up to three institutions at the same time.

The **Compare institutions** tray is located at the bottom of the results page, above the Feedback button.

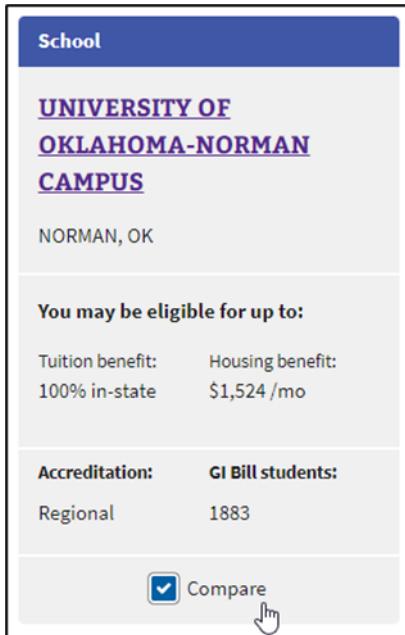
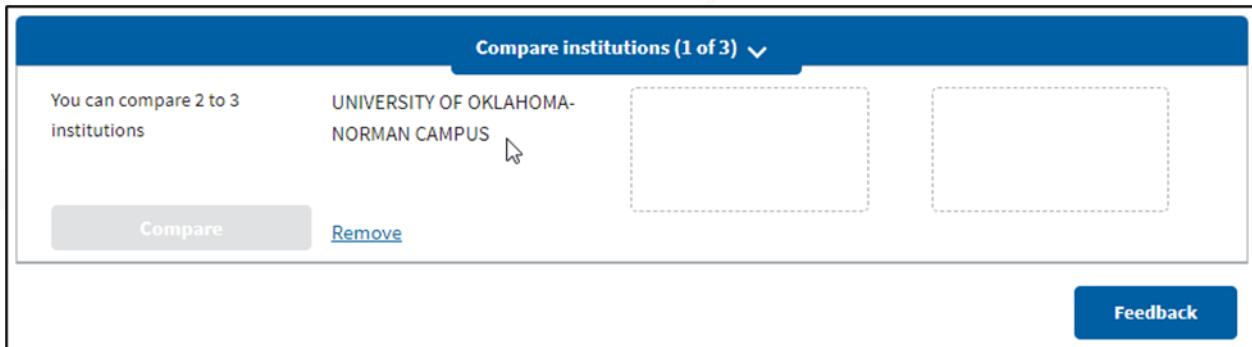
Figure 28: Compare Institutions Tray – Collapsed (Default)

You can press anywhere on the heading bar to expand the tray.

Figure 29: Compare Institutions Tray – Opened With No Selections Entered

The **Compare** button is activated if at least two institutions are selected for comparison.

To select an institution for comparison, press the check box at the bottom of an institution card. You can select up to three institutions.

Figure 30: Select The Compare Checkbox To Add A Selection For Comparison**Figure 31: Select The Compare Checkbox To Add A Selection For Comparison**

Each institution you select is added to the “**Compare institutions**” tray at the bottom of the screen. When at least two selections are in the tray, the **Compare** button is activated.

Tip: Whether searching by name or location, you can check the **Compare** check box on any institution in your search results and your marked selections (to a maximum of three) will be retained for comparison until you remove or replace them.

Figure 32: Adding A Second Selection For Comparison

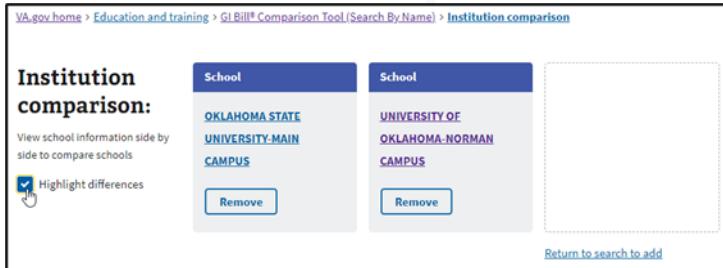
When you press the **Compare** button, comparison results are displayed in a series of tables containing information on your selections.

5. Reviewing Comparison Details

The comparison tables present differences between your selected institutions. For a visual view of differences, select the "**Highlight differences**" check box (unchecked by default) above the first table. Rows with differences are distinguished with a shaded color.

The tables are read-only, but you can select the institution name link on any institution card to in the comparison set to open an "**Institution details**" page and review institution details on its own. The institution details page also lets you update or modify housing and benefit elections. To return to the comparison view from an institution's detail page, press the "**Compare institutions**" button at the bottom of the details page.

You can also use the comparison tables to remove or replace institutions, and use the dropdown links at the bottom of a table (where available) to load additional information on the fields shown in the table.

Figure 33: Institution Comparison Cards And The "Highlight Differences" Check Box

The following topics provide sample data as well as via the dropdown links below each table.

5.1. Summary Table

The **Summary** table describes several basic differences between your selected institutions. To view additional information on these items, press the “Additional information on comparison summary fields” link below the table.

Figure 34: Institution Comparison Details: Summary Table

Summary	
Location	STILLWATER, OK NORMAN, OK
Accreditation	Regional Regional
GI Bill students	1417 1883
Length of program	4 year 4 year
Type of institution	Public school Public school
Institution locale	Town Suburban
Size of institution	Large Large
Community focus	N/A N/A

Summary table rows, where appropriate, include Location, Accreditation, number of GI Bill students, Length of program, Type of institution, Institution locale, Size of Institution, and Community focus data.

