



Dear Student,

A provision of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, known as the Forever GI Bill, changed how the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) pays the Post-9/11 GI Bill Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA). The law requires VA to pay MHA based on the zip code of the training location where you attend the majority of your classes.

VA is in the process of modifying and testing its systems to make this change, however, you will continue to receive GI Bill benefit payments under the current rules until those changes can be implemented.

If you are taking classes in multiple zip codes or locations other than your school's main campus, when VA updates its systems, your school will have to adjust your enrollment certification with this information. In some circumstances, this may result in a different MHA amount than what you previously received. You can search for MHA by zip code on the GI Bill Comparison Tool at <https://www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>.

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**
Veterans Benefits
Administration
1800 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

Contact information:

Web:
<https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/forevergibill.asp>
Phone: 1-888-442-4551
TDD: 711

Social media:

Twitter: @VAVetBenefits
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/gibillEducation>

If you know a Veteran who is in crisis, call the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Is VA holding housing or tuition and fee payments while it makes these systems changes?

Answer: No, VA will continue to process claims, and pay MHA and tuition and fees. These payments are currently based on 2017 rates. Once system updates are complete, VA will make any necessary adjustments to ensure you are paid correctly, including any applicable Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).

Question: I am attending classes in multiple locations with different zip codes, should my school hold my enrollment certification until VA updates its systems?

Answer: No, VA is accepting all enrollment certifications and processing them under current rules until its systems are updated.

Question: What happens when VA updates its systems and my MHA changes because I am attending classes in different zip codes?

Answer: In the event of a debt or underpayment caused by VA updating its systems, VA will review your file to determine if your MHA is being properly paid, and make any necessary adjustments to ensure that you are paid correctly. Please note: If an overpayment is established due solely to the system changes VA will not charge you for the debt.

Question: How do I find the estimated amount I am entitled to?

Answer: The GI Bill Comparison Tool includes the MHA rate for your school's main campus, and allows you to search MHA rates by zip code: <https://www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>.

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We regret any inconvenience this may cause, if you need assistance or have questions pertaining to GI Bill benefits, you can contact us by calling 888-GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551) between 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Central Time, Monday-Friday. You can also ask us a question here - <https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/>. Please visit our website: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/> or Facebook page: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/> for the most up to date information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Worley II". The signature is written in a cursive style with a stylized "R" and "W".

Robert M. Worley II
Director, Education Service
Veterans Benefits Administration
Department of Veterans Affairs