

## Department of Veterans Affairs

## § 21.4209

the check shall be returned to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3684, 3698)

(d) No reporting fee payable to an educational institution under this section shall be subject to offset by the Department of Veterans Affairs against any liability of the educational institution for any overpayment which the Department of Veterans Affairs has administratively determined to exist unless the liability of the educational institution was not contested by the educational institution or was upheld by a final decree of a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3684)

(e) Before payment of a reporting fee the Department of Veterans Affairs will require an educational institution to certify that:

(1) It has exercised reasonable diligence in determining whether it or any course offered by it approved for the enrollment of veterans or eligible persons meets all of the applicable requirements of chapter 1606 of title 10 U.S.C. or chapters 30, 32, 34, 35 and 36 of title 38 U.S.C.; and

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136, 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3241, 3684(b); Pub. L. 98-525)

(2) It will, without delay, report any failure to meet any requirement to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3684(b))

[32 FR 13404, Sept. 23, 1967, as amended at 40 FR 31762, July 29, 1975; 44 FR 62501, Oct. 31, 1979; 48 FR 37988, Aug. 22, 1983; 51 FR 16317, May 2, 1986; 61 FR 20728, May 8, 1996]

### § 21.4209 Examination of records.

(a) *Availability of records.* Notwithstanding any other provision of law, educational institutions must make the following records and accounts available to authorized Government representatives:

(1) Records and accounts pertaining to veterans or eligible persons who received educational assistance under Chapter 1606 of Title 10 U.S.C. or Chapters 30, 32, 34, 35 or 36 of Title 38 U.S.C.

(2) Other students' records necessary for the Department of Veterans Affairs

to ascertain institutional compliance with the requirements of these chapters.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136; 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3244, 3690)

(b) *Type of records.* Each school will upon request of duly authorized representatives of the Government make available for examination all appropriate records and accounts, including but not limited to:

(1) Records and accounts which are evidence of tuition and fees charged to and received from or on behalf of all veterans and eligible persons and from other students similarly circumstanced.

(2) Records of previous education or training of veterans and eligible persons at the time of admission as students and records of advance credit, if any, granted by the school at the time of admission.

(3) Records of the veteran's or eligible person's grades and progress.

(4) Records of all advertising, sales or enrollment materials as required by § 21.4252(h) and section 3696(b), title 38 U.S.C.

(5) Records and computations showing compliance with the requirements of § 21.4201 regarding the 85-15 percent ratio of students for each course.

(6) Records necessary to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of § 21.4252(e) pertaining to the time necessary to complete a correspondence course.

(7) Records necessary to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of § 21.4252(g) pertaining to employment of graduates of the course.

(c) *Noncollege degree, apprentice, and other on-the-job.* The school having veterans, servicemembers, reservists, and/or eligible persons enrolled in a course that does not lead to a standard college degree will make available, in addition to the records and accounts required in paragraph (b) of this section, the records of leave, absences, class cuts, makeup work, and tardiness. Each training establishment that has enrolled veterans under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30 or 32, reservists under 10 U.S.C. chapter 1606, or eligible persons under

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38 U.S.C. chapter 35 will also make available payroll records.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136; 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3241, 3690(c))

(d) *Nonaccredited courses.* The school having veterans or eligible persons enrolled in nonaccredited courses will make available, in addition to the records and accounts required in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section the following:

(1) Records of interruptions for unsatisfactory conduct or attendance.

(2) Records of refunds of tuition, fees and other charges made to a veteran or eligible person who fails to enter the course or withdraws or is discontinued prior to completion of the course.

(e) *Nonavailability.* Failure to make such records available as provided in this section will be grounds for discontinuing the payment of educational assistance allowance or special training allowance.

(f) *Retention of records.* The records and accounts, including those pertaining to students not receiving benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs, as described in this section, pertaining to each period of enrollment of a veteran or eligible person, will be kept intact and in good condition at the school for at least 3 years following the termination of such enrollment period. Longer retention will not be required unless a written request is received from the General Accounting Office or the Department of Veterans Affairs not later than 30 days prior to the end of the 3-year period.

[31 FR 6774, May 6, 1966, as amended at 38 FR 14936, June 7, 1973; 43 FR 35300, Aug. 9, 1978; 48 FR 37988, Aug. 22, 1983; 51 FR 16317, May 2, 1986; 61 FR 20728, May 8, 1996; 61 FR 26114, May 24, 1996]

### **§21.4210 Suspension and discontinuance of educational assistance payments and of enrollments or re-enrollments for pursuit of approved courses.**

(a) *Overview.* (1) VA may pay educational assistance to an individual eligible for such assistance under 10 U.S.C. chapter 1606, or 38 U.S.C. chapter 30, 32, 35, or 36, only if the individual is pursuing a course approved in accordance with the provisions of 38

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U.S.C. chapter 36. In general, courses are approved for this purpose by a State approving agency designated to do so (or by VA in some instances). Notwithstanding such approval, however, VA, as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this section, may suspend, discontinue, or deny payment of benefits to any or all otherwise eligible individuals for pursuit of courses or training approved under 38 U.S.C. chapter 36.

(2) For the purposes of this section and the purposes of §§21.4211 through 21.4216, except as otherwise expressly stated to the contrary—

(i) The term “course” includes an apprenticeship or other on-job training program;

(ii) The term “educational institution” includes a training establishment; and

(iii) Reference to action suspending, discontinuing, or otherwise denying enrollment or reenrollment means such action with respect to providing educational assistance under the chapters listed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3034(a), 3241(a), 3452, 3671, 3690)

(b) *Denial of payment in individual cases.* VA may deny payment of educational assistance to a specific individual for pursuit of a course or courses if, following an examination of the individual’s case, VA has credible evidence affecting that individual that—

(1) The course fails to meet any of the requirements of 10 U.S.C. chapter 1606, or 38 U.S.C. chapter 30, 32, 34, 35, or 36; or

(2) The educational institution offering the individual’s course has violated any of those requirements of law.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3034(a), 3241(a), 3690(b)(1), 3690(b)(2))

(c) *Notice in individual cases.* Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section, when VA denies payment of educational assistance to an individual under paragraph (b) of this section, VA will provide concurrent written notice to the individual. The notice shall state—

(1) The adverse action;