Additional summary information, available by pressing the dropdown icon below the table, includes the following:

- The goal of accreditation is to ensure the education provided by institutions of higher learning meets acceptable levels of quality. Accreditation matters if you plan to start school at one institution and transfer to another to complete your degree. Be sure to ask any potential school about their credit transfer policy.
- Schools are accredited regionally or nationally by private educational associations. While the Department of Education (ED) doesn't say whether regional or national accreditation is better, a recent ED study revealed that, "Nearly 90 percent of all student credit transfer opportunities occurred between institutions that were regionally, rather than nationally, accredited." Read the ED Report on Credit Transferability by clicking this [link](#).
- To learn more about the accreditation process and types of accreditation, visit the [About This Tool](#) page.
- The number of Veterans, service members and family members using their GI Bill benefits attending this school in the last calendar year. This includes all chapters of the GI Bill program (e.g., Post-9/11, Montgomery GI Bill, Reserve Education Assistance Program, and Veteran Readiness and Employment). Keep in mind that differences in attendee numbers don't necessarily mean one school is more military friendly than another. This information will be updated annually.
- The size of institutions is based on calculation of full-time equivalent students (FTEs) which considers both full-time and part-time students. Two-year colleges are classified using a different scale than four-year and higher institutions.

Two-year college sizes include:

- Very small -- fewer than 500 FTEs attend this institution
- Small -- at least 500 but fewer than 2,000 FTEs attend
- Medium -- at least 2000 but fewer than 5,000 FTEs
- Large -- at least 5,000 but fewer than 10,000 FTEs attend
- Very large -- 10,000 or more FTEs attend

Four-year college sizes include:

- Very small -- fewer than 1,000 FTEs attend this four-year institution
- Small -- at least 1,000 but fewer than 3,000 FTEs attend
- Medium -- at least 3,000 but fewer than 10,000 FTEs attend
- Large -- more than 10,000 FTEs attend

5.2. Community Focus

Community focus filters spotlight colleges or other institutions of higher learning that support one or more specific communities (e.g., support for a specified race, ethnicity, or religious affiliation).

5.3. Your Estimated Benefits

The “Your estimated benefits” tables show payments made to the institution as well as payments made to you. As with the summary table, additional information is provided by pressing the dropdown link below each table.

Figure 35: Institution Comparison Details: Payments Made To Institution

Payments made to institution		
Tuition and fees	\$10,234	\$9,312
GI Bill pays to institution	\$10,234	\$9,312
Out of pocket tuition	\$0	\$0

Additional information (via dropdown link) on payments made to the institution:

- We display the average tuition and fees for an undergraduate student that is reported by the school to the Department of Education. These values might not be the same for all students at an institution.
- Learn more about the tuition and fees displayed in the GI Bill Comparison Tool by clicking this [link](#).

Figure 36: Institution Comparison Details: Payments Made To You

Payments made to you		
Housing allowance	\$1,488	\$1,524
Book stipend	\$1,000	\$1,000

Additional information (via dropdown link) on payments made to you:

- Under the GI Bill you're eligible to receive a monthly housing allowance. We calculate this monthly housing allowance based on where you take classes.
- View the current housing allowance payment rates by clicking this [link](#).
- You may be eligible for money to cover books and supplies, up to \$83 per month.

5.4. Cautionary Information

This section of the comparison table shows whether or not the institutions you selected have any warning flags or complaints filed. Warnings include a brief explanation, and complaints show the number of VA students or trainees that have filed complaints. To view additional field details, press the "Additional information" links below the table.

Figure 37: Institution Comparison Details: Cautionary Information

Cautionary information		
Caution flags	This school doesn't have any caution flags	
Student complaints	0	0

Additional information on cautionary information fields:

- Caution flags indicate that VA or other federal agencies like the Department of Defense (DoD) or Department of Education (ED) have applied increased regulatory or legal scrutiny to this program.
- This is the number of closed, Principles of Excellence-related, complaints submitted to VA through the GI Bill Feedback system for this school.
- To learn more visit the VA GI Bill Feedback Tool by clicking this [link](#).

5.5. Academics

The **Academics** table shows whether or not any military training credit is granted to students or trainees at the institutions selected for comparison.

To access additional details, press the “Additional information” link below the table.

Figure 38: Institution Comparison Table: Academics

Academics		
Credit for military training	Yes	Yes

Additional information on academics:

- Does the school offer postsecondary credit for experiences and military training?

5.6. Veteran Programs

The **Veteran programs** table indicates whether or not special Veteran programs are offered at the institutions you have selected for comparison, including whether or not priority enrollment is supported for Veterans. To view additional field details, press the “Additional information” link below the table.

Figure 39: Institution Comparison Details: Cautionary Information

Veteran programs	
Yellow Ribbon	Yes
Student Veteran Group	Yes
Principles of Excellence	Yes
8 Keys to Veteran Success	Yes
Military Tuition Assistance (TA)	Yes
Priority Enrollment	No

Additional information on Veterans programs:

- The Yellow Ribbon Program can help you pay for out-of-state, private school, or graduate school tuition that the Post-9/11 GI Bill doesn't cover. Schools that choose to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program will contribute a certain amount toward the extra tuition. VA will match the participating school's contribution, up to the total cost of the tuition and fees.
- Learn more about the Yellow Ribbon Program by clicking this [link](#).
- Visit the [Yellow Ribbon Tool](#) to find schools that participate in this program.
- Does this school have a student-led Veteran group on campus?
- If a school has a student Veterans group that's not represented here, please notify us by email at 224A.VBAVACO@va.gov. We update this information in the Comparison Tool quarterly.
- Please note this email address is only for tool-related issues. For questions about your GI Bill benefits, contact us online through [Ask VA](#).

