

# Approved for the GI Bill®

GI Bill<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill.

# Important information for handy reference:

My Apprenticeship Training Representative (ATR) is:

My Facility Code is:

My Facility Name (School Name) is approved as:

St. Louis Regional Processing Office (RPO): Use this contact information to submit the 22-6553d or other forms of certification (e.g., letterhead) for Monthly Hours:

Fax: 1-314-552-9707 (SSN must be on every page faxed.)VA Regional OfficeP.O. Box 66869St. Louis, MO 63166-6869

This handbook applies only to

#### GI Bill Educational Benefits for Registered Apprenticeship and OJT programs.

For assistance and information regarding academic institutions, schools, or (non-Apprenticeship/OJT) programs, please visit Wisconsin Dept. of Veterans Affairs: <u>http://saa.dva.state.wi.us/</u>.

### **Table of Contents**

Key People	•••••
Responsibilities of the GI Bill Training Facility	
1. Designate Certifying Official(s)	
2. Maintain a Quality Training Program	
3. Enroll Eligible Veteran in Your Training Program	
4. Certify Monthly Training Hours	
5. Report Changes in Training Program	
6. Maintain Proper Training Records	
7. Participate in Compliance Visits10	
Using the Certifying Official Hotline	
Using the online VA Inquiry System	
Responsibilities of the Veteran	
1. Apply for Benefits12	
2. Complete Monthly Certification of Hours 22-6553d	
3. Manage GI Bill Eligibility and Benefits Selection	
4. Use GI Bill Tools & Resources	
FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions	
Forms	
22-8865 Employer's Application to Provide Job Training16	
22-8794 Designation of Certifying Official(s)17	
22-8794 Designation of Certifying Official(s), continued18	
Wisconsin Recommendation Transmittal	
22-1999 VA Enrollment Certification20	
22-1999b Notice of Change in Student Status	
22-6553d-1 Monthly Certification of Training	
Alternate Monthly Certification of Training - Sample23	
VA Compliance Survey Notice (Sample)24	
22-1934 VA Compliance Survey Report	

# Introduction to GI Bill for Apprenticeship & OJT

### How does apprenticeship or OJT relate to the GI Bill?

As a Registered Apprenticeship sponsor, your program is qualified to be **"Approved for the GI Bill®"**. Veterans are in the driver's seat when it comes to using their GI Bill benefits. Veterans who have existing benefits under the GI Bill, including the Post-9/11 GI Bill, who are in approved apprenticeships, may qualify for a monthly stipend in addition to wages, to help meet expenses during their apprenticeship.

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Apprenticeship and OJT programs allow individuals to learn a trade or skill through structured training provided primarily on the job rather than attending traditional college. After formal training for a specified period, the individual gains job certification or journeyworker status.

**APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING** – Training given while on the job (80-90%) and in the classroom (10-20%) by a sponsor who has been registered by the WI Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards (BAS) to offer the progressive attainment of manual, mechanical or technical skills & knowledge in accordance with industry standards for an occupation that meets apprenticeable criteria. Average length of Apprenticeship training is four years.

#### **OJT (ON-THE-JOB TRAINING)**

Training that isn't apprenticeable, but is given while on the job by an employer who agrees to retain the trainee in employment, may be considered a program of education for VA benefit purposes. Training must meet established criteria.

Apprenticeship and OJT also include a reduced starting wage that is gradually increased commensurate with skill/ability attainment during training.

Veterans in an approved program can choose to use their GI Bill educational benefit (a tax-free stipend) during the training. Veterans can find benefit information at <u>www.gibill.va.gov</u>.

### Who is generally eligible?

The GI Bill is for any veteran with established eligibility for Chapter 30, Chapter 32 - Section 903, Chapter 33, Chapter 1606, or Chapter 1607 and any spouse or child who is eligible under Chapter 35 benefits. The benefit is generally not available to a veteran with no active duty in the past 10 years or a person on active duty. This handbook uses "Veteran" to refer to all eligible persons.

### How do I become approved as GI Bill Training Establishment?

### **1.** Develop your training program.

This is all about quality training! Without a quality training program that meets very specific criteria, you will not be approved as a GI Bill Training Establishment. See page 27 for program requirements and criteria relating to both Registered Apprenticeship and non-apprenticeable On-the-Job-Training (OJT) programs. **If you already offer an approved Registered Apprenticeship program, you can go right to Step 3, below.** 

### 2. Identify your veterans.

An application to become a GI Bill Training Facility for a non-apprenticeable OJT will not receive initial approval unless a veteran or eligible person is actively enrolling in your training.

### 3. Apply for program approval.

Submit a full application to your BAS ATR, which is comprised of the following (forms are available from your ATR):

- VA Form 22-8865 Application To Provide Job Training (see page 16)
- VA Form 22-8794 Designation of Certifying Official (see page 17)
- **Sponsor's Apprenticeship Standards**, as approved by Wisconsin BAS; or **Employer's OJT Training Outline**, specifying skills and tasks to be taught over the program length.
- Enrollment packet for each veteran (not required for Registered Apprenticeship):
  - VA Form 22-1999 (Side B) VA Enrollment Certification (see page 20)
  - Copy of the Veteran's Certificate of Eligibility (from the veteran)
  - Copy of the signed apprentice contract or signed OJT training agreement
- Onsite Program Evaluation:
  - **Registered Apprenticeship programs are pre-approved** for the requirements of the GI Bill and do not require an onsite program evaluation (38 CFR 21.4261).
  - **OJT programs must be evaluated** by a BAS ATR, who makes an onsite visit to review or provide technical assistance in development of the training outline and determine if sufficient staff resources, equipment and capacity exist to train the veteran (38 CFR 21.4262). Approval is not granted in occupations requiring a relatively short period of experience to obtain and hold employment at the market wage or where OJT is not the normal way of training personnel.
- 4. **Receive written approval notice** from USDVA and/or Wisconsin Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards, which establishes your GI Bill facility number.
- 5. Begin enrolling vets and marketing your training program as "Approved for the GI Bill ®".

### How Do I Use the "Approved for the GI Bill®" trademark?

Upon approval, you are encouraged to include in your apprenticeship job openings that the positions are "**Approved for the GI Bill**®" to inform Veterans about their eligibility for benefits as an apprentice with your organization. Please also include the trademark disclaimer "GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at <u>http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill</u>."

# **10 REASONS TO HIRE A VETERAN**

- 1. Accelerated Learning Curve
- 2. Leadership
- 3. Teamwork
- 4. Diversity and Inclusion in Action
- 5. Efficient Performance Under Pressure

- 6. Respect for Procedures
- 7. Technology and Globalization
- 8. Integrity
- 9. Conscious of Health & Safety Standards
- 10. Triumph Over Adversity

# **Key People**

Who are the key people involved in seeing that eligible veterans and their dependents receive VA education benefits? This table will introduce you to those key players and their responsibilities.

Certifying Official	The Certifying Official is your employee who is authorized and responsible for completing paperwork necessary to certify the enrollment, work hours and changes for your enrolled veterans and other eligible persons.
Apprentice- ship Training Represent- ative ATR	A regionally-assigned Apprenticeship Training Representative (ATR) from Wisconsin's Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards (BAS) evaluates, approves and monitors GI Bill Training Facilities for Apprenticeship and OJT, in addition to providing related technical assistance to employers, sponsors and veterans. <b>BAS serves as the State Approving Agency for GI Bill apprenticeship &amp; OJT.</b> Your ATR contact information is on the inside cover of this handbook.
US Department of Veteran Affairs The ELR is <u>your</u> contact, but is <u>not</u> the right contact for veterans. Don't give	<ul> <li>The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is solely responsible for determining eligibility for VA education benefits and for authorizing benefit payments. You may come in contact with VA staff in these positions:</li> <li>Education Liaison Representative (ELR)</li> <li>Education Compliance Survey Specialist (ECSS)</li> <li>The ELR is responsible for reviewing approvals completed by your ATR and is your VA liaison. The ELR and/or the ECSS will conduct compliance visits at your facility to ensure that GI Bill benefits have been properly awarded.</li> <li>US Dept of Veterans Affairs – Education Services (Local Office) John Johnson, ELR Education Services Unit (272L) Tel: 612-970-5456 VARO Federal Building Fax: 612-970-5458 1 Federal Drive</li> </ul>
out this info.	vsdjrjohn@vba.va.gov St. Paul, MN 55111 Please note: Do not post or refer individuals to the ELR.

