

## MILPERSMAN 1780-011

### TRANSFER OF EDUCATION BENEFITS

<b>Responsible Office</b>	NAVPERSCOM (PERS-311)	Phone: Toll Free Web site	1-833-330-6622 <a href="https://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/CAREER/EDUCATION/GIBILL/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/CAREER/EDUCATION/GIBILL/Pages/default.aspx</a>
	CNRFC	Phone: Toll Free E-mail  myNRH	1-800-621-8853 <a href="mailto:cnrfc_post911gib.fct@navy.mil">cnrfc_post911gib.fct@navy.mil</a>  <a href="https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/cnrfc/N-Codes/N1/CNRFCL1C2/SiteP">https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/cnrfc/N-Codes/N1/CNRFCL1C2/SiteP</a>
MyNavy Career Center		Phone: Toll Free E-mail: MyNavy Portal:	1-833-330-MNCC (6622) <a href="mailto:askmncc@navy.mil">askmncc@navy.mil</a> <a href="https://my.navy.mil/">https://my.navy.mil/</a>

<b>References</b>	(a) OPNAVINST 1780.4 (b) 38 U.S.C., Chapter 33 (c) P.L.115-48 Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (d) DoD Instruction 1341.13 of 13 May 2013 (e) P.L. 116-33, National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2020 (f) OPNAVINST 1330.2C (g) 38 U.S.C., Chapter 36, Section 3685
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1. **Purpose.** To define responsibilities, eligibility requirements, and procedures for transfer of education benefits (TEB) of the Post-9/11 GI Bill for Active Component and Selected Reserve (SELRES) Component Service Members per reference (a).

2. **Background.** To promote recruitment and retention of members of the uniformed services, eligible individuals may transfer a portion or all of their unused Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement to their spouse, eligible children, or both. Before a member can apply for transfer of entitlement, their spouse and/or eligible children must be enrolled dependents in the

Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and be eligible for identification (ID) card benefits. Children age 21 or 22 must be enrolled as a full-time student at an institution of higher learning. Children who are 23 years old or older are not eligible to receive transfer of entitlement.

3. **Eligible Individuals.** An eligible individual is any member in the uniformed services who, on or after 1 August 2009, is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill per reference (b) and who, at the time of approval of the individual's application to transfer his or her unused Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement:

a. Has served at least six years (active duty and/or SELRES),

b. Is eligible per all statutes, Department of Defense (DoD), and Service policies, to be retained four additional continuous years in the uniformed services, and

c. Agrees to serve at least four additional years from the date the individual is approved to transfer.

d. Recipients of the Purple Heart are eligible for approval and are not held to a minimum service requirement or the additional obligated service, but must be a member of the uniformed services at the time of election.

Note: Service performed in Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Health Professions Scholarship Program, Health Services Collegiate Program, or Financial Assistance Program (medical residents), will not be considered service calculated for six years of eligibility.

4. **Administrative Requirements of Transferor**

a. Ensure spouse and/or children are enrolled in DEERS and eligible for ID card benefits prior to completing application to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlements.

(1) Dual military families may both transfer entitlement to their child(ren); however, both members must have their child(ren) enrolled in DEERS. Only one member will have them enrolled for Federal benefits.

(2) Dual military families may transfer entitlement to their service member spouse, who may also be eligible for Post-9/11 entitlement.

b. Complete the online, self-service statement of understanding (SOU). This SOU is required to be completed by all members (officer and enlisted) prior to submitting a TEB application and can only be submitted once.

(1) Members may access the SOU via MyNavy Portal or by using a common access card via the MyNavy Education Web site at: <https://myeducation.netc.navy.mil/webta/home.html#nbb>.

(2) To ensure prompt feedback on TEB applications, members must verify their e-mail information when completing the SOU.

(3) Upon completion of the SOU, members will receive a link to the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) MilConnect portal to submit or resubmit the TEB application.

c. Enlisted members must verify sufficient remaining obligated service in their electronic service record (ESR) prior to requesting TEB.

(1) Consult with the command career counselor to ensure expiration of active obligated service (EAOS) or expiration of obligated service (EOS) meets the required additional service obligation. Refer to [MILPERSMAN 1160-030](#) for early reenlistment (more than 12 months prior to EAOS/EOS) policy.