5.7. Principles of Excellence

The [Principles of Excellence](#) are guidelines for educational institutions receiving federal funding. Schools that agree to participate will:

- End fraudulent and aggressive recruiting techniques and misrepresentation.
- Provide students with a personalized form covering the total cost of an education program.
- Provide educational plans for all military and Veteran education beneficiaries.
- Provide accommodations for service members and Reservists absent due to service requirements.
- Assign a point of contact for academic and financial advising.
- Make sure all new programs are accredited before they enroll students.
- Align institutional refund policies with those under Title IV.
- Foreign schools, high schools, on-the-job training and apprenticeship programs, residency, and internship programs, and those who don't charge tuition and fees aren't asked to comply with the Principles of Excellence.
- We try to make sure this information is accurate, but prospective students should only use this as a planning tool. Principles of Excellence schools are updated quarterly.
- The "8 Keys to Veterans' Success" are steps that postsecondary institutions can take to assist Veterans and service members in transitioning to higher education, completing their college programs, and obtaining career-ready skills.
- Postsecondary institutions listed here have stated their support for the 8 Keys. However, this isn't an assurance by the U.S. Department of Education that an

institution has actually implemented the 8 Keys. It also doesn't mean that these institutions are endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education.

- To learn more about accreditation, visit the U.S. Department of Education's [8 Keys to Veterans' Success page](#).
- Military Tuition Assistance is a benefit paid to eligible members of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Each service has its own criteria for eligibility and application process. This money is usually paid directly to the institution by the individual service.
- If a college or university has a system for priority enrollment that allows certain student Veterans to enroll in courses earlier than other students (not necessarily earlier than all students), we'll note that with the school's information here.

5.8. Returning to the Comparison Tool Home Page

To return to your previous location in the application after reviewing the comparison page, press the **GI Bill Comparison Tool** "breadcrumb" link at the top of the page, or press your browser's back button (on a mobile device, swipe down and press the left arrow).

Figure 40: Returning To The Comparison Tool Home Page From The Institution Details Page



6. Reviewing Individual Institution Details

For more detailed information about a specific institution, press the institution's name on its basic information card. Individual institution details are available from either a search results page or a comparison page.

The individual institution details page provides more comprehensive information than is available elsewhere in the application, including, in most cases, a direct link to the institution's site.

You can also use the information card overview at the top of the institution details page to add or remove the selected institution to the comparison tray by selecting the **Compare** check box.

To return to your previous location in the application after reviewing the individual institution details, press the **GI Bill® Comparison Tool** "breadcrumb" link at the top of the page, or press your browser's back button (on a mobile device, swipe down and press the left arrow).

Figure 41: Returning to The Comparison Tool Home Page From the Institution Details Page



The following topics describe the options and additional information available on an institution details page.

6.1. Institution Details Overview

The institution card on an individual institution details page offers extended information about your selection. Links are also provided to learn more about specific items and to navigate to other sections of the page.

Note: Details provided for individual institution pages may differ, depending on the institution type (school, employer, or training facility)

Figure 42: Institution Details Page Overview

The screenshot displays the 'School' section of the GI Bill Comparison Tool. At the top, it shows the name 'UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA-NORMAN CAMPUS' and its location 'NORMAN, OK'. Below this, there's a summary: '1,475 GI Bill students ([Learn more](#))'. The page lists several institutional features with icons: '4 year program' (book icon), 'Large size' (people icon), 'Public school' (building icon), 'Suburban locale' (suburb icon), 'Regional Accreditation ([Learn more](#))' (globe icon), and 'Institutional Ownership: N/A' (key icon). On the right side, a sidebar titled 'On this page' contains links to 'Calculate your benefits', 'Getting started with benefits', 'Cautionary information', 'Academics', 'Veteran programs and support', and 'Contact information'. At the bottom, there's a button labeled 'Compare' with a checkbox next to it.

"Learn more" links on a typical institution page provide the following information:

- **Number of GI Bill Students:** The number of Veterans, service members and family members using their GI Bill benefits attending this school in the last calendar year. This includes all chapters of the GI Bill program (e.g., Post-9/11, Montgomery GI Bill, Reserve Education Assistance Program, and Veteran Readiness and Employment). Keep in mind that differences in attendee numbers don't necessarily mean one school is more military friendly than another. This information will be updated annually.
- **Accreditation:** Is the school regionally or nationally accredited at the institution level? Schools are accredited by private educational associations of regional or national scope. While the Department of Education does not say whether regional or national accreditation is better, a recent ED study revealed that, "Nearly 90 percent of all student credit transfer opportunities occurred between institutions that were regionally, rather than nationally, accredited." Reference: [Transferability of Postsecondary Credit Following Student Transfer or Coenrollment Statistical Analysis Report](#)
- To learn more about accreditation types, visit the [About This Tool](#) page.

Caution: Not every program approved for GI Bill benefits at an accredited school is accredited by the regional or national accreditor. Prior to enrolling, it's important you confirm the program you're seeking is accredited and whether or not your field of study requires accreditation for employment and/or licensing.

A link is also provided to let you open the institution's website, and the **Compare** check box is available should you want to add the institution to your "Compare institutions" tray, which is available for viewing by clicking the chevron at the bottom of the page.

Figure 43: An Expanded Comparison Tray on The Individual Institution Page



If the tray is already populated with the maximum three items for comparison, you can use it to remove one of the three and replace it with your current selection.

6.2. Calculate Your Benefits

This section of the individual institution details page lets you review and adjust criteria for the calculation of benefits based on your current circumstances. It comprises four expandable/collapsible sections and an "Additional information regarding your benefits" section. Note that many of the selectable options in this section are also available in the "Update Tuition And Housing Estimates" panel on the Comparison Tool home page.