# Responsibilities of the GI Bill Training Facility

Once you have been approved as a GI Bill Training Facility, you can certify the enrollment of eligible veterans in your approved training program(s). This guide will help you maintain your approval as GI Bill Training Facility and carry out these tasks:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Designate	Maintain	Certify the	Certify	Report	Maintain	Participate in
Certifying	Quality	Veteran's	Monthly	Training	Training	Compliance
Official(s)	Training	Enrollment	Training Hrs	Changes	Records	Visits

# 1. Designate Certifying Official(s)

As part of the approval process, you designated one or more person(s) as the Certifying Official(s) who will be the liaison between your training facility, BAS and the VA.

- Only an authorized Certifying Official may sign, and thus certify, GI Bill paperwork to verify a veteran's enrollment, monthly work/training hours, change in status, and any other circumstances that affect the amount or duration of GI Bill educational benefits.
- The Certifying Official must have access to the training file, including payroll records.
- The Designating Official must also be listed as a Certifying Official to sign GI Bill paperwork.
- Any changes in Certifying Official(s) must be entered on VA Form 22-8794 (page 17) and submitted to your BAS ATR for processing.

The VA's official record of your currently approved Certifying Official(s) and training program(s) can be viewed at any time, online through **WEAMS**: <u>http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub</u>

# 2. Maintain a Quality Training Program

A GI Bill Training Facility must provide training outlined in the training agreement. This includes having adequate space, equipment, instructional material, and qualified personnel to provide satisfactory training. For apprenticeship programs, the sponsor must adhere to the established Apprenticeship Standards and the Apprentice Contract(s). For OJT, the employer must adhere to the established OJT Training Outline and OJT Agreement(s). Remember that a veteran has chosen to use GI Bill education benefits within <u>your</u> training program in lieu of college or other options.

The Certifying Official does not counsel on GI Bill eligibility or selection of benefits (e.g., which Chapter). If the veteran desires assistance, the VA provides eligibility assistance and a benefits comparison tool at <u>www.gibill.va.gov</u> and phone assistance at (888) 442-4551.

# 3. Enroll Eligible Veteran in Your Training Program

Your BAS ATR can provide guidance to you and the veterans in this process.

- A. **ELIGIBILITY** Before a veteran can be enrolled in your approved training program, the veteran **must provide you with a Certificate of Eligibility (COE)** from VA.
  - If the veteran **has applied for benefits**, the veteran provides you a copy of the COE for the employee file. Then, proceed to 3.B., below.
  - If the veteran **has not applied for benefits**, direct the veteran to apply online using VA's VONAPP website <u>www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov</u> to secure a COE.
    - Get a copy of the COE from the veteran. Proceed to 3.B., below.
      - Use of VONAPP online application by the veteran is strongly encouraged.
    - If the veteran is not able to use VONAPP, assistance is available for the veteran through the County Veteran's Service Office (CVSO) or a manual application form can be downloaded at <u>www.va.gov/vaforms</u> or requested from the BAS ATR. See page 13 for instructions on the manual process a veteran might use to apply to VA.
      - Retain a copy of the application form in the employee folder until the veteran provides the COE from the VA.
- B. **ENROLLMENT** When you have obtained the veteran's COE you can proceed with enrollment. The Certifying Official will:
  - Ensure that the veteran has received a copy of the Apprentice Contract or OJT Agreement.
  - Complete VA Form 22-1999 Enrollment Certification, which can be obtained from your BAS ATR. **This is a controlled form and should not be given to the veteran.** See page 20 for instructions and a sample form. Note that Side A is <u>not</u> completed for Apprenticeship or OJT. This is a printable or fillable PDF form for ease of use.
  - The 22-1999 should include any monthly hours that have already been worked by the veteran, per the form instructions, in item 11. Remarks. If hours are included, have the veteran sign or initial the hours, as entered.
  - Fax or mail your completed VA Form 22-1999 and a copy of the COE **to your BAS ATR** for processing, using the contact information on the inside cover of this guide. Do not send this form directly to the VA. Your BAS ATR will review the enrollment submission and work with you, if needed, to correct or gather necessary information. The ATR will then bundle the form with a copy of the Apprentice Contract or OJT Agreement, submitting it to VA Regional Processing Office.
  - ✓ You may submit multiple 22-1999 enrollment forms, with COE, to your ATR at one time.
  - ✓ Do not enroll a veteran who has not provided a Certificate of Eligibility.
  - ✓ Keep a copy of all training forms and correspondence in the employee file.

C. **APPROVAL** - When the VA approves the enrollment, the veteran will receive written confirmation from VA, along with a VA Form 22-6553d Monthly Hours Worked (see page 22) used by the Certifying Official to report training hours to VA so that a benefit check can be issued to the veteran. Note that, if the submitted enrollment form 22-1999 reported hours already worked, the approval will likely also include the first benefit check - for those hours.

# 4. Certify Monthly Training Hours

To receive a full monthly payment, the veteran must work **at least 116 hours in the month.** The veteran's monthly benefit, which differs from veteran to veteran based on eligibility, will be reduced proportionately if the veteran works less than 116 hours a month. GI Bill benefits are based on the monthly hours submitted by the Certifying Official, up to the maximum number of approved training hours on the Apprentice Contract or Training Agreement, less any credit granted. Thus, monthly hours must be verified by the Certifying Official as being hours worked in accordance with successful performance of the training agreement.

### 1. Certify Monthly Hours on Form 22-6553d-1

Usually once a month, VA sends veteran the Monthly Certification of Hours (VA Form 22-6553d).

- Must include veteran's current name and address, must be completed on or after last work day of month, signed by veteran, then certified & signed & faxed to VA by Certifying Official.
- Vacation and other paid leave hours do not count as work hours and must not be included.
- Paid related instruction hours <u>are</u> counted as work hours.
- Unpaid related instruction hours <u>are not</u> counted as work hours.
- Once signed by the Certifying Official, the form becomes a controlled form that must not be given back to the veteran. The Certifying Official, not the veteran, faxes to VA.

**If the trainee does not receive a new VA Form 22-6553d-1** from the VA by the end of the month, the veteran should request that the certifying official submit verification of hours worked on company letterhead. See page 23 for a sample letter. Both the certifying official and the veteran must sign the letter verifying number of hours worked. The facility's VA Facility Code must be shown on the letter, along with the veteran's social security number.

### If the trainee does not have any training hours in a month, do not submit the 22-6553d.

### 2. Fax Certified Monthly Hours to VA

The Certifying Official faxes the completed form to the St. Louis Regional Processing Office (see inside cover of this guide), where it will be processed and the veteran's monthly check will be sent or directly deposited to the veteran's bank account.

A copy of the 22-6553d, along with all GI Bill paperwork, must be maintained in your file.

# **5. Report Changes in Training Program**

If there are changes to the training program, the Certifying Official must notify the BAS ATR who will determine if the program continues to meet approval criteria.

### **Change in Certifying Official**

<u>Submit VA Form 22-8794 to your ATR</u>. Notify your ATR of changes in Certifying Official using VA Form 22-8794 to report changes in personnel, contacts or company address. The 22-8794 should always list <u>all</u> authorized Certifying Officials, even those already approved. In addition, the Designating Official must also be listed as a Certifying Official in order to sign GI Bill paperwork.

### Change in Wage Schedule, Journeyworker Rate, or Training Content

Notify your ATR in writing (mail, fax or email) of changes in the training program, including changes in stated wage schedule, journeyworker rate, or training structure. Notify your ATR if you wish to add new occupations within your training program, or if you no longer train in one or more approved occupations. The ATR will work closely with you and/or your training coordinator on reporting each of these training program changes to the ELR in St. Paul, MN.

### **Call To Active Duty**

<u>Notify your ATR immediately.</u> For apprenticeship, the contract will remain active, but temporarily unassigned, during active duty. Upon return to the training, the end date will be extended. <u>Submit VA Form 22-1999b to the VA RPO.</u> When the training of a GI Bill enrollee is interrupted due to call to active duty, the Certifying Official ensures educational benefits are properly stopped.

• Certifying Official completes VA form **22-1999b Notice of Change in Status**, retains copy in employee file, then faxes or mails completed form to the VA RPO in St. Louis, MO.

### **Return From Active Duty**

<u>Notify your ATR immediately.</u> For apprenticeship, the contract will be re-activated. Upon return to training the end date of the contract or agreement will be extended based on active duty period. <u>Submit VA Form 22-1999 to your ATR.</u> When active duty tour is completed and veteran returns to the same employment in an unfinished training program with you, GI Bill enrollment can resume.

- Upon notice from your ATR that the contract or agreement is again in active status, the Certifying Official completes VA enrollment form **22-1999**, retains a copy, then faxes or mails to the ATR. If the 22-1999 includes hours worked, have the Vet sign or initial it.
  - Dates & Credit: Box 7: Enter the number of contract training hours the veteran has already completed for this training contract or agreement.
  - Box 10A start date is when the vet physically returned to work in the training agreement (OJT) and is the official reassignment date (apprenticeship).
  - Box 10A end date is when vet is now expected to end training. Projected on term (e.g., 8,000 hrs) less hours of credit X a standard year (e.g., 2080 hours).
- The ATR will perform a quality review, then fax the enrollment to VA RPO in St. Louis.