(2) Enlisted members must submit their TEB applications no more than 30 calendar days following execution of a 4-year reenlistment or an extension to incur 48 months of obligated service.

(3) Members who reenlist for more than four years are not subject to the 30-day requirement in paragraph 4c(2), but must have four years remaining on their enlistment contracts from the TEB application date.

(4) Extensions may not be authorized for the specific purpose of Post-9/11 transferability; however, extensions authorized per [MILPERSMAN 1160-040](#) may count toward TEB obligation as long as the member's soft EAOS, with all

enlistments and extensions, is at least four years from TEB application date.

(5) In situations where connectivity may hinder a successful submission (e.g., deployment), Sailors must contact Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) GI Bill Office (PERS-311) in advance and request to have their TEB applications placed in a pending status until service obligation is reflected in their ESR in order to avoid surpassing the 30-day grace period. SELRES Sailors must contact Commander Navy Reserve Forces Command (CNRFC) Education Benefits (N1C2) for further guidance.

(6) Enlisted members who have a prospective commissioning date in their ESR at the time of TEB application will be approved with a 4-year obligation, despite not having four years remaining on their enlistment contract. In the event member does not receive a commission, he or she is required to complete the required service obligation in order to retain transferred entitlement.

d. Officers must ensure that they are able to obligate an additional four years of service at their current paygrade prior to requesting TEB.

e. Members whose applications were rejected prior to the issuance of [NAVADMIN 236/18](#) (Post 9/11 GI Bill updates part 2), must follow the steps outlined in subparagraph 4(b). This includes officers who acquired the previously required [NAVPERS 1070/613](#) Administrative Remarks (Page 13) but did not submit a TEB application and officers who submitted a TEB application without acquiring the previously required [NAVPERS 1070/613](#). Requests cannot be backdated to match a previously rejected TEB request or a previously acquired [NAVPERS 1070/613](#).

f. The following policy applies to personnel in a limited duty (LIMDU) status who require additional service obligation for transferability per reference (d):

(1) Members who are on LIMDU or involved in a medical evaluation board, physical evaluation board (PEB), or Disability Evaluation System (DES) process must wait until the process is complete.

(2) Members who are on LIMDU or involved in a medical evaluation board, PEB, or DES who are subsequently found fit for

duty may apply for TEB. Members must comply with the standard TEB application procedure.

(3) Members who are on LIMDU or involved in a medical evaluation board, PEB, or DES process who are subsequently found unfit for duty and are pending medical separation or retirement are not eligible for TEB.

5. **Submitting TEB Application.** The TEB Web application can only be completed and submitted electronically via the milConnect Web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/>. Before completing the electronic request, members should read the "Message from Your Service Component" located in the milConnect Web site which will aid in securing an approval. Once all requirements have been met, the 4-year obligation will be established upon approval of the application.

a. Members may be eligible for one or more Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) educational benefits. Transfer of your Post-9/11 entitlement will cause permanent loss of other DVA educational benefits (e.g. Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) for active duty (MGIB-AD) or MGIB Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)). This conversion of educational benefit programs is irrevocable. Certain SELRES members are eligible for MGIB-AD and MGIB-SR and must choose which benefit to relinquish in lieu of Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. For instructions and assistance on this election, members should contact the DVA at 1-888-442-4551.

b. The transferor's family member(s) are pre-populated from DEERS and will be listed on the application.

c. The transferor must agree to the TEB acknowledgements within the milConnect Web site.

d. The transferor can only modify his or her application once it has been approved by PERS-311 or CNRFC N1C2.

e. An individual transferring Post-9/11 entitlement must designate each eligible dependent(s) by assigning a minimum of one month of entitlement.

(1) An eligible individual may transfer entitlement only while serving as a member of the uniformed services. The number of months transferred by an individual may not exceed 36 months or the amount of months of unused entitlement. If a member has previously used GI Bill entitlement, it is the

member's responsibility to verify the amount of entitlement available for transfer by contacting the DVA at 1-888-442-4551.

(2) Once the TEB request has been approved, transferor may modify (add new dependents, change entitlement for existing dependents, or revoke entitlement) while serving in the uniformed services (active duty or SELRES) without incurring an additional obligation.

