

§ 21.7603

reservists with the availability and advantages of counseling services.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3967(a); Pub. L. 98-525, Pub. L. 99-576)

[53 FR 34740, Sept. 8, 1988, as amended at 56 FR 9628, Mar. 7, 1991]

§ 21.7603 Travel expenses.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will not pay for any costs of travel to and from the place of counseling for anyone who requests counseling under 10 U.S.C. chapter 1606 or for whom counseling is required under that chapter.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 111)

[56 FR 9628, Mar. 7, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 20729, May 8, 1996]

PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION

§ 21.7610 Selection of a program of education.

(a) *General requirement.* An individual must be pursuing an approved program of education in order to receive educational assistance.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16131; Pub. L. 98-525)

(b) *Approval of a program of education.* VA will approve a program of education selected by a reservist for payment of educational assistance under 10 U.S.C. chapter 1606 if—

(1) The program accords with the definition of a program of education found in § 21.7520(b)(17) of this part,

(2) It has an educational, professional or vocational objective (as defined in §§ 21.7520(b)(7) and (28) of this part), and

(3) The courses and subjects in the program are approved for VA purposes as provided in § 21.7720 of this part.

(4) The reservist is not already qualified for the objective of the program.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b), 1671; Pub. L. 98-525)

[53 FR 34740, Sept. 8, 1988, as amended at 61 FR 20729, May 8, 1996]

§ 21.7612 Programs of education combining two or more types of courses.

An approved program may consist of courses offered by two educational institutions concurrently, or courses offered through class attendance and by

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television concurrently. An educational institution may contract the actual training to another educational institution, provided the course is approved by the State approving agency having approval jurisdiction over the educational institution actually providing the training.

(a) *Concurrent enrollment.* When a reservist cannot schedule his or her complete program at one educational institution, VA may approve a program of concurrent enrollment. When requesting such a program, the reservist must show that his or her complete program of education is not available at the educational institution in which he or she will pursue the major portion of his or her program (the primary educational institution), or that it cannot be scheduled within the period in which he or she plans to complete his or her program. A reservist who is limited in the types of courses he or she may pursue, as provided in § 21.7540 (b)(2) and (b)(3), may pursue courses only at an institution of higher learning. If such a reservist cannot complete his or her program at one institution of higher learning, VA may approve a concurrent enrollment only if both the educational institutions the reservist enrolls in are institutions of higher learning.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 2131(c), 2136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3680(g); sec. 705(a)(1), Pub. L. 98-525, 98 Stat. 2565, 2567; sec. 642, Pub. L. 101-189, 103 Stat. 1456-1458)

(b) *Television.* In determining whether a reservist may pursue all or part of a program of education by television, VA will apply the provisions of § 21.4233(c).

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3680A)

[53 FR 34740, Sept. 8, 1988, as amended at 61 FR 20729, May 8, 1996; 61 FR 29303, June 10, 1996; 62 FR 40280, July 28, 1997]

§ 21.7614 Changes of program.

In determining whether a change of program of education may be approved for the payments of educational assistance, VA will apply § 21.4234 of this part.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b), 38 U.S.C. 3691; Pub. L. 98-525, Pub. L. 101-366) (June 1, 1991)

[58 FR 50846, Sept. 29, 1993]

COURSES

§ 21.7620 Courses included in programs of education.

(a) *General.* Generally, VA will approve, and will authorize payment of educational assistance for the reservist's enrollment in any course or subject which a State approving agency has approved as provided in § 21.7720 of this part, and which forms a part of a program of education as defined in § 21.7520(b)(17). Restrictions on this general rule are stated in the other paragraphs in this section and in § 21.7722(b) of this part, however.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16131; Pub. L. 98-525)

(b) *Flight training.* (1) VA may pay educational assistance for an enrollment in a flight training course when—

(i) An institution of higher learning offers the course for credit toward the standard college degree the reservist is pursuing; or

(ii) When:

(A) The reservist is eligible to pursue flight training as provided in § 21.7540(b)(1) and (b)(3);

(B) The State approving agency has approved the course;

(C) A flight school is offering the course;

(D) The reservist's training meets the requirements of § 21.4263(b)(1);

(E) The reservist meets the requirements of § 21.4263(a); and

(F) The training for which payment is made occurs after September 29, 1990.

(2) VA will not pay educational assistance for an enrollment in a flight training course when the reservist is pursuing an ancillary flight objective.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16131, 16136(c)(1); 38 U.S.C. 3034)

(c) *Independent study.* (1) VA will pay educational assistance to a reservist who is limited in the types of courses he or she may pursue, as provided in § 21.7540(b)(2) and (b)(3), for an enrollment in any course or unit subject offered by independent study only when the reservist is enrolled concurrently in one or more courses or unit subjects offered by resident training.

(2) Only a reservist who meets the requirements of § 21.7540(b)(1) may be paid educational assistance for an enroll-

ment in an independent study course or unit subject without a simultaneous enrollment in a course or unit subject offered by resident training. The independent study course or unit subject must be accredited and lead to a standard college degree. Beginning with enrollments on or after December 27, 2001, a reservist may receive educational assistance for an independent study course that leads to a certificate. The certificate must reflect educational attainment and must be offered by an institution of higher learning.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3680A(a)(4))

(3) Except as provided in paragraph (c)(4) of this section and subject to the restrictions found in paragraph (c)(1) of this section, effective October 29, 1992, VA may pay educational assistance to a reservist who is enrolled in a non-accredited course or unit subject offered entirely or partly by independent study only if—

(i) Successful completion of the non-accredited course or unit subject is required in order for the reservist to complete his or her program of education and the reservist:

(A) Was receiving educational assistance on October 29, 1992, for pursuit of the program of education of which the nonaccredited independent study course or unit subject forms a part; and

(B) Has remained continuously enrolled in the program of education of which the nonaccredited independent study course or unit subject forms a part from October 29, 1992, to the date the reservist enrolls in the nonaccredited independent study course or unit subject; or

(ii)(A) Was enrolled in and receiving educational assistance for the non-accredited independent study course or unit subject on October 29, 1992; and

(B) Remains continuously enrolled in that course or unit subject.

(4) Whether or not the reservist is enrolled will be determined by the regularly prescribed standards and practices of the educational institution offering the course or unit subject.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3680A(a)(4); sec. 313(b), Pub. L. 102-568, 106 Stat. 4332)