Figure 44: Institution Details: Calculate Your Benefits

Calculate your benefits

The 4 sections below include questions that will refine your benefits estimate. Use the fields in each section to make your updates.

Your military details

What's your military status?

Which GI Bill benefit do you want to use? ([Learn more](#))

Cumulative Post-9/11 active-duty service ([Learn more](#))

Did you use your Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for tuition, housing, or books for a term that started before January 1, 2018? ([Learn more](#))

Yes No

Will you be taking any classes in person? ([Learn more](#)) Yes No

Your estimated benefits

GI Bill pays to school:	\$11,688/yr
Tuition and fees charged:	\$11,688
Out of pocket tuition:	\$0
Housing allowance:	\$1,404/mo
Book stipend (Learn more):	\$1,000/yr
Total paid to you:	\$13,636

Estimated benefits per term

Tuition and fees (Learn more)	
Fall:	\$5,844
Spring:	\$5,844
Total per year:	\$11,688

Housing allowance (Learn more)	
Fall:	\$6,318
Spring:	\$6,318
Total per year:	\$12,636

Additional information regarding your benefits

Veterans tuition policy: Yes ([View policy](#))
 Protection against late VA payments ([Learn more](#)): No
 Yellow Ribbon Program ([Learn more](#)): Yes
 Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) ([Learn more](#)): No

[↑ Back to top](#)

Compare institutions (0 of 3) ▲

6.2.1. Your Military Details

The “Your military details” segment of the individual institution details page lets you confirm your current military status via dropdown controls to show you how your status might impact your estimated benefits.

Changes you make in this segment—as with other segments in the “Calculate your benefits” section—are automatically reflected in the “**Your estimated benefits**” and “**Estimated benefits per term**” panels.

In the following example, if your military status is Active Duty, the \$1,404 per month housing allowance would not be part of your benefit.

Figure 45: Institution Details: Calculate Your Benefits/Your Military Status Example

Calculate your benefits

The 4 sections below include questions that will refine your benefits estimate. Use the fields in each section to make your updates.

Your military details

Which GI Bill benefit do you want to use? ([Learn more](#))

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch 33)

What's your military status?

Active Duty

Post 9/11 GI Bill recipients serving on Active Duty (or transferee spouses of a service member on active duty) are not eligible to receive a monthly housing allowance.

Cumulative Post-9/11 active-duty service ([Learn more](#))

36+ months: 100%

Did you use your Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for tuition, housing, or books for a term that started before January 1, 2018? ([Learn more](#))

Yes
 No

Will you be taking any classes in person? ([Learn more](#))

Yes
 No

Your estimated benefits

GI Bill pays to school:	\$11,688/yr
Tuition and fees charged:	\$11,688
Out of pocket tuition:	\$0
Housing allowance:	\$0/mo
Book stipend (Learn more):	\$1,000/yr
Total paid to you:	\$1,000

Estimated benefits per term

Tuition and fees (Learn more)	
Fall:	\$5,844
Spring:	\$5,844
Total per year:	\$11,688
Housing allowance (Learn more)	
Fall:	\$0
Spring:	\$0
Total per year:	\$0

The following “Learn more” links provide guidance when using the military details calculator:

6.2.2. Which GI Bill Benefit Do You Want To Use?

You may be eligible for multiple types of education and training programs. Different programs offer different benefits, so it's important to choose the program that will best meet your needs. Use this tool to compare programs and schools.

Learn more about GI Bill program benefits and eligibility requirements by clicking this [link](#).

6.2.3. Cumulative Post-9/11 Active-Duty Service

The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and a housing allowance. To qualify for this program, you must have served after September 10, 2001, for at least 90 days or, if you were discharged with a service-connected disability, for at least 30 days. The service period for these benefits doesn't include your entry and initial skill training. You also need to have received an honorable discharge.

Learn more" guidance is the same for both of the final Yes/No questions, "**Did you use your Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for tuition, housing, or books for a term that started before January 1, 2018?**" and "**Will you be taking any classes in person?**":

- Your housing allowance is determined by where you take classes:
- Under the GI Bill you're eligible to receive a monthly housing allowance. We calculate this monthly housing allowance based on where you take classes.
- If you use Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to take at least 1 in-person class, your housing allowance is based on where you do most of your coursework. If you take online courses only, your housing allowance is based on 50% of the national average.
- Through Dec. 21, 2021, current and new students can receive in-person allowance rates if their school's approved program changed from in-person to online learning due to COVID-19.
- View the current housing allowance payment rates by clicking this [link](#).

The following "Learn more" guidance is also provided in the benefits calculation pane, which shows both "**Your estimated benefits**" and "**Estimated benefits per term**" breakdowns:

6.2.4. Book Stipend

You may be eligible for money to cover books and supplies, up to \$83 per month.

6.2.5. Tuition And Fees Per Year

We display the average tuition and fees for an undergraduate student that is reported by the school to the Department of Education. These values might not be the same for all students at an institution. Learn more about the tuition and fees displayed in the GI Bill Comparison Tool by clicking this GI Bill Comparison Tool [link](#).

6.2.6. Housing Allowance

Under the GI Bill you're eligible to receive a monthly housing allowance. We calculate this monthly housing allowance based on where you take classes. View the current housing allowance payment rates by clicking this [link](#).