### Temporary Unassignment of an Apprentice Contract (applies only to apprenticeship)

<u>Notify your ATR immediately</u>. When apprenticeship is interrupted due to layoff or other reasons leading to a temporary unassignment, the training relationship remains active. The Certifying Official notifies ATR immediately with details to place contract in unassigned status.

<u>For unassignment of 4 months or less</u>: No forms are submitted to VA, except the 22-6553d for the last month in which veteran had training work hours. When work hours resume, the veteran may not have a 22-6553d from VA, in which case Certifying Official submits monthly hours to VA RPO in St. Louis on letterhead to restart benefits. The veteran may be notified that a new enrollment is required, in which case Certifying Official completes VA form **22-1999 Enrollment Certification**, retains copy in employee file, then faxes or mails completed form to the ATR.

- Dates & Credit: Box 7: Enter the number of contract training hours the veteran has already completed for this training contract or agreement.
- Box 10A start date is the date on which the veteran physically returned to work within the training contract or agreement. For an apprentice, this is the date provided in the official apprentice Reassignment Notice from your ATR.
- Box 10A end date is when the veteran is expected to complete the training program. It is projected based on term (e.g., 8,000 hours) less hours of credit multiplied by a standard year (e.g., 2080 hours). Your ATR can assist you with this determination.

For unassignment exceeding 4 months: Certifying Official completes VA form **22-1999b Notice of Change in Status**, retains copy in employee file, then faxes or mails completed form to the VA RPO in St. Louis, MO. The 22-1999b should be submitted at the outset, if the duration is known. Upon reassignment, the Certifying Official or training coordinator notifies the ATR, then completes VA form **22-1999** Enrollment Certification, retains a copy, then faxes/mails form to the ATR.

### **Completion or Cancellation of Contract or Agreement**

When a training agreement or contract has been completed or cancelled, the Certifying Official must ensure that educational benefits are properly stopped:

- The local ATR must be notified immediately with the date of completion or request for cancellation and any related information regarding the contract fulfillment.
- The local ATR will take contract action, issuing official completion/cancellation documents.
  - For apprenticeship (not OJT agreements), the BAS cancellation process follows a legal route that typically includes a 20-day objection period and appeal rights.
- Upon receiving a copy of the Notice of Completion or Cancellation from the ATR, the sponsor will complete VA form **22-1999b Notice of Change in Status**. This form is signed by the certifying official and forwarded directly to the VA by the sponsor, using the termination date stated in the official notice. A copy must be kept in the employee's file, with original faxed or mailed to the VA RPO.

### Veteran Benefits are Exhausted, Ended or Changed

The Veteran, not the Certifying Official or the ATR, is responsible for the proper selection and application for benefits. There may be times during an active training enrollment when those benefits change due to eligibility issues or the veteran's choice. Those changes may require a new enrollment or other paperwork to be submitted. In nearly all cases, **the VA instructs the veteran** which forms to submit or process. Your role, as Certifying Official, is to respond to guidance from the VA (directly or through the veteran's documents) or your ATR. You are not expected to be an expert in VA benefits, forms or procedures.

#### **Veteran Has Questions on Benefits or Process**

Refer the veteran to the VA experts. Do not answer questions that are the purview of VA.

Benefits: 1-888-442-4551 or GI Bill comparison tool:

http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison tool.asp

**Process or Forms:** Ask to see any instructional written notices the veteran has received. If that doesn't describe the needed process or form, contact your ATR for guidance. **No Response After VONAPP application:** Suggest vet logon to confirm submission. It is common for Vet to complete the online application and fail to click the "submit" button. An application that is initiated, but not submitted, will sit in unfinished status for six months.

# **6. Maintain Proper Training Records**

The GI Bill Training Facility's Certifying Official must maintain records that allow VA and BAS to confirm that training provided meets GI Bill requirements and that benefits were properly paid:

- A copy of the training file, including Apprentice Contract or OJT Agreement, and
- Hours worked (not including vacation or sick) each month and official wage records, and
- Work and training evaluations, including grades from related instruction, and
- A copy of all GI Bill-related forms and letters, including the VA Certificate of Eligibility.
- All veteran records **must be retained for at least three years** following the veteran's completion or cancellation of the training program.

The Certifying Official will ensure that any forms sent to the BAS office or the VA will **contain the veteran's claim number/SSN**, which is the control number used by the VA to pay benefits.

# 7. Participate in Compliance Visits

BAS, as the State Approving Agency (SAA), and/or the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will periodically visit the sponsor to monitor the records of the apprentices/trainees to ensure that GI Bill benefits are being properly paid. This visit generally occurs annually and is designed to provide technical assistance and ensure that GI Bill benefits paid were paid properly.

Required records are subject to onsite inspection by authorized representatives of the Dept of Veteran Affairs (VA) and the BAS. A standardized form is used to guide the compliance visit and is provided to the Training Facility. The following program components will be reviewed:

- Training progress, wages and hours worked are being maintained for the veteran. Official payroll records or check stubs to reflect the actual wage paid must be available for review.
- The employee file contains a current training contract or agreement for the veteran.
- Related instruction being provided to the veteran is documented by progress reports.
- Records are on file to support any credit for prior training or experience awarded, and documentation is available to confirm the VA was properly notified of the credit.
- Copies of VA forms and correspondence have been properly submitted and are on file.

### What kinds of records will be reviewed?

- Timecards / Payroll Records / Time & Leave Records / Employer Records (construction) so that the person conducting the compliance survey can verify:
  - That the begin date certified was the actual first date of training.
  - That the hours certified to VA each month match the payroll or time/leave records of the employee's hours worked. Hours certified must not include vacation, medical leave, layoffs or other paid leave. Hours certified can include paid related instruction hours.
  - That wages paid during the training meet the contract/agreement requirements.
- Training Progress Records so that the person conducting the survey can verify:
  - Actual progress toward the training objective, which is journeyworker status.
  - That a progress record is maintained and is current.
  - That the individual is being properly training as specified in the contract, in both training areas: on-the-job and related instruction.
- Employment application and/or apprenticeship application
- Proof of Related Instruction participation
- Apprentice Contract or OJT Agreement
- Copies of all VA forms, including 1999 Enrollment and 22-6553d Monthly Certifications.

# Using the Certifying Official Hotline

If you have an <u>urgent</u> issue relating to your role as a Certifying Official, you may use a hotline that has been established **for the Certifying Official**. <u>Do not provide hotline number to the veteran.</u>

**Certifying Official Hotline: 855-225-1159.** Identify yourself as a Certifying Official, including your facility name and assigned facility number. Do not provide this hotline number to veterans.

# Using the online VA Inquiry System

The Education Service's FAQs web site provides a safe, secure and fast way to correspond with the VA Regional Processing Offices. The site uses 128 bit data encryption to insure that personal questions and their answers will always remain confidential. There are two different types of accounts, one for Certifying Officials and another for the general public, which a vet may use. The following steps explain a straightforward and simple registration process.

- 1. Navigate to <u>www.gibill.va.gov</u>, click on Question and Answers on the left side of the page, at the top you will see a tab, "Ask a Question".
- 2. Complete the page, providing the following information:
  - E-mail address -- Self explanatory
  - Subject "School Certifying Official" This is important to include and is used to route your inquiry to the proper person who can set-up your account.
  - Question -- Name of your approved facility and your assigned VA Facility Code.
  - Product Select "GI Bill" from the drop-down menu.
  - Category Select "VA-ONCE School Officials ONLY" from drop-down menu.

Entering accurate information here is important, because it is used to establish your account as a school official, and can establish priority routing for your inquiry within the system.

Note: If you already have an account set-up, you are done at this point. Please access your account information to confirm that it is current.

- 3. Next, complete the final form, which has several items requiring your entry.
  - Password: Create a strong password- something you can remember but not too easy.
  - Verify Password: Type your password again to make sure you have it right.
  - First Name: Your first name
  - Last Name: Your last name
  - State: The State where your approval is located. This is important because your questions are routed initially to the appropriate RPO based on this field.
  - Soc Sec / Claim Number: Leave this field blank. Alternatively, you can enter your school's facility code.
  - Suffix: Leave this field blank.
  - Phone Number: Provide a phone number where you can be reached.
- 4. Finally, Click on the "Create Account" button and you are done.