**Note: Exception - If a military member or veteran dies, a surviving dependent who received transferred entitlement may transfer his or her own unused entitlement to another eligible dependent of the veteran/service member. Benefits not allocated to a dependent by the veteran/service member prior to death may not be modified.**

(3) After separating from the **uniformed services** (active duty or SELRES), the transferor may **only** modify entitlement for existing dependents who received at least "one" month of transferred entitlement or revoke entitlement from any or all dependents. Entitlement may not be transferred to a new dependent, or an existing dependent with "0" months of transferred entitlement, once the transferor is no longer a member of the uniformed services. After separation or retirement, members will require a Defense Finance Accounting Service MyPay personal identification number or Defense Self-Service logon in order to access the milConnect Web site to modify elections.

**Note: Exception - Upon death of a transferee who has not exhausted all transferred entitlement, member may allocate benefits to another dependent who was not previously designated, regardless of whether member is in uniformed services or separated.**

(4) Transferred Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement may not be treated as marital property or the asset of a marital estate subject to division in a divorce or other civil proceeding.

(5) A child may establish eligibility to Post-9/11 benefits if the entitlement is transferred before reaching the age of 23.

f. Members must log back into the TEB Web site within five working days to check the status of their applications. Request status will be reflected in the "status" field of the TEB

application. The below table identifies the reject reasons found in milConnect and solutions to resolve the rejection.

Reject Reason	Description	Resolution
Disapproved – Service member (SM) does not have 6 years in the Armed Forces.	Member has not completed 6 years of active duty or SELRES service.	Complete 6 years (day for day) in the Armed Forces and reapply after agreeing to serve 4 additional years (see subpara, 3a).
Disapproved – SM has not committed to the required additional service time.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Member has not completed the prerequisite statement of understanding (SOU); and or,</li> <li>2. Enlisted member does not have at least 4 years left on EAOS/SEAOS; and or,</li> <li>3. Member not retainable for 4 more years.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All members must complete SOU in MyNavy Education (see subpara, 4b).</li> <li>2. Contact command career counselor to inquire about OBLISERV options.</li> <li>3. Member promotes and acquires a new high-year tenure (HYT) or statutory limit that allows member to serve an additional 4 years.</li> </ol>
Disapproved – SM has submitted an invalid entry.	N/A	N/A
Disapproved – SM needs to contact service representative to resolve status.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enlisted SELRES member has not completed the required SOU.</li> <li>2. Active duty/Training and Administration of the Reserves (TAR) members must contact the MNCC or SELRES must contact Commander, Naval Reserve Forces (COMNAVRESFOR) <b>IMMEDIATELY</b> to resolve issue.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SELRES member needs to contact COMNAVRESFOR: 1-800-621-8853.</li> <li>2. Active Duty member needs to contact MNCC: 1-833-330-6622.</li> </ol>
Disapproved – SM is not on active duty or participating in SELRES.	Member has separated from the Navy – is no longer serving on active duty or in the Reserves.	Reenter active duty or SELRES and agree to serve four additional years.
Disapproved – SM has no qualifying Post 9/11 active service time.	Member’s record does not reflect at least 90 days of active service after 11 Sep 2001.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete at least 90 days of active duty (other than for training).</li> <li>2. SELRES members may contact COMNAVRESFOR to request qualifying active duty determination.</li> </ol>

(1) If an application is disapproved, the member should consult his or her command career counselor, take corrective action, and resubmit the TEB application. If member previously completed the required SOU, the SOU cannot be resubmitted.

(2) Approved applications will be sent electronically to the DVA via the DMDC and will contain an approval form (.pdf form) which members should print and retain for their records. Applications that have been approved will reflect a projected obligation end date (OED) of four years.

6. **Use of Transferred Entitlement.** The transferee who receives entitlement is subject to the following:

a. He or she must apply to the DVA for Post-9/11 benefits at [www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/](http://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/) using the electronic application.

(1) Spouse: May start to use the entitlement immediately after approval. The spouse is entitled to educational assistance in the same manner as the transferor, including the 15-year delimiting date if member separated prior to 1 January 2013. (**Note:** Members who separated 1 January 2013, or after, are not subject to the 15-year delimiting date (see reference (c)). If the spouse starts school prior to the TEB approval, the TEB application cannot be backdated to match the spouse's school start date.