6.2.7. School Costs and Calendar

This section of the "Calculate your benefits" feature lets you view or adjust the estimated costs of tuition and fees for the currently selected institution, depending on variables you select. The variables are:

- **Are you an in-state student? (Yes/No):** If you're using GI Bill education benefits, you probably qualify for in-state tuition. If not, and you are viewing an out-of-state institution, the out-of-state tuition value is displayed in the "Tuition and fees per year" field (along with the in-state tuition as "In-state tuition and fees"). Visit this school's [website](#) to see any in-state tuition requirements.
 - **In-State Tuitions and Fees:** This field reflects the amount of tuition/fees the institution charges in-state students. When you select some schools, the application imports the average in-state tuition/fees for an undergraduate student as reported by the school to the Department of Education through IPEDS. This is the same information that is published on College Navigator. Generally, in-state residents are charged a discounted rate of tuition and fees. VA pays the in-state tuition and fee rate at public schools. See all rate and fee tables for more information by clicking this [link](#).
 - **Out-Of-State Tuitions and Fees:** This field appears only if you've indicated that you are not an in-state student. Enter the total tuition/fees you'll be charged for the academic year. When you select some schools, we import the average tuition/fees for an undergraduate student as reported by the school to the Department of Education through [IPEDS](#). This is the same information that is published on [College Navigator](#). To learn more, visit the "[About This Tool](#)" page.
- Note:** You can enter values into the in-state or out-of-state tuition and fees fields and the values are immediately reflected in the calculation pane. To switch back to the actual tuition and fees paid to the selected institution, press either of the radio buttons to reset the values.

- **School Calendar:** You can modify calculated values based on the calendar used by the currently selected institution (options are semester, quarter, and non-traditional).
- **Enrolled:** Enrollment status selection options are Full Time, $\frac{3}{4}$ Time, More than $\frac{1}{2}$ time, or $\frac{1}{2}$ Time or less. Students attending the institution full time, $\frac{3}{4}$ time, or more than $\frac{1}{2}$ time receive a pro-rated monthly housing allowance. Students attending school exactly $\frac{1}{2}$ time or less do not get a monthly housing allowance. Enrollment changes are reflected in the calculation pane.

6.2.8. Learning Format and Location

The “Learning format and location” segment of the benefits calculation section defaults to the currently selected institution, but you can select “Other location” and enter a postal code to indicate that you’ll be taking classes elsewhere (e.g., an extension campus).

You can also check the foreign location box if you intend to take classes out of country.

Figure 46: Institution Details: Expanded “Learning Format And Location” Options

Learning format and location

Where will you take the majority of your classes? [\(Learn more\)](#)

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA-NORMAN CAMPUS

Other location

Please enter the postal code where you'll take your classes

I'll be taking classes outside of the U.S. and U.S. territories

In-app “Learn more” guidance for this segment is as follows:

- The VA pays a monthly housing allowance (MHA) based on the campus location at which you physically attend most of your classes.

A campus could include:

- A main campus: the location where the primary teaching facilities of an educational institution are located.

- A branch campus: the location of an educational institution that is geographically apart from and operationally independent of the main campus of the educational institution.
- An extension campus: the location that is geographically apart from the main or branch campus but is operationally dependent on that campus for the performance of administrative tasks.

Visit the [Location-Based Housing Allowance](#) guidance on the VA's Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) page for information on how these benefit allowances are calculated.

6.2.9. Scholarships and Other VA Funding

This segment of the benefits calculation section defaults to "No" for the Yellow Ribbon and kicker bonus questions, as well as "0" for scholarships (excluding Pell Grants), but if you are eligible for any of these benefits, use this segment to include them.

Figure 47: Institution Details: Expanded "Scholarship and Other Va Funding" Options

The screenshot shows a form titled "Scholarships and other VA funding". It includes the following fields:

- A question "Will you be a Yellow Ribbon recipient? ([Learn more](#))" with radio buttons for "Yes" (selected) and "No".
- A dropdown menu for "Degree Level" set to "All".
- A dropdown menu for "Division or school" set to "College of Engineering".
- A text input for "Yellow Ribbon amount from school per year" containing "\$99,999".
- An info box stating: "Maximum amount per student: \$99,999/yr" and "Number of students: 99999".
- A question "Eligible for kicker bonus? ([Learn more](#))" with radio buttons for "Yes" (selected) and "No".
- A text input for "How much is your kicker?" containing "\$200".
- A question "Scholarships (excluding Pell Grants) ([Learn more](#))" with a text input containing "\$0".

In-app “Learn more” guidance for elements of the “Scholarship and other VA funding” segment is as follows:

- **The Yellow Ribbon Program:** The Yellow Ribbon Program can help you pay for out-of-state, private school, or graduate school tuition that the Post-9/11 GI Bill doesn’t cover. Schools that choose to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program will contribute a certain amount toward the extra tuition. VA will match the participating school’s contribution, up to the total cost of the tuition and fees. To learn more about the Yellow Ribbon Program click this [link](#). Visit the [Yellow Ribbon Tool](#) to find schools that participate in this program.
- **Kicker bonus:** A kicker bonus (also known as the “College Fund”) is an additional incentive paid by an individual’s branch of service. The kicker bonus may be offered to extend a tour of duty, retain highly skilled military personnel, or for other reasons the branch of service determines. The money is on top of any GI Bill payments paid directly to the Veteran.
- **Scholarships (excluding Pell Grants):** If you are receiving any scholarships or grants that go directly to pay tuition/fees this year, add the value in this field.

6.2.10. Additional Information Regarding Your Benefits

The final segment of the benefits calculation section provides information on whether or not the currently selected institution supports specified VA benefits programs that may be available to you. It also notes the institution has a Veterans tuition policy.