# **Responsibilities of the Veteran**

# **<u>1. Apply for Benefits</u>**

### **Items Needed to Begin**

Before beginning the application, the veteran should prepare by taking these actions:

- **Gather banking information** (name of bank, routing/transit #, account #).
- **Obtain copy of the DD-214** Report of Separation. The DD-214 is generally issued when a service member performs active duty or at least 90 consecutive days of active duty training. It contains information to verify military service regarding eligibility for educational benefits. To obtain a copy, the veteran may use the eVetRecs Request System: <a href="http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/">http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/</a>
- **Explore GI Bill benefit chapters** to determine appropriate chapter.
  - Your County Veterans Service Officer (See page 13 for URL) can assist you.
  - o GI Bill comparison tool: <u>http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison tool.asp</u>

### Online Application Process: (Instructions are for veteran. CVSO is a helpful resource.)

Step 1. Get hired into a Registered Apprenticeship or OJT training program.

- Step 2. Apply for GI Bill benefits online using VONAPP at <u>http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/</u>
  - Use 22-1990 (Application) unless transferring, then use 22-1995 (Change of Training).
  - Type of Training: check "Apprenticeship or On-the-Job".
  - Name & Address of school: Identify your (Certifying Official) Apprenticeship JAC or employer. **Do not enter a Technical College** as the school for apprenticeship or OJT.
  - Career Objective: E.g., Journeyman Plumber (apprenticeship) or Tattoo Artist (OJT)
  - Submit DD-214 or NOBE via VONAPP, whenever possible, to expedite benefits.
  - Print a copy of the submitted application, which will print your confirmation number.
  - Confirm that you clicked the "submit" button at the bottom of the VONAPP application page! This is a common error that delays benefits. An application that is initiated, but not submitted, will sit in unfinished status for six months.

Step 3. Work & train normally while awaiting your Certificate of Eligibility (COE) from VA:

- Give your Certifying Official a copy of the Certificate of Eligibility. (Required)
- Give your Certifying Official a copy of the DD-214 or NOBE. (Can proceed without.)

Step 4. Your Certifying Official will certify your training enrollment using 22-1999 Side B and submit it to your ATR, along with COE (required) and DD-214/NOBE (if available).

Step 5. ATR will review for quality, attach contract/agreement documents, scan packet to retain a digital copy and fax the application packet to the VA at the St. Louis RPO.

# Use the online VONAPP. It will expedite your benefit processing!

### Manual Application Process: (Instructions are for veteran. CVSO is a helpful resource.)

### CAUTION: Use VONAPP instead of manual process to expedite benefit processing!

If you are not able to use VONAPP, paper forms can be submitted and are available to you from the ATR, CVSO or <u>http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/handouts\_forms.asp</u>

- Veterans who previously applied for the GI Bill use VA Form 22-1995.
  - Survivor/Dependents who previously applied use VA Form 22-5495.
- Veterans who have never applied for the GI Bill use VA Form 22-1990.
  - Survivor/Dependents who have never applied use VA Form 22-5490

The Veteran completes the form using the data in Step 2, then mails form and DD-214 or NOBE, to: VA Regional Office, PO Box 66830, St. Louis, MO 63166-6830. Vet is now at Step 3, above.

# 2. Complete Monthly Certification of Hours 22-6553d

The veteran is responsible for presenting the monthly form 22-6553d to the Certifying Official or requesting submission of monthly hours on letterhead, if no form was sent by the VA to the veteran. Instructions for entry of training hours can be found on page 6.

# 3. Manage GI Bill Eligibility and Benefits Selection

The veteran is responsible for using the resources and tools provided by the VA to make informed GI Bill benefits decisions at the onset and during enrollment in the training program. In some cases, it is to the veteran's advantage to change benefits during the enrollment. These are decisions that must be made carefully by the veteran with guidance from experts at the VA.

GI Bill Benefits Counselor at U.S. DVA	1-888-442-4551 or 1-888-GIBILL1 Tell the counselor this is Registered Apprenticeship (or OJT)!
GI Bill Comparison Tool Online	http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison_tool.asp
VA Hearing Impaired Line	1-800-829-4833
VA GI Bill Website	www.benefits.va.gov/gibill
Refer veterans to appropriate helping services available in your area:	<ul> <li>County Veterans Service Officer <u>www.wicvso.org</u></li> <li>LVER or DVOP at WI Job Center <u>https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/veterans/vetreps.htm</u></li> </ul>

# 4. Use GI Bill Tools & Resources

# **FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1. Are there training programs which may not be approved? YES. Part-time employment of less than 30 hours per week and OJT programs where commissions are customarily paid to either the veteran of the skilled worker may not be approved.
- 2. **Is a sponsor obligated to keep a veteran in a training program?** NO. A veteran may be terminated from the program when progress is unsatisfactory. However, cancellation of the Apprentice Contract must be performed by BAS under current regulation and rule.
- 3. **Can a trainee receive education benefits for job and school training at the same time?** NO. Education benefits can be paid for only one type of training at a time.
- 4. **Are VA education benefits affected by the trainee's starting wage?** NO. The benefits start at the rate appropriate for the first six months of training for each GI Bill Chapter.
- 5. Does the sponsor have to increase the veteran's wages at the same intervals as the GI Bill payments decrease? NO. Although the sponsor is expected to increase the veteran's wages at the same rate as he does for his other trainees.
- 6. **During a compliance visit, can the sponsor make records available electronically instead of hard copy?** Yes, so long as the compliance officer is able to fully review, evaluate and confirm the necessary information via the electronic access provided.

# Forms

Form Used by Certifying Officials	Where to get this form?	Sample?
22-8865 Employer's Application to Provide	This is a controlled form. Your ATR can	Page 16
Job Training is used to apply to VA to	provide a digital copy of this form.	
determine if your training program meets the		
statutory requirements to be Approved for the		
GI Bill®.		
22-8794 Designation of Certifying Official	This is a controlled form. Your ATR can	Page 17
This form is used to add or change the training	provide a digital copy of this form.	
establishment's certifying official(s). The		
submission of a new designation of certifying		
official(s) will supersede previous school		
officials.		D 00
22-1999 Certification of Enrollment	This is a controlled form. Your ATR can	Page 20
This form is used by the certifying official to tell the VA about the enrollment. It includes	provide a digital copy of this form.	
the dates of enrollment, credit or clock hours,		
prior credit, type of training, and name of		
program.		
22-1999b Change in Student Status	This is a controlled form. Your ATR can	Page 21
This form is used to notify VA of any change in	provide a digital copy of this form.	1 uge 21
enrollment, including breaks in employment.		
All changes should be reported within 30 days		
of change.		
22-6553d Monthly Certification of Training	This form is typically mailed by VA to	Page 22
This form is used by the veteran and the	the veteran with the monthly benefit. It	
Certifying Official to report monthly training	can also be downloaded online at Forms:	
hours, certified by the Certifying Official, to	<u>http://www.va.gov/vaforms/</u>	
the VA as the basis for the benefits issuance.		
	Your ATR can provide a digital copy, but	
	please note: VA normally sends to Vet,	
	with the upper portion completed. Be	
	sure to complete this upper part fully or	
22.4000 Anglingting for Day of the	benefits will be delayed.	NL.
22-1990 Application for Benefits	Used by veteran to apply for benefits.	No
	Application via VONAPP is	
	recommended www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/	
	Forms: http://www.va.gov/vaforms/	
22-1995 Change of Program	Used by veteran to change programs.	No
22 1775 Change of Frogram	Change via VONAPP is recommended	110
	www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/	
	Forms: http://www.va.gov/vaforms/	

Don't have a form that you need? Contact your ATR using the contact information on inside cover of this handbook!

