Live link: <https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/education-and-career-counseling/>

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# H1: **Educational and career counseling (VA Chapter 36)**

[meta description] Find out how to apply for VA Chapter 36 benefits to get free Veteran educational and career counseling services. You may be eligible if you’re leaving active service soon, if you’ve been discharged within the past year, or if you’re the dependent of a Veteran.

[Intro] Personalized Career Planning and Guidance (PCPG), or VA Chapter 36, offers free educational and career guidance, planning, and resources to Veterans and their dependents who are eligible for a VA education benefit. Find out how to apply for this program if you’re leaving active service soon or have been discharged within the past year.

## **[h2] Am I eligible for educational and career counseling?**

**You may be eligible for these services if one of these is true for you.**

* You’ll be discharged under conditions other than dishonorable from active duty within 6 months, **or**
* You separated from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable not more than 1 year ago, **or**
* You qualify as a Veteran or service member for educational assistance under a VA educational program, **or**
* You’re a service member, Veteran, or dependent currently eligible for VA education benefits

[Learn more about employment benefits for dependents](https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/dependent-benefits/)

## **[h2] What benefits can I get?**

* Career counseling to help you decide which civilian or military jobs you want
* Educational counseling to help you find a training program or field of study
* Academic and adjustment counseling to help you address issues or barriers that get in the way of your success
* Resume support and goal planning

[For more information, play our Personalized Career Planning and Guidance video (YouTube)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=644P2XaGo-0&feature=youtu.be)

## **[h2] How do I get these benefits?**

There are 3 ways to apply for these benefits:

* You can apply online, **or**
* You can apply by mail using VA Form 27-8832, **or**
* You can take your application to your nearest regional office or VetSuccess on Campus counselor

[**Apply for career counseling**](https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/education-and-career-counseling/apply-career-guidance-form-28-8832/)

### **[h3] You can also apply by mail**

Fill out Personalized Career Planning and Guidance/Chapter 36 (VA Form 27-8832).

[Get VA Form 27-8832 to download](https://www.va.gov/find-forms/about-form-27-8832)

If you qualify, we’ll invite you to a career and guidance appointment.

## **[h3] Other helpful information**

### [**Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)**](https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation)

If you have a service-connected disability that limits your ability to work or prevents you from working, VR&E can help you explore employment options and address training needs.