Figure 48: Institution Details: Additional Benefits Information For The Currently Selected Institution

Additional information regarding your benefits	
Veterans tuition policy: Yes	View policy
Protection against late VA payments	Learn more : No
Yellow Ribbon Program	Learn more : Yes
Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP)	Learn more : No

In addition to indicating if the selected institution has a viewable Veterans Policy in place, in-app “Learn more” guidance for elements of the “Scholarship and other VA funding” segment is as follows:

- **Protection Against Late Payments:** If the VA is late making a tuition payment to a GI Bill school, the school can’t prevent a GI Bill student from attending classes or accessing school facilities.

- Schools may require students to provide proof of their GI Bill eligibility in the form of:
 - Certificate of Eligibility (COE), or
 - Certificate of Eligibility (COE) and additional criteria like an award letter or other documents the school specifies
 - In addition, schools can't charge late fees or otherwise penalize GI Bill students if VA is late making a tuition and/or fees payment. This restriction on penalties doesn't apply if the student owes additional fees to the school beyond the tuition and fees that VA pays. Students are protected from these penalties for up to 90 days from the beginning of the term.
 - Contact the School Certifying Official (SCO) to learn more about the school's policy, and read the policy regarding the protection of students from late VA payments by clicking this [link](#).
- **Support for the Yellow Ribbon Program:** See description of the [Yellow Ribbon Program](#) in the previous topic.
- **VRRAP Support:** The Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) offered education and training for high-demand jobs to Veterans who were unemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program was closed and stopped accepting new enrollments after December 10, 2022. If you were enrolled in VRRAP on or before December 10, 2022, however, you'll continue to receive your payments through completion of your selected VRRAP programs and courses. For benefits and eligibility for other programs, [Other VA Education Benefits](#) page.

6.3. Other Individual Institution Details Sections

The following individual institution details sections provide in-depth information and in-app "Learn more" links to provide additional insight on the currently selected institution and GI Bill benefits in general:

- [Benefits Application Process Information](#)
- [Cautionary Information \(If Any\) For The Currently Selected Institution](#)
- [Academic Details For The Selected Institution](#)
- [Information On Veteran Programs And Support](#)
- [Contact Information For The Selected Institution](#)

6.3.1. Getting Started With Benefits

This section of an individual institution page contains guidance and regarding the education benefits application process. The links and advice cover how you can prepare for the application process, followed by a link to the education benefits application.

Figure 49: Institution Details: Get Started With Benefits

Getting started with benefits

How do I prepare before starting my application?

- [Find out if you're eligible for VA education benefits](#)
- Gather the documents and information listed below that you'll need to apply for education benefits

Note: To apply for Veteran Readiness and Employment (Chapter 31) or educational and career counseling through Personalized Career Planning and Guidance (Chapter 36), you'll need to use a different application.

[Find out how to apply for Veteran Readiness and Employment \(Chapter 31\)](#)

[Find out how to apply for educational and career counseling \(Chapter 36\)](#)

What documents and information do I need to apply?

- Social Security number
- Bank account direct deposit information
- Education and military history
- Basic information about the school or training facility you want to attend or are attending now

A decision with consequences

Your decision to apply for a certain educational benefit could impact your eligibility for other benefits. Here are a few factors to keep in mind:

- If you're eligible for more than one education benefit, such as the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the Montgomery GI Bill, you must choose which benefit to receive, **a decision that's final and cannot be changed**.
- If you're eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and two or more additional education benefits, you must give up one of the additional education benefits. However, you may remain eligible for the benefit or benefits you did not give up.

 [Apply for education benefits](#)

[↑ Back to top](#)

Resources included in this section:

- [Find out if you're eligible for VA education benefits](#)
- [Find out how to apply for Veteran Readiness and Employment \(Chapter 31\)](#)
- [Find out how to apply for educational and career counseling \(Chapter 36\)](#)
- [Apply for education benefits](#) (includes a "Find your education benefits form" wizard)

6.3.2. Cautionary Information

The "Cautionary information" section of an individual institution page lets you know the number of complaints filed by students or trainees, along with a link to submit a complaint through the [GI Bill Feedback Tool](#).

Figure 50: Institution Details: Cautionary Information

Cautionary information

Student feedback

3 student complaints in the last 24 months ([Learn more](#))

	This campus	All campuses (Learn more)
All student complaints	3	3

Complaints by type (Each complaint can have multiple types)	This campus	All campuses (Learn more)
Recruiting/Marketing Practices The school made inaccurate claims about the quality of its education or its school requirements.	1	1
Other	3	3

[Submit a complaint through our Feedback Tool](#)

“Learn more” guidance for the “Cautionary information” section includes the following:

- **Student complaints:** This is the number of closed, Principles of Excellence-related complaints that were submitted to VA through the [GI Bill Feedback Tool](#).
- **VA Complaints (All Campuses):** The number of closed, Principles of Excellence-related complaints for schools with the same six-digit OPEID code.
- **Submitting a Complaint:** Submit a complaint through our [Feedback Tool](#).

6.3.3. Academics

The Academics section of an individual institution page provides additional information about your currently selected institution, including type of accreditation, and whether or not credit for military training, independent study, and priority enrollment are supported.

The “Looking for career options?” segment of the Academics section contains a link to a VA.gov page that describes the external [O*Net Interest Profiler](#) career assessment tool, along with other helpful internal links to VA career guidance pages. The VA.gov page is available whether or not you are signed into the VA network.

Figure 51: Institution Details: Academics

The screenshot shows the 'Academics' section of the tool. It includes a heading 'Education details' and four items under 'Accreditation': Regional (See accreditors), Credit for military training (Yes), Independent study (Yes), and Priority Enrollment (No). Below this is a section titled 'Looking for career options?' which links to the O*NET Interest Profiler. A note states: 'The O*NET Interest Profiler career assessment tool lets you explore options that match your interests.' A button labeled 'Get started with the O*NET Interest Profiler' is also present.