# **22-8865 Employer's Application to Provide Job Training** SAMPLE

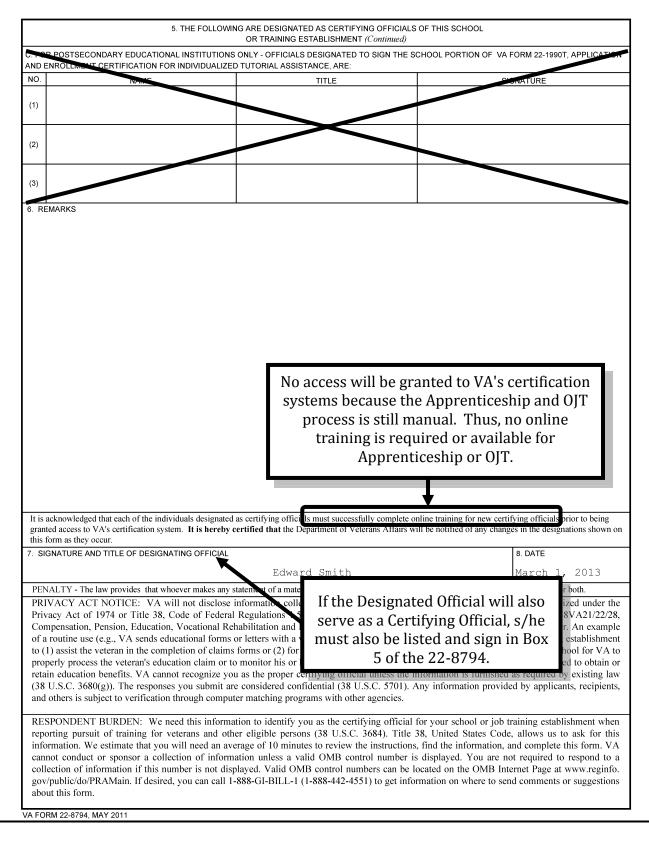
ENPLOYER'S APPLICATION TO PROVIDE JOB TRAINING (UNDER TITLE 38 U.S. CODE SECTION 3677 OR 3687)           INTRUCTIONS: All items should be completed. Information requested in Section II applies to the particular trade, eraft or accup which you propose to provide training to veterans and their alight dependents. Please read Section III carefully before signing the application. The completed application form may be submitted directly to the V after serving the area where your establishment is application. The completed application form may be submitted directly to the V after serving the area where your establishment is application. The completed application for any site application. The area where your establishment is application. The APPL CONTENT							OMB Approved No. 2900-0342 Respondent Burden: 90 minutes
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ACME, INC.         Discussion         Area Code           Susan Smith, President         Susan Smith, President         608-555-5555           LOCATION OF ESTABLISHMENT (Street Na, city, State, Zp. Code)         5. MALLING ADDRESS (if different than in item 4)           123 Anyplace Street, Newcity, WI 55555         S.M.I.ING ADDRESS (if different than in item 4)           CODE THE (Position for which training will be provided)         7. JOB DESCRIPTION OF ETAINING PROGRAM           CODE THE (Position for which training will be provided)         7. JOB DESCRIPTION (Prease heap binf)           Code The (Position for which training will be provided)         7. JOB DESCRIPTION (Prease heap binf)           Code The (Position for which training will be provided)         7. JOB DESCRIPTION (Prease heap binf)           Code The Provide The provide the provided through the provide the provide through the proverse in training program.			SECTION				
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completion of the training program.       It is a substrate of the training or experience.         E. An Enrollment Certification will not be submitted for a veteran or eligible person who is already qualified for the position because prior training or experience.         F. A copy of an approved training agreement will be provided to the trainee and to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).         G. Immediately notify VA of any wage increase (or decrease) paid any trainee not in accordance with his or her training agreement.         IN ADDITION, FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING OTHER THAN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT:         H. The wages paid to trainees under this VA program will not be less than wages paid to trainees who are not eligible for VA benefits beginning wage will be at least 50% of the wage for a fully trained employee.         I. Unless the training establishment is operated by a Federal, State or local government, periodic wage increases will be granted and the last full month of training the wage will be at least 85% of the wage for a fully trained employee.         J. There is a reasonable certainty that the job for which training is provided will be available to the trainee after training has been         SIGNATURE       17. TITLE         18. DATE SIGNED         04.00.0000	C. Credit wil Trainees who	ll be given for previous o are granted credit for	training and experie previous training a	ence and the le nd experience	ngth of the trai will be placed i	ining program will be reducent into the appropriate step of	ced proportionately. the wage progression scale.
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							r training has been
	SIGNATURE	-		17. TITLE			18. DATE SIGNED
		mith					
A FORM 22-8865 EXISTING STOCKS OF VA FORM 22-8865, NOV 2007, WILL BE USED		2-8865			A FORM 22-8865,	NOV 2007,	1

# **22-8794 Designation of Certifying Official(s)** SAMPLE

Department of Veterans	Affairs DESIGNATIO	ON OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL(S)
	GENERAL INSTRUCT	ONS
training establishment.	eted by a responsible official with the aut	thority to designate certifying officials for the school or
<ol><li>This form must be completed when certifying officials, not just the change</li></ol>		mation. Include the names, titles, and signatures of all
1. Item 1. Enter the complete nome of	SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIO nd address of the school or training estab	
<ol> <li>Item 1: Enter the complete name and</li> <li>Item 2: Enter the certifying official</li> </ol>	÷	iisiinent.
3. Item 3: Enter the certifying official		man enter the empile damage for the office where the
certifying official works.	s e-mail address. As an alternative, you	may enter the e-mail address for the office where the
		fficial. Have each person sign the form on the same line liction, note such limitations in Item 6, "Remarks". Use
space below if needed.	the certifying officials have himted jurisd	netion, note such minitations in teni 6, Remarks . Ose
6. Item 5B: If facsimile (e.g., rubber s In addition, have the individual initial		rtifying officials, enter a sample in the appropriate block.
7. Item 5C: If veterans and other eligi	ible persons will be claiming individualiz	zed tutorial assistance, complete these blocks.
<ol><li>Items 7 and 8: Sign and date the fo academic dean, or higher.</li></ol>	rm. The person signing the form must be	e a person of significant authority, i.e., registrar,
	ne names and signatures of those individuals	who are authorized to certify enrollment information to the
Department of Veterans Affairs.	-	,,,
1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF SCHOOL OR TRA Smith Tool & Die, LLC	INING ESTABLISHMENT (Include ZIP Code)	FOR VA USE ONLY
3434 Shady Lane		FOR VAUSE ONLY
Any Town, WI 67890		
2. TELEPHONE NUMBER(S) OF CERTIFYING O	EFICIAL (S) (Include Area Code) 3 FL	AX NUMBER OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL(S) (Include Area Code)
(608) 555-1234		608) 555-1235
4. E-MAIL ADDRESS OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	(0)	ndividuals you wish
None	to designate	as approved to sign
	GI Bill paper	
	"Certifying C	Official" for your
5. THE FOLLOWING AR		THIS SCHOOL OR TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT
A. OFFICIALS DESIGNATED TO SIGN VA ENRO		CHANGE IN STUDENT STATUS, CERTIFICATIONS OF DELIVERY OF
ADVANCE PAYMENTS, CERTIFICATIONS OF PL CERTIFICATIONS OF ENROLLMENT ARE:	UBOUIT, ATTENDANCE, FLIGHT TRAINING, ON-TH	HE-JOB OR APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING (AS APPLICABLE), OTHER
	TITLE	SIGNATURE
NO. NAME Edward Smith	Owner/President	
NO. NAME (1) Edward Smith		
NO. NAME Edward Smith	Owner/President Owner/Human Relations	5
NO. NAME (1) Edward Smith Milded Smith		5
NO. NAME (1) Edward Smith Milded Smith		5
NO. NAME (1) Edward Smith (2) Milded Smith		5
NO. NAME (1) Edward Smith (2) Milded Smith		5
NO.     NAME       (1)     Edward Smith       (2)     Milded Smith       (3)     (4)	Owner/Human Relations	S ALS LISTED IN ITEM 5A ABOVE ARE AUTHORIZED.
NO.     NAME       (1)     Edward Smith       (2)     Milded Smith       (3)	Owner/Human Relations	
NO.     NAME       (1)     Edward Smith       (2)     Milded Smith       (3)     (4)	Owner/Human Relations	
NO.     NAME       (1)     Edward Smith       (2)     Milded Smith       (3)	Owner/Human Relations	

# 22-8794 Designation of Certifying Official(s), continued

SAMPLE



# Wisconsin Recommendation Transmittal SAMPLE

Bureau of A 201 E. Wash P.O. Box 79 Madison, W	nt and Training Division pprenticeship Standards hington Ave., Room E100 72 1 53707-7972 (608) 266-3332 (608) 266-0766 DWDDET@dwd.wisconsin.gov	Department of Workforce Development Scott Walker, Governor Reginald J. Newson, Secretary Scott Jansen, Division Administrator
		Apprenticeship & OJT Benefits - TRANSMITTAL
		Date Mailed:
REGARDING:	Training Facility Name & Number (if exists)	Training Facility Address
PURPOSE & AUTHORITY	signed by the authorizing official of by signed & approved Apprentices The application packet was receive Requested effective date of approv	val: training facilities, resources and application, I 🗌 do 🔲 do not
	2. Revision (CFR 21.4261) Program rev Revisions required new Apprentice Revisions required new Facility App Revisions required new 22-8794 Ce New location or contact information	risions are described in remarks, below. eship Standards?
	4. Utithdrawal of Approval (Title 38, Uti Reason(s) for withdrawal:	SC, Section 3679). Effective date:
REMARKS:		
ENCLOSURES:	Apprenticeship Facility Application Apprenticeship Standards OJT Facility Application OJT Written Training Structure	VA Form 22-8794 Other (Describe)
		Signature, Kathy Wellington Chief of Field Operations, Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards WI State Approving Agency for Apprenticeship & OJT

