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enrollment for the length of the course. The certification will include a report of the dates during which the educational institution closes for any intervals designated in its approval data as breaks between school years.

(3) When a veteran enrolls in independent study leading to a standard college degree, the educational institution's certification will include—

(i) The enrollment date, and

(ii) The ending date for the period being certified. If the educational institution has no prescribed maximum time for completion, the certification must include an ending date based on the educational institution's estimate for completion.

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

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2900-0073)

[53 FR 1757, Jan. 22, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 28390, July 11, 1990; 61 FR 6790, Feb. 22, 1996; 72 FR 16983, Apr. 5, 2007]

§21.7153 Progress and conduct.

(a) *Satisfactory pursuit of program.* In order to receive educational assistance for pursuit of a program of education, an individual must maintain satisfactory progress. VA will discontinue educational assistance if the individual does not maintain satisfactory progress. Progress is unsatisfactory if the individual does not satisfactorily progress according to the regularly prescribed standards of the educational institution he or she is attending.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3474; Pub. L. 98-525)

(b) *Satisfactory conduct.* In order to receive educational assistance for pursuit of a program of education, an individual must maintain satisfactory conduct according to the regularly prescribed standards and practices of the educational institution in which he or she is enrolled. If the individual will be no longer retained as a student or will not be readmitted as a student by the educational institution in which he or she is enrolled, VA will discontinue educational assistance, unless further development establishes that the edu-

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cational institution's action is retaliatory.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3474; Pub. L. 98-525)

(c) *Satisfactory attendance.* In order to receive educational assistance for pursuit of a program of education, an individual must maintain satisfactory attendance. VA will discontinue educational assistance if the individual does not maintain satisfactory attendance. Attendance is unsatisfactory if the individual does not attend according to the regularly prescribed standards of the educational institution in which he or she is enrolled.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3474)

(d) *Reentrance after discontinuance.* (1) An individual may be reentered following discontinuance because of unsatisfactory attendance, conduct or progress when either of the following sets of conditions exists:

(i) The individual resumes enrollment at the same educational institution in the same program of education and the educational institution has both approved the individual's re-enrollment and certified it to VA; or

(ii) VA determines that—

(A) The cause of the unsatisfactory attendance, conduct or progress has been removed, and

(B) The program which the individual now proposes to pursue is suitable to his or her aptitudes, interests and abilities.

(2) Reentrance may be for the same program, for a revised program, or for an entirely different program depending on the cause of the discontinuance and the removal of that cause.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3474)

[53 FR 1757, Jan. 22, 1988, as amended at 57 FR 15025, Apr. 24, 1992]

§21.7154 Pursuit and absences.

Except as provided in this section, an individual must submit a verification to VA each month of his or her enrollment during the period for which the individual is to be paid. This verification shall be in a form prescribed by the Secretary.

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(a) *Exceptions to the monthly verification requirement.* An individual does not have to submit a monthly verification as described in the introductory text of this section when the individual—

- (1) Is enrolled in a correspondence course;
- (2) Has received a lump-sum payment for the training completed during a month; or
- (3) Has received an advance payment for the training completed during a month.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3014A, 3034, 3684)

(4) Has received an accelerated payment for the enrollment period.

(b) *Items to be reported on all monthly verifications.* (1) The monthly verification for all veterans and servicemembers will include a report on the following items when applicable:

- (i) Continued enrollment in and actual pursuit of the course;
- (ii) The individual's unsatisfactory conduct, progress, or attendance;
- (iii) The date of interruption or termination of training;
- (iv) Changes in the number of credit hours or in the number of clock hours of attendance other than those described in §21.7156(a);
- (v) Nonpunitive grades; and
- (vi) Any other changes or modifications in the course as certified at enrollment.

(2) The verification of enrollment must—

- (i) Contain the information required for release of payment;
- (ii) If required or permitted by the Secretary to be submitted on paper, be signed by the veteran or servicemember on or after the final date of the reporting period, or if permitted by the Secretary to be submitted by telephone in a manner designated by the Secretary, be submitted in the form and manner prescribed by the Secretary on or after the final date of the reporting period; and
- (iii) If submitted on paper, clearly show the date on which it was signed.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3684; Pub. L. 98-525, Pub. L. 99-576)

(c) *Additional requirements for apprenticeships and other on-job training programs.* (1) When a veteran is pursuing an apprenticeship or other on-job training he or she must certify training monthly by reporting the number of hours worked.