"Learn more" links in the Academics section provide the following additional guidance:

- **Accreditation and Why It Matters**
 - The goal of accreditation is to ensure the education provided by institutions of higher learning meets acceptable levels of quality. Accreditation matters if you plan to start school at one institution and transfer to another to complete your degree. Be sure to ask any potential school about their credit transfer policy.
 - Schools are accredited regionally or nationally by private educational associations. While the Department of Education (ED) doesn't say whether regional or national accreditation is better, a recent ED study revealed that, "Nearly 90 percent of all student credit transfer opportunities occurred between institutions that were regionally, rather than nationally, accredited." Read the [ED Report On Credit Transferability](#).
 - To learn more about the accreditation process and types of accreditation, visit the [About this tool](#) page.

Note: The "[See Accreditors](#)" link next to the institution's **Accreditation** designation opens the National Center for Education Statistic (NCES) College Navigator site to allow you to view additional information on accreditation and further assist you in your decision-making process.
- **Credit for Military Training:** Does the school offer postsecondary credit for experiences and military training?
- **Independent Study:** Beneficiaries may use educational assistance to access online learning (accredited independent study) at schools that aren't.

- **Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs).** These schools must be postsecondary vocational institutions or area career and technical education schools that provide postsecondary level education. Note: This doesn't apply to Dependents' Educational Assistance program beneficiaries.
- **Priority Enrollment:** If a college or university has a system for priority enrollment that allows certain student Veterans to enroll in courses earlier than other students (not necessarily earlier than all students), we'll note that with the school's information here.

6.3.4. Veteran Programs and Support

The "Veteran programs and support" section of an individual institution page provides historical information on the numbers of Veterans that have attended your currently selected institution, as well as the totals paid to recipients in support of their education.

Additional "Learn more" resources cover additional topics relating to Veteran success, tuition assistance, principles of excellence, and, where available, links to student Veteran groups.

Figure 52: Institution Details: Veteran Programs And Support

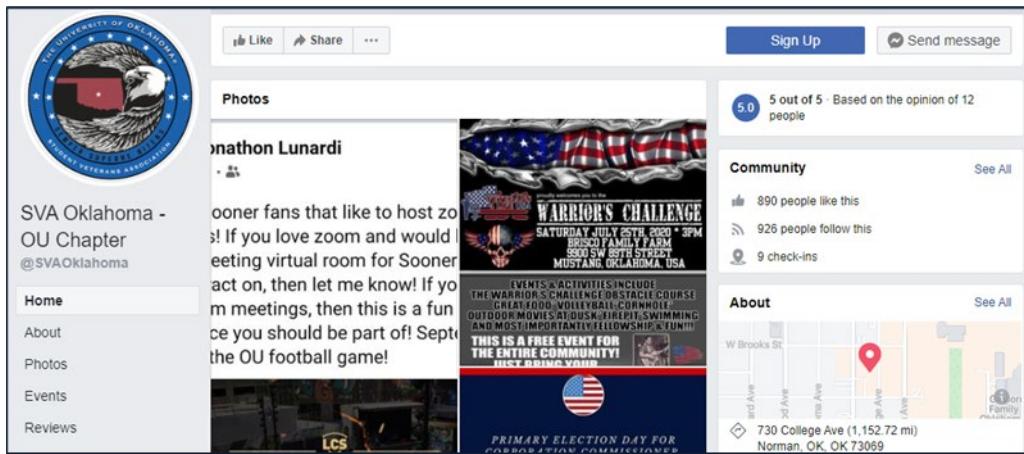
Veteran programs and support				
Veteran Programs		Historical Information		
		Benefit	Recipients	Total paid (FY 2022)
✓ 8 Keys to Veteran Success (Learn more)		Post-9/11 GI Bill	998	\$9,342,048
✓ Military Tuition Assistance (TA) (Learn more)		Yellow Ribbon	33	\$108,233
✓ Principles of Excellence (Learn more)				
✓ Student Veteran Group (Learn more): Visit the site				

Content of the "Learn more" popup links in this section is as follows:

- **The 8 Keys to Veteran Success:** The "8 Keys to Veterans' Success" are steps that postsecondary institutions can take to assist Veterans and service members in transitioning to higher education, completing their college programs, and obtaining career-ready skills. Postsecondary institutions listed here have stated their support for the 8 Keys. However, this isn't an assurance by the U.S. Department of Education that an institution has actually implemented the 8 Keys. It also doesn't mean that these institutions are endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education. To learn more about accreditation, visit the [U.S. Department of Education's Success](#) page.

- **Military Tuition Assistance (TA):** Military Tuition Assistance is a benefit paid to eligible members of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Each service has its own criteria for eligibility and application process. This money is usually paid directly to the institution by the individual service.
- **Principles of Excellence:** The [Principles of Excellence](#) are guidelines for educational institutions receiving federal funding. Schools that agree to participate will:
 - End fraudulent and aggressive recruiting techniques and misrepresentation.
 - Provide students with a personalized form covering the total cost of an education program.
 - Provide educational plans for all military and Veteran education beneficiaries.
 - Provide accommodations for service members and Reservists absent due to service requirements.
 - Assign a point of contact for academic and financial advising.
 - Make sure all new programs are accredited before they enroll students.
 - Align institutional refund policies with those under Title IV.
 - Foreign schools, high schools, on-the-job training and apprenticeship programs, residency and internship programs, and those who don't charge tuition and fees aren't asked to comply with the Principles of Excellence.