# **22-1999 VA Enrollment Certification** SAMPLE

		t of Veterans Af	ertifications sheet be	erore completin		Respondent Burden: 1/ minute	le
			A ENROLLMENT C	ERTIFICATIO	N	В	
	IMPORTANT: Side		spondence, and appre		-	rograms	-1/
	1. NAME OF STUDENT (Firs		spondence, and appre			include suffix. For transferability al security number)	イ
	Bill Smith				enter the veteran's soci 15-6789	ai security number)	
	3. CURRENT ADDRESS OF	STUDENT				OF STUDENT (If not entered in	-
	234 Anystreet La	ine		Item 2)			
	Newtown, WI 678				15-6789	Use exact trade na	ame
					of program & Die Maker	from contract.	
	6. TYPE OF TRAINING				T FOR PREVIOUS TRA	NNING (Not Flight)	
				260 h	iours	Box 7: Enter # trainin	
	X APPRENTICESHIP OR					hours credited in con	
			ATIONAL FLIGHT TR		structions)	plus any hours worke	
	DUAL	8A. CREDIT ALLOWED	FOR PREVIOUS EDUCATION GROUND SCHOOL		TES AND RATINGS	previous enrollment	
						, you in this trade.	
			ONUES OF INSTRUCTION IN C			-	_
				PRE IND POST		8D. TOTAL CHARGES	
	DUAL	SOLO	GROUND SCHOOL	FLIGHT	OTHER		_
						s	
			CORRESPOND	ENCE TRAININ	G	+	-
	INFORTAINT. A VA	Form 22, 1999c, C	Certificate of Affirmatio			T be signed by this studen	ıt
	9A. DATE FIRST LESSON	9B. NUMBER OF LESS	ONS FOR 9C. CHARG	n of Enrollment e payment for th	Agreement, MUS is correspondent	ST be signed by this studen to course. SONS SERVICED BEFORE THE	it
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# 22-1999b Notice of Change in Student Status

## SAMPLE

	ent of Veterans Affairs			
	NOTICE OF CHANGE	IN STUDE		
1. NAME OF STUDENT Garv Green	(First, Middle, Last)		2. VA FILE NO. (For chapter 35, include suffix. 1 enter the veteran's Social Security Number) 1234567890	For transferability cases,
3. CURRENT ADDRES	S OF STUDENT		4. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. OF APPLICANT (	If not entered om
123 NewLane H			Item 2 above)	,
GoodCity, WI	-			
	5. DATES OF TE	RM AFFECT	ED	
A. BEGIN DATE	ve Blank	B. END DATE	Leave Blank	
	5. TERMINATION (Complete Ite	ems A and B. a	nd C if applicable)	
A. LAST DATE OF	B. REASON FOR TERMINATION	_		
ATTENDANCE	WITHDRAWAL BEFORE BEGINNING OF TERM		INSATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE, CONDUC	
	WITHDRAWAL DURING DROP PERIOD		BRADUATION	, en nooneou
	WITHDRAWAL AFTER DROP PERIOD - NONPUNITIV GRADES ASSIGNED (If checked, complete Item 9 & 11)		MTHDRAWAL OR INTERRUPTION (Noncoiles	e Degree Programs
0.0./10/0010	WITHDRAWAL AFTER DROP PERIOD - PUNITIVE	Щ, ,	ot on term basis- see Instructions)	
07/19/2012		×	OTHER (Explain in Item 12, Remarks)	
AST DATE CREDIT	ACCRUED (For non-college degree courses only)			
	7. ADJUSTMENT OF CREDIT OR CLOCK HOUR	RS (Complete	Items A, B, and C thru H as applicable)	
A. DATE ADJUSTMENT IS EFFECTIVE		<b>—</b>		
			TION AFTER DROP PERIOD - PUNITIVE GR	
		FOR OF	NT COMPLETED TERM, BUT NONPUNITIVE IE OR MORE COURSES of checked, complete 1	GRADES ASSIGNED
	REDUCTION ON FIRSE DAY OF TERM	REDUC	TION (Noncollege Legree Programs not on term b	asis- see Instructions)
	REDUCTION DURING DROP PERIOD	OTHER	(Explain i tiem 9, Remarks)	
	REDUCTION AFTER DROP PERIOD - NONPUNITIVE GRADES ASSIGNED (If checked, complete Item > 1)			
C. CREDIT HOURS BEI			AINING TIME AFTER ADJUSTMENT (For gran ofessional)	duate and advanced
			ofessional) SLL TIME 3/4 TIME LESS TRAN 1/2 TIME 1/4 TIME OR LESS	1/2 TIME
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# 22-6553d-1 Monthly Certification of Training

PLE	PAYEE: When				
	using blank form	,	OMB Approved No. 2900-0178 Respondent Burden: 10 Minutes		
	always enter		of Veterans Affairs		
VARPO	"OO" as Payee,				
PO Box 66869	unless trainee is not the veteran		MONTHLY CERTIFICATION OF ON-THE-JOB AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING		
St. Louis, MO 63166-	(e.g., dependent				
	(e.g., dependent,	VA FILE NUMBER	DR VA USE ONLY PAYEE		
Trainee Name and Mailing Ad	dress:		$\sim$		
		123,456,789	00		
		FACILITY CODE	TYPE TRAINING		
Bill Smith					
234 Long Street Anytown, WI 55555		123456789	Apprenticeship		
			IMPORTANT		
			lly. You and the employer should complete,		
			or after the last day of the last month shown in -1 (1-888-442-4551), if you have questions.		
			ou use the Telecommunications Device for		
		the Deaf (TDD.)			
ITEMS 1 AND 2 - Enter the number of		NS TO TRAINEE	raining during working bours		
	and if training has been terminated,	complete Items 4 and 5. If you ha	ve attained the complete job skills for		
	appropriate box. If you received a wa	age increase (or decrease) not in a	accordance with your training agreement,		
, ů	now any additional information concer	rning your wage. If you are receivi	ng additional educational allowance for		
ITEMS 8A and 8B - Sign and date the verification.			of your training establishment for		
	changing your address permanently sure to include your ZIP Code	r, neatly line out the preprinted add	dress shown above. Then, print your new		
address in the remaining space. De s	•	S TO EMPLOYER			
VA. An apprenticeship trainee is not r exceptions, such as training on a Day	g the journeyman wage, the trainee is normally entitled to receive educatior vis-Bacon job, or a job in a geograph	s no longer entitled to VA educatio nal benefits after reaching the jour nic location that has a different wag	nal benefits. You must immediately notify neyman wage. However, there are some ge scale. If you have any questions, call D), the Federal Relay number is 711.		
Please verify the number of hours wo Please report any differences in Items	orked and other information reported is 6 and/or 7.	by the trainee in Items 1 through 6	6 with the payroll and training records.		
Also use Item 7 if the trainee's condu knowledge and skills).	ict or progress is unsatisfactory or if t	the trainee has attained the compl	ete job skills for the job (a "journeyman"		
ITEMS 9A and 9B - Sign and date the	,				
1. MONTH(S) TO BE CERTIFIED		PURSUING THE APPROVED PROGR/			
	ITEM 1 F	OR THE MONTH(S) SHOWN IN ITEM	Box 4 & 5: Complete	> 0 n	
January, 2013	128				
January, 2013 February, 2013	120	YES $\square$ NO $(\hat{I}f"No, "complete Itenand 5)$ REASON FOR TERMINATION	If the vet is no longer	r	
January, 2013 February, 2013 March, 2013	120	and 5)	if the vet is no longer active in the training.	r	
February, 2013	120 137 106 144 6A.	REASON FOR TERMINATION	if the vet is no longer active in the training	r	
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## <u>Alternate Monthly Certification of Training - Sample</u>

To be used if the veteran is still within the active training program, but does not receive a 22-6553d from the VA for the month.

	Smith Tool & Die, LLC
	3434 Shady Lane Any Town, WI 67890
	Any rown, wr 67890
June 10, 2013	
Monthly Certification	of Hours for:
Bill Smith, SSN:123-	45-6789
VA Facility Code: 123	345678
Month: March 2013 April 2013	
May 2013	
-	to be correct. The apprentice was sponsored by us as an
apprentice Tool & Die Maker dui	ring the months shown. His wage rate was in accordance
with the	
Apprentice Contract.	
Bill Smith	
Bill Smith, Apprentic	e
Bob Jones	
Bob Jones, HR Directo	or & Certifying Official

## VA Compliance Survey Notice (Sample)

A compliance review will be conducted onsite or remotely on a schedule of approximately once every three years. The review will be conducted by your ATR or by a representative from the US Department of Veterans Affairs. You will be notified by letter, approximately two prior to the review. A follow-up call will allow for scheduling adjustments.