(2) Child: May start to use the entitlement when the transferor has completed at least 10 years of service in the uniformed services and the child has completed the requirements of a secondary school diploma (or equivalency certificate) or reaches 18 years of age. The child is entitled to educational assistance in the same manner as the transferor as if the transferor is not on active duty. The child may not use any transferred entitlement after reaching 26 years of age.

b. The death of the transferor does not affect the use of entitlement by the transferee.

c. A subsequent divorce will not affect the transferee's eligibility to receive education benefits; however, after the transferor has designated a spouse as a transferee, the transferor retains the right to revoke or modify the transfer at any time.

d. A child's subsequent marriage will not affect the transferee's eligibility to receive education benefits; however, after an individual has designated a child as a transferee, the transferor retains the right to revoke or modify the transfer at any time.

7. **Overpayment to Transferee.** In the event of an overpayment of educational assistance to a transferee, the transferee and the transferor will be jointly and severally liable to the United States for the overpayment amount for the purposes of reference (g).

8. **Failure to Complete Service Agreement.** Generally, if the transferor fails to complete the agreed additional service requirement in the uniformed services (i.e. does not serve until their established OED), the right to use the transferred entitlement is forfeited, effective the date of such failure. (Refer to paragraph 9 of this article for component transfers between active duty and SELRES). Any amount of transferred entitlement used by a transferee will be treated as an overpayment of educational assistance and will be subject to collection by the DVA. (SELRES members who voluntarily transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), including the voluntary training unit (VTU), prior to completing their service agreement may not reestablish eligibility by returning to SELRES status later).

a. This does not apply in the case of the transferor who fails to complete the agreed additional service due to:

(1) Death of the transferor;

(2) Honorable discharge or release from active duty or the SELRES for a medical condition which pre-existed the service of the transferor and was not service-connected;

(3) Honorable discharge or release from active duty or the SELRES for hardship;

(4) Honorable discharge or release from active duty or the SELRES for a physical or mental condition that was not characterized as a disability and did not result from the transferor's willful misconduct, but did interfere with his or her performance of duty;

(5) Honorable discharge or release from active duty or the SELRES for an injury or disability found to be in the line of duty based on the results of a medical evaluation board and DES processing where a member was found unfit for duty (with a medical separation or retirement order);

(6) Honorable discharge or release from active duty or the SELRES for reduction in force or force shaping initiative resulting from a decision by the Secretary of the Navy; or

(7) Mandatory honorable discharge or release from active duty or the SELRES due to twice failing to select for promotion as a commissioned officer on active duty or SELRES, which did not result from the transferor's willful misconduct.

(a) Officers not offered selective continuation will have their TEB OED adjusted to their separation or retirement date if TEB OED has not already been fulfilled.

(b) Officers offered selective continuation who accept selective continuation will have the TEB OED adjusted to their new selective continuation separation or retirement date if TEB OED is not already fulfilled.

(c) Officers offered selective continuation but who reject selective continuation will have the TEB rejected if OED has not been fulfilled. Officers offered continuation who directly affiliate into the SELRES, with no break in service, may complete TEB obligation in the SELRES. If benefits have been used by dependent(s), aforementioned officers are required to remain on active duty or in the SELRES until they have completed their obligation.

(8) Service member with high-year tenure (HYT) mandatory separation or retirement date adjustment due to Service-mandated change (not due to fault of Service member) will have the TEB obligation end date adjusted to the new HYT separation or retirement date.

(9) Reference (e) conference report requires all members approved to transfer benefits to fulfill the full 4-year obligation. Members requesting to voluntarily leave active duty or SELRES before reaching their TEB OED must take following steps depending on transferee usage status:

(a) If no dependents have used transferred benefits, member must agree to forfeit their transfer by logging into DMDC milConnect and revoking all transferred entitlement.

(b) If dependents have used any amount of transferred benefits, member must remain on active duty or in the SELRES until they have completed their obligation.