We try to make sure this information is accurate, but prospective students should only use this as a planning tool. Principles of Excellence schools are updated quarterly.
- **Student Veteran Group:**
 - Does this school have a student-led Veteran group on campus?
 - If a school has a student Veterans group that's not represented here, please notify us by email at 224A.VBAVACO@va.gov. We update this information in the Comparison Tool quarterly.
 - Please note this email address is only for tool-related issues. For questions about your GI Bill benefits, contact us online through the [Ask VA](#).

Figure 53: Institution Details: Facebook Page for a Student Veteran Group

6.3.5. Institution Contact Information

This section of an individual institution page provides contact details for the currently selected institution.

Figure 54: Institution Details: Contact Information

Contact information	
Physical address	1000 ASP AVE BUCHANAN HALL ROOM 216 NORMAN, OK 73019
Mailing address	1000 ASP AVE BUCHANAN HALL ROOM 216 NORMAN, OK 73019
Single point of contact	
Single point of contact for Veterans (Learn more): Yes	
School certifying officials	
Primary	DIRECTOR NORMAN CAMPUS
Institution codes	
VA Facility Code (Learn more): 11801136 ED IPEDS code (Learn more): 207500 ED OPE code (Learn more): 00318400	

Content of the “Learn more” popup links in the “Contact information” section is as follows:

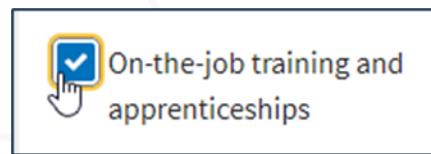
- **Single Point of Contact:** Indicates whether or not the school has a dedicated point of contact for support services for Veterans, military service members, and their families.
- **VA Facility Code:** Unique identifier for VA-approved facilities.
- **ED IPEDS Code:** Unique identification number assigned to postsecondary institutions surveyed through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). Also referred to as UNITID or IPEDS ID.
- **ED OPE Code:** Identification number used by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) to identify schools that have Program Participation Agreements (PPA) so that its students are eligible to participate in Federal Student Financial Assistance programs under Title IV regulations.

7. About On-The-Job Training/Apprenticeship Opportunities

GI Bill training programs can help you pay for books, supplies, and housing while you’re learning a trade or skill through on-the-job training or apprenticeships.

To include these types of opportunities in your search, ensure that the **on-the-job training and apprenticeships** check box in the “Type of institution” section of the “Filter your results” pane is checked.

Figure 55: Selecting On-The-Job Training And Apprenticeships Check Box



You can compare on-the-job training/Apprenticeship programs the same way you can compare any other type of institution or facility in the Comparison Tool, removing/replacing selected providers with any other institution or type of institution.

Figure 56: Comparing On-The-Job Training/Apprenticeship Facilities

Institution comparison:	On-the-job training / Apprenticeship	On-the-job training / Apprenticeship	On-the-job training / Apprenticeship
<p>View school information side by side to compare schools</p> <p> * Highlight differences</p>	<p><u>OKLAHOMA STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS</u></p> <p><u>Remove</u></p>	<p><u>UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA BOARD OF REGENTS</u></p> <p><u>JEANNINE RAINBOLT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION</u></p> <p><u>Remove</u></p>	<p><u>WESTERN OKLAHOMA HEAT & FROST INSULATORS AND ASBESTOS WORKERS JAC</u></p> <p><u>Remove</u></p>

Though benefits calculations and other information provided in the individual institution pages for selected on-the-job training/Apprenticeship programs may differ from that offered in other school and facility pages, the information that is collected should help you find and evaluate a program that fits your specific training and employment goals.

To find out if you're eligible for an on-the-job training/Apprenticeship program or to explore a list of programs, visit [On-The-Job Training and Apprenticeships](#) or download the document, "[Get More Information About On-The-Job And Apprenticeship Training Programs \(PDF\)](#)".

8. Related Resources

The following table provides links to VA sites and resources that contain additional information relating to the Comparison Tool and other education, employment, and training benefits.

Table 1: Related Resources

Resource	Link
Comparison Tool component and field information	About This Tool - Education and Training
Education and Training home page	Education and Training Home Page
GI Bill Benefits Overview	About GI Bill Benefits Veterans Affairs
Payment Rates Comparison Chart	Comparison Chart/Payment Rates - Education and Training
Career counseling services	Educational and Career Counseling (VA Chapter 36)
Benefits.gov Education and training site	Education and Training
OTJ and apprenticeships	On-The-Job Training and Apprenticeships
GI Bill Feedback Tool	Feedback - Education and Training
Creating a Veterans Resume	How To Craft a Veteran Resume (With Template and Example)

9. Glossary/Acronyms

This table lists acronyms and terms that are used in this document or may appear in linked resources relating to the GI Bill Comparison Tool, or to sites that contain additional information on VA education benefits in general.

Table 2: Glossary/Acronyms

Term/Acronym	Definition
ED	U.S. Department of Education
GI Bill	U.S. government bill that provides benefits help you pay for college, graduate school, and training programs
IPEDS	Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System; also referred to as UNITID or IPEDS ID
IHL	Institution of Higher Learning
MGIB-SR	Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve
MHA	Monthly Housing Allowance
OPE	Office of Postsecondary Education
OTJ	On-the-job Training
TA	Tuition Assistance
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
VEAP	Veterans' Educational Assistance Program
VET TEC	Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses Note: The VET TEC program concluded in April 2024. Though applications are no longer being accepted, students who were in the program prior to its closure will receive payments through the conclusion of their school or training terms.
VEBT	Veteran Education Benefits Tools
VR&E	Veteran Readiness and Employment
VRRAP	Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program Note: This program closed in December 2022, though students who were in the program prior to its closure will receive payments through the conclusion of their school or training terms.