July 30, 2013

JOE JONES, PRESIDENT ACME INC. 123 ANYWHERE LANE ACITY, WI 55555

Dear Joe Jones, President:

Thank you for scheduling time to meet with me on August 15, 2013 at 10:00 AM so that I can conduct a GI Bill Educational Benefits Compliance Review of training records relating to your registered veteran apprentice, Mary Main. This review will cover the time period of certified GI Bill training enrollment from July 29, 2010 through October 11, 2012.

I anticipate this compliance review will take 2 to 3 hours.

As we discussed, certain records will need to be available to me at the time of the review, along with sufficient space to review the records comfortably. These records include:

- 1 Training progress records for both on-the-job training and required related instruction
- 2 Verification of Mary Main's employment termination date
- 3 Any laid off dates and re-start dates during this apprenticeship
- 4 The Monthly Certification forms submitted to the VA reporting the monthly work hours
- 5 Verification that the monthly forms do not include vacation time, sick time, military training, jury duty or other non-paid hours (paid related instruction may be included as work hours)
- 6 Actual wages paid
- 7 A copy of the most recent (the last) pay record provided to the VA

If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at (608) 235-5705.

Sincerely,

ATR

# **22-1934 VA Compliance Survey Report** SAMPLE

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## Compliance Survey Report, continued

	AREAS OF REVIEW (Continued)	F	FIND	NES		
NO	NONACCREDITED COURSES ONLY (Unless part of the approval criteria for an accredited course)		ÆS	NO		
13	STUDENTS WERE FURNISHED A COPY OF THE COURSE OUTLINE, SCHEDULE OF TUITION AND FEES AND OTHER CHARGES, AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO ATTENDANCE, GRADING POLICY, CONDUCT AND RULES OF OPERATION (38 CFR 21.4254(c))					
14	ENROLLMENTS WERE WITHIN THE LIMITATION ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE APPROVING AGENEY (38 CFR 21.4254)	(c))				
15	THE SCHOOL'S REFUND POLICY MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF VA REGULATIONS (38 CFR 21.4254(c), 21.4255, 21.4256)					
	CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS ONLY					
16	STUDENTS AFFIRMED THE ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF 10 FULL DAYS AFTER THE DAY ON WHICH THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED (38 CFR 24 4256)					
17	SUPPLIES, IF PART OF THE APPROVED COURSE, WERE FURNISHED TO STUDENTS (38 CFR 21.4254, 21.4255)					
18	SCHOOL RECORDS SHOW THAT VA BENEFICIARIES ARE PAYING THEIR SHARE OF THE APPROVED CHARGES AND THAT NON-VA STUDENTS ARE PAYING 100 PERCENT OF THE ESTABLISHED CHARGES (38 CFR 21.4210(d))					
19	NORMAL COMPLETION TIME FOR THE APPROVED COURSES IS AT LEAST SIX-MONTHS (38 CFR 21.4256)					
	FLIGHT SCHOOLS ONLY					
20	SCHOOL RECORDS SHOW THAT BENEFICIARIES HELD AN UNLIMITED PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSE OR HIGHER RATIN BEFORE ENROLLMENT (38 CFR 21.4263)	iG				
21	SCHOOL RECORDS SHOW THAT BENEFICIARIES HELD A CURRENT MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF THE APPROPRIATE CLASS BEFORE AND DURING ENROLLMENT (38 CFR 21.4263)					
22	SCHOOL RECORDS SHOW THAT VA BENEFICIARIES ARE PAYING THEIR SHARE OF THE COST OF TRAINING RECEIVED AND THAT NON-VA STUDENTS ARE PAYING 100 PERCENT OF THE COST OF TRAINING RECEIVED (38 CFR 21.4263)					
	TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS ONLY					
23	VA BENEFICIARIES WERE FURNISHED A COPY OF THE TRAINING AGREEMENT (38 CFR 21.4261, 21.4262)					
24	VA BENEFICIARIES WERE RECEIVING TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAM (38 C 21.4261, 21.4262)	FR	×			
25	VA BENEFICIARIES WERE RECEIVING WAGES AT THE APPROPRIATE RATE AS SHOWN IN THE APPROVED TRAINING AGREEMENT (38 CFR 21.4261, 21.4262)	3	×			
LINE NO.	ADDITIONAL AREAS OF REVIEW					
26	THE FACILITY HAS CORRECTED AND NOT REPEATED ANY DISCREPANCY FOUND ON THE PRIOR SURVEY, OTHER THAN AN OCCASIONAL CLERICAL ERROR (38 CFR 21.4210(d))	$\top$				
27	THE FACILITY AND VA BENEFICIARIES HAVE MET AND ARE COMPLYING WITH ALL OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE LAW INCLUDING THOSE CONCERNING:					
A	ADVERTISING, SALES OR ENROLLMENT PRACTICES OF ANY TYPE (38 CFR 21.4252(b)(h), 21.4254(c))	$\rightarrow$	_			
В	POWER OF ATTORNEY AND NONASSIGNABILITY OF BENEFITS (38 CFR 21.4146, 21.9680)					
С	INDEPENDENT STUDY (38 CFR 21.4267)					
D	PRACTICAL TRAINING (38 CFR 21.4265)					
E	COOPERATIVE COURSES AND FARM COOPERATIVE COURSES (38 CFR 21.4233, 21.4257, 21.4264)					
F	TWO-YEAR PERIOD OF OPERATION FOR BRANCHES (38 CFR 21.4251)					
G	TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE (38 CFR 21.4236, 21.9685)					
н	OWNER/OFFICER RESTRICTION AND CONFLICTING INTERESTS CERTIFICATION (38 CFR 21.4005, 21.4202(c), 21.5001, 21.7305, 21.7805, 21.9770)					
I	CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS (38 CFR 21.4233(e))					
J	ADVANCE PAY (38 CFR 21.4203, 21.9715)					
к	NONDUPLICATION OF BENEFITS (38 CFR 21.4020, 21.4022, 21.5022, 21.5023, 21.7143, 21.7642, 21.9690)					
L	YELLOW RIBBON AGREEMENT (38 CFR 21.9700)					
M         OTHER (Specify)						
	ENTS (Check all appropriate boxes)					
	ARRATIVE 22-1936, 22-1936A, OR OTHER WORKSHEETS 22-8794, 22-8794A 22-1919 X WORKING F					
DATE REP	ORT SUBMITTED SIGNATURE OF COMPLIANCE SURVEY SPECIALIST/OR NAME AND TITLE OF OTHER REVI	EWE	R			

VA FORM 22-1934, JUL 2013

# Apprenticeship & OJT Program Requirements

#### Wisconsin Registered Apprenticeship

No apprentice contract can be approved for apprenticeship unless the occupation involved has been approved by the BAS as an apprenticeable occupation.

In order for a new occupation to be approved by the BAS as apprenticeable, the occupation

- must involve the progressive attainment of manual, mechanical or technical skills and knowledge which meets industry standard for that occupation
- must require at least 2,000 hours of on-the-job learning to attain;
- must customarily be learned in a practical way through a structured, systematic program of on-the-job supervised learning;
- must require that there be related instruction to supplement the on-the-job learning; and
- must be clearly identified and recognized throughout an industry.

BAS will recognize and approve apprenticeship programs registered with the U.S. Department of Labor or a recognized State Apprenticeship Agency, which are in conformance with Wisconsin Rules and Regulations. In order to train apprentices in Wisconsin, all programs must have written Standards of Apprenticeship, approved by BAS. Standards are defined as an organized, written plan representing the terms and conditions of employment, training, and supervision of one or more apprentices. The purpose of standards is to insure that apprentices receive uniform training, in so far as possible, and that graduating apprentices develop comparable skills.

### Wisconsin GI Bill OJT (non-apprenticeable)

In Wisconsin, a work-based training program that uses the apprenticeship structure must be registered with the state as an apprenticeship program, per statute. Therefore, any OJT in Wisconsin will be in a non-apprenticeable occupation or structure.

- 1. The job is one in which progression and appointment to the next higher classification are based upon skills learned through organized training on the job, and not on length of service and normal turn-over.
- 2. The training content will qualify the veteran for appointment to the job for which s/he is to be trained.
- 3. The job customarily requires a training period not less than 6 mos and not more than 2 years, fulltime.