**Exception to 8.a.9(b): Members may request an Exception to Policy (ETP) from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN) for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (M&RA). ETP request must indicate member agrees to incur a debt from the DVA for all benefits paid to dependents and must be favorably endorsed as being in the best interest of the Navy by member's Commanding Officer, detailer, and community manager. Upon receipt of endorsements, route via Navy Personnel Command (PERS 311) for estimate of benefits paid to dependents, followed by Director, Total Force Education and Training Requirements Division, OPNAV N13M for final endorsement and transmittal to ASN(M&RA). Electronic routing of ETP request is preferred to expedite processing.**

**Note: If member later decides to cancel separation or retirement request and reassigns months to dependents, member may continue serving towards obligation; however, if member's request to cancel separation or retirement is denied, the denial is not a reason to retain TEB without fulfilling the obligation.**

b. Separations and retirements described in subparagraphs 8.b.(1) through 8.b.(7) prior to the OED will result in forfeiture of transferred entitlement for dependents. Any benefits used by dependents will be considered an overpayment by the DVA, subject to collection. Members or veterans may revoke dependents' unused entitlement for their own use. Examples include:

(1) Members who voluntarily retire due to having medical issues but were not directed to do so by a physical evaluation board.

(2) Members who are forced to separate or retire due to loss of security clearance.

(3) Members who are forced to separate due to physical readiness test or physical fitness assessment failure.

(4) Chief warrant officers and limited duty officers who **voluntarily or involuntarily** revert to enlisted status and are unable to fulfill their obligated service due to statute or service policy.

(5) Members who retire or separate at the advice of their detailers or community managers in lieu of taking orders.

(6) Members being detached for cause and forced to separate or retire.

(7) A Service member with HYT mandatory separation or retirement date adjustment due to fault of the Service member (e.g., reduced in rank, non-judicial punishment, court martial).

**9. Policy for Members Who Change Service Component After Agreeing to Additional Service Obligation**

a. A member who incurred a TEB obligation who transitions from one Navy component to another (active duty to SELRES or SELRES to active duty) must do so the day immediately following release from previous status in order to retain TEB approval with the original OED. Any break in paid status (e.g., IRR or VTU) voids this continuous service. See subparagraph 9b below for policy on breaks in service. Active duty members transitioning to SELRES must coordinate with the NAVPERSCOM Career Transition Office (PERS-97). SELRES members transitioning to active duty must coordinate with the Bureau of Naval Personnel Enlisted Community Management Division (BUPERS-32).

b. A member who incurred a TEB obligation and transitions to another Navy component (regular Navy, SELRES, or TAR) more than 1 day following release from the previous component, must initiate a new TEB application and commit to a full 4-year obligation in the component to which the member transitioned. This option is only available to members whose dependent(s) have not used any transferred entitlement and may only be used one time in a career.

c. A member who fails to complete the agreed service obligation may not reinstate eligibility with a new obligation in the same component (full-time active duty or SELRES).

**10. Policy for Career Intermision Program (CIP)**. Members with an existing TEB obligation who participate in the CIP per

reference (f) will have their obligation paused until they return to active duty. Members must contact PERS-311 before leaving active duty and upon their return to active duty. Upon returning to active duty, members' TEB obligations will be extended to accommodate the break in active duty service. Their dependents will be able to utilize transferred entitlement without penalty while members are in an inactive status. Refer to reference (f) for specific guidance on obligated service for CIP upon returning to active duty.

11. **Post 9/11 GI Bill TEB Unit Tracking.** Career counselors must utilize the Career Information Management System Unit Tracking report to identify members with TEB obligations.

12. **Pre-Separation Counseling.** As part of pre-separation counseling, and upon members' submission of a separation or retirement request in Navy Standard Integrated Personnel Systems (NSIPS), activities will review the members' ESR for completion of any additional obligated service incurred for transferability. Members who have obligation for TEB cannot voluntarily resign, retire, separate or transfer to non-pay status prior to reaching their OED if their dependents have used transferred entitlement (see subparagraph 8a(9) above). Members separating for reasons other than those listed in subparagraph 8a above, who have not completed their obligation, must sign a [NAVPERS 1070/613](#) acknowledging the following:

**"I understand that I am separating/retiring under conditions that may result in collection of all transferred entitlement monies paid to or on behalf of my dependents by the DVA. My dependents will no longer be eligible to use my transferred Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits."**