(2) The information provided by the veteran must be verified by the training establishment.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3680(a))

(d) *Additional requirements for individuals receiving an accelerated payment.* (1) When an individual receives an accelerated payment as provided in §21.7151(c) and (d), he or she must certify the following information within 60 days of the end of the term, quarter or semester (or entire program when the program is not offered on a term, quarter, or semester basis) for which the accelerated payment was made:

(i) The course or program was successfully completed, or if the course was not completed—

(A) The date the veteran or servicemember last attended; and

(B) An explanation why the course was not completed;

(ii) If the veteran or servicemember increased or decreased his or her training time—

(A) The date the veteran or servicemember increased or decreased training time; and

(B) The number of credit/clock hours pursued before and after each such change in training time; and

(iii) The accelerated payment was received and used.

(2) VA will establish an overpayment equal to the amount of the accelerated payment if the required certifications in paragraph (c)(1) of this section are not timely received.

(3) VA will determine the amount of the overpayment of benefits for courses not completed in the following manner—

(i) For a veteran or servicemember who does not complete the full course, courses, or program for which the accelerated payment was made, and who does not substantiate mitigating circumstances for not completing, VA will establish an overpayment equal to the amount of the accelerated payment.

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(ii) For a veteran or servicemember who does not complete the full course, courses, or program for which the accelerated payment was made, but who substantiates mitigating circumstances for not completing, VA will prorate the amount of the accelerated payment to which he or she is entitled based on the number of days from the beginning date of the enrollment period through the date of last attendance. VA will determine the prorated amount by dividing the accelerated payment amount by the number of days in the enrollment period, and multiplying the result by the number of days from the beginning date of the enrollment period through the date of last attendance. The result of this calculation will equal the amount the individual is due. The difference between the accelerated payment and the amount the individual is due will be established as an overpayment.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3014A(g))

(The Office of Management and Budget has approved the information collection requirements in this section under control numbers 2900-0465 and 2900-0636.)

[55 FR 28390, July 11, 1990, as amended at 57 FR 15026, Apr. 24, 1992; 57 FR 24368, June 9, 1992; 61 FR 26117, May 24, 1996; 63 FR 14038, Mar. 24, 1998; 68 FR 35180, June 12, 2003]

§21.7156 Other required reports.

(a) *Reports from veterans and servicemembers.* (1) A veteran or servicemember enrolled full time in a program of education for a standard term, quarter, or semester must report without delay to VA:

- (i) A change in his or her credit hours or clock hours of attendance if that change would result in less than full-time enrollment;
- (ii) Any change in his or her pursuit that would result in less than full-time enrollment; and
- (iii) Any interruption or termination of his or her attendance.

(2) A veteran or servicemember not described in paragraph (a)(1) of this section must report without delay to VA:

- (i) Any change in his or her credit hours or clock hours of attendance;
- (ii) Any change in his or her pursuit; and

(iii) Any interruption or termination of his or her attendance.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3680(g))

(b) *Interruptions, terminations, or changes in hours of credit or attendance.* (1) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, an educational institution must report without delay to VA each time a veteran or servicemember:

- (i) Interrupts or terminates his or her training for any reason; or
- (ii) Changes his or her credit hours or clock hours of attendance.

(2) An educational institution does not need to report a change in a veteran's or servicemember's hours of credit or attendance when:

- (i) The veteran or servicemember is enrolled full time in a program of education for a standard term, quarter, or semester before the change;
- (ii) The veteran or servicemember continues to be enrolled full time after the change; and
- (iii) The tuition and fees charged to the servicemember have not been adjusted as a result of the change.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3684)

(3) If the change in status or change in number of credit hours or clock hours of attendance occurs on a day other than one indicated by paragraph (b)(4) or (b)(5) of this section, the educational institution will initiate a report of the change in time for VA to receive it within 30 days of the date on which the change occurs.

(4) If the educational institution has certified the veteran's or servicemember's enrollment for more than one term, quarter or semester and the veteran or servicemember interrupts his or her training at the end of a term, quarter or semester within the certified enrollment period, the educational institution shall report the change in status to VA in time for VA to receive the report within 30 days of the last officially scheduled registration date for the next term, quarter or semester.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3680(a), 3684)