- 4. The length of the OJT training is no longer than customarily required by the training establishment and other training establishments in the community to provide the required skills, arrange for acquiring of job knowledge, technical information, and other facts which the veteran needs in order to become competent on the job being trained.
- 5. There is adequate space, equipment, instructional material, and instructor personnel to provide satisfactory training on the job and provision is made for related instruction for the individual veteran who may need it.
- 6. Adequate records consisting of payroll, conduct, and progress on the job, and time spent on the job are kept and made available to the State Approving Agency and the Veterans Administration to review.
- 7. The veteran is not already qualified by training and experience for the job.
- 8. Wages to be paid the veteran upon entrance into training are not less than wages paid to nonveterans in the same training position and are at least 50% of the wages paid for the job for which s/he is to be trained, and will be increased in regular periodic increments until, not later than the last full month of the scheduled training period they will be at least 85% of the wages paid for the job for which the veteran is being trained.
- 9. It is reasonably certain the job for which the veteran is to be trained will be available to the veteran when trained.
- 10. The OJT training agreement and wage schedule described in and attached to this application is in conformity to State and Federal Standards for other On-the-job Training and is to the best of employer's knowledge and belief, an accurate and complete plan of what the employer will follow. The wage schedule of this agreement does not supersede or abrogate the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act or other Federal and State Statutes.
- 11. A signed copy of the OJT agreement, including training program and wage scale as approved by the State Approving Agency is provided to the veteran, to VA and to the State Approving Agency by the employer.
- 12. Adequate records showing the progress, grades (if applicable) and wages of the Veteran, along with a copy of the OJT Agreement and all VA forms, will be maintained in the employer record and made available to the State Approving Agency and Veterans Administration for review and inspection at any time.
- 13. An authorized employee will act as the Certifying Official for GI Bill Training purposes, and to inform VA and the State Approving Agency via Form 22-8794, Designation of Certifying Official, if a new employee is selected.
- 14. Any enrollment, interruption or termination of training will be reported to VA and SAA within 30 days of event.

# **GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

- **Apprenticeship Training Representative:** An employee of the Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards who administers, oversees, regulates and provides technical assistance on apprenticeship programs at local level.
- **ATR:** See Apprenticeship Training Representative
- **Award Letter:** The official written notice from the Department of Veterans Affairs to a student of his or her monthly rate of payment, the inclusive dates of payment, and remaining entitlement at the end of the award period.
- **Basic Educational Assistance:** As used under the Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty, "basic educational assistance" means a monetary benefit payable to all individuals who meet basic requirements for eligibility under Chapter 30, title 38, U.S. Code, for pursuit of a program of education.
- **Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards (BAS):** The agency within the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development charged with the oversight responsibilities of Wisconsin's registered apprenticeship program.
- **Calendar Month:** A complete month (e.g., the complete month of June). This should not be confused with a 30-day period. The most common application of "calendar month" is to the interval between school terms, regarding entitlement to payment for an interval (38 U.S.C. 21.4138(f)).
- **Certificate of Eligibility (COE):** A Form 22-1993a which is issued to an applicant showing approval to pursue a stated program of education at a particular institution, the remaining entitlement of the student, and the ending date of the student's eligibility.
- **Certifying Official:** The person at an institution who has been delegated authority to sign enrollment, certifications, other certification documents and reports relating to VA benefits.
- **Change of Program:** A change of program consists of a change in the educational, professional, or vocational objective for which the veteran or eligible person entered training and a like change in the type of courses required to attain a new objective.
- **Change of Training Facility:** There is no limit or restriction on change of training facilities for continued pursuit of the same course or program provided the veteran or eligible person is making satisfactory progress and there is no material loss of credit.
- **Claimant:** An individual in the process of claiming VA benefits who is potentially eligible for benefits but who has not completed all the necessary steps which will permit VA to determine individual eligibility and entitlement.
- **COE:** See Certificate of Eligibility.
- **Confirmed Enrollment:** An enrollment certification which is dated and signed by the facility's certifying official on or after the first day of a certified enrollment period.
- **DD Form 214:** The Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, which is prepared at the time an individual completes a period of active duty in one of the armed forces. Former members of the Public Health Service (PHS) and of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) do not receive a DD Form 214, but they do receive comparable documents that provide necessary information concerning their active duty service.

Veterans should be advised to submit copy number 4 of their DD Form 214 with a claim for VA benefits. A certified copy may also be submitted.

- **Delimiting Date:** The expiration date for education benefits. It is the first day after a claimant's period of eligibility expires. Benefits are not payable on or after the delimiting date. Generally, the **delimiting date is ten years** and one day from the veteran's last release from active duty date (RAD). For Chapter 33 (Post 9/11 GI Bill) the **delimiting date is 15 years.** The expiration date for those under Chapters 35 and 1606 is computed differently.
- **Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA):** The benefits payable to eligible dependents or survivors of veterans. It is often abbreviated simply as DEA (Chapter 35).
- **Education Liaison Representative (ELR):** The person at the VA regional office or "out station" location responsible for the education liaison and program approval functions. The ELR is responsible for promptly informing state approving agencies, schools, and training establishments of changes in policies and procedures.
- **Education Services Officer (ESO):** This includes civilian education services officers, military career counselors, and other employees of the military education offices who are assigned responsibility for advising servicepersons of the educational opportunities available to active duty personnel.
- **Educational Assistance:** This term is generally used interchangeably with the term "education benefits." However, under the Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty, the term "educational assistance" means basic educational assistance, supplemental educational assistance, and all additional amounts payable, commonly called "kickers."
- **Eligible Person:** A child, spouse, or surviving spouse of a veteran who served on active duty and who died of a service-connected disability, or who has a total disability permanent in nature resulting from a service-connected disability, or who died from any cause while a total and permanent service-connected disability was in existence. Also includes a child or a spouse of a person who is on active duty as a member of the armed forces and who now is, and, for a period of more than 90 days, has been, listed by the secretary concerned as missing in action, captured in line of duty by a hostile force, or forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power.
- **ELR:** See Education Liaison Representative.
- **Enrollment Period:** This term means an interval of time during which a veteran or eligible person is enrolled in a training program and is pursuing his or her program of training.
- **Entitlement:** The number of months the student will be eligible for VA education benefits. This is usually expressed in the numbers of months and days the student will be eligible for full-time benefits, or the equivalent in part-time training, but also may be expressed in a dollar amount. Entitlement will vary depending on the education program the individual qualifies under. In no event will entitlement exceed 48 months under any combination of laws.
- **Facility Code:** The numerical code assigned by VA to an educational or training institution specifically identifying it or one of its subdivisions.
- **File Number:** A seven-, eight- or nine-digit number assigned by VA to identify a claimant's records. Most veterans have their Social Security numbers assigned as their VA file number. Dependents or survivors of veterans eligible for chapter 35 benefits are assigned a letter suffix (e.g., "A," "B," "W") to the file number of the veteran.

- **Mitigating Circumstances:** Unanticipated and unavoidable events beyond a student's control that are responsible for the student's inability to complete a training program. Generally, a student will be required to submit corroborative evidence to substantiate his or her reasons for being unable to complete the training.
- **NOBE:** This is a DD Form 2384, Selected Reserve Educational Assistance Program **Notice of Basic Eligibility**, which the Selected Reserve member obtains from his or her National Guard or Reserve component unit stating his or her eligibility for the Montgomery GI Bill—Selected Reserve.
- **Objective:** The final educational, professional or vocational goal of a veteran, serviceperson or eligible person (e.g., degree, diploma, certificate, occupation). A professional or vocational objective is one that leads to an occupation. It may include educational courses essential to prepare for the chosen occupation.
- **Post 9/11 G.I. Bill:** Refers to the Chapter 33 GI Bill that went into effect on August 1, 2009 and included apprenticeship & OJT effective October 1, 2011.
- **Program of Education:** A combination of subjects, unit courses or training activities pursued a training establishment that is generally accepted as necessary to meet requirements for a predetermined professional or vocational objective (e.g., occupation). An "approved program" is a course of study or program of training which the appropriate State Approving Agency has determined meets the legal requirements for payment of VA educational assistance benefits to veterans and other eligible persons.
- Serviceperson: An individual who is currently serving on active duty. Same as "service member."
- **Sponsor:** Any sponsor, organization of employees, association of sponsors, committee or other persons operating an apprenticeship or on-the-job training program and in whose name the program is approved by the approval agency.
- **State Approving Agency (SAA):** An agency appointed by the chief executive of a state to approve institutional programs of education and training for payment of benefits under the various laws administered by the VA. In Wisconsin, the Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards is the SAA for veterans participating in Apprenticeship and OJT programs and for Licensure & Certification benefits. The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs is the SAA for veterans who are students at Institutes of Higher Learning (IHL), Non-College Degree programs (NCD), Correspondence, Flight, Farm Cooperative and Licensure & Certification benefits.
- **Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance:** The benefits payable to eligible dependents or survivors of veterans. It is often abbreviated simply as DEA (Chapter 35).


\*\*\* GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of UI DIIIC IS a registered trademark of the U.S. Departurent of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. venenus unereu vy vr is avanavie ar me une unciai u.s. government Web site at http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill. \*\*\*



Through contract with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards serves as the State Approving Agency for GI Bill Training Establishments when the GI Bill is used for Apprenticeship or OJT.

DETA 17456 P (N. 10/2014)