VETERANS SERVICE

Worcester State University proudly welcomes student veterans. Veterans have provided a noble and crucial service; and for that, Worcester State thanks you. Worcester State is committed to helping veterans meet their educational needs by providing information, services, and support.

Certifying Official for Veterans Benefits
The Certifying Office for Veterans Benefits contact, who handles all aspects of Chapter 33, the Post-9/11 Bill, and the Montgomery GI Bill ® at WSU, is:

Cherie Milosh, Certifying Official (cmilosh@worcester.edu)
Registrar’s Office, Administration Building, Room 107, 508-929-8773

The Registrar’s Office can also provide general information of interest to veterans and dependents of veterans enrolled at WSU. Spouses and dependents of 100 percent disabled or deceased veterans wishing to inquire about possible veterans’ benefits should contact the Registrar’s Office.

Director of Veteran Services
Once a veteran has been accepted to WSU and the benefits are certified, the Office of Veteran Services will assist in the transition to the academic environment. On-campus and off-campus resources are available and coordinated through this office. The aim is to ensure that veterans are successful in completing the requirements as degree seeking students. With questions, please contact Director of Military Affairs/Veteran Services in the Student Center, 3rd Floor, 508-929-8884.

Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act
The Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-146) changed the amount of tuition and fee charges that can be reported to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Effective July 1, 2015, public institutions of higher education must charge qualifying veterans, dependents, and eligible individuals tuition and fees at the rate for in-state residents. Any institution not meeting this requirement will be disapproved by VA for the Post-9/11 and Montgomery GI Bill ®. “GI Bill” is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).


Individuals qualifying for in-state tuition under Public Law 113-146 are:

- A veteran receiving benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill ® (Chapter 30) or the Post-9/11 GI Bill ® (Chapter 33) who lives in the state in which the institution is located (regardless of his/her legal state of residence) and enrolls in the institution within 3 years of discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more
- A spouse, child, or individual using transferred benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill ® (Chapter 33) who lives in the state in which the institution is located (regardless of his/her legal state of residence) and enrolls in the institution within 3 years of the transferor’s discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more
- A spouse, child, or individual using benefits under the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship who lives in the state in which the institution is located (regardless of his/her legal state of residence) and enrolls in the institution within 3 years of the service member’s death in the line of duty following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more

If the veteran, dependent, or eligible individual enrolls within 3 years after the veteran’s discharge, the requirement to charge no more than the in-state tuition rate would apply for the duration the individual remains continuously enrolled at the institution.

Federal law permits public institutions of higher education to require eligible veterans, dependents, or individuals to demonstrate intent to establish residency in the state by means other than satisfying a physical presence requirement. For example, institutions can request documentation such as a driver’s license, car registration or voter registration, or a signed lease or rent receipt to help establish an applicant’s intent to establish residency in Massachusetts. Please note that the federal law does not include a durational residency requirement, nor does it include a requirement that the eligible veterans, dependent, or individual demonstrate intent to remain in Massachusetts indefinitely. Finally, please note that the federal law does not bar institutions from requiring the eligible veteran, dependent, or individual to meet other requirements, unrelated to residency, in order to be eligible for the in-state tuition rate.

Information about the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, along with other information for military and veteran students, can be found at https://www.worcester.edu/Military-and-Veteran-Students/.

Harry W. Colmery Educational Assistance Act of 2017
WSU adheres to the Harry W. Colmery Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (Forever GI Bill ®)- Section 107. A list of locations that students can pursue training off campus can be found at https://www.worcester.edu/Military-and-Veteran-Students/.

Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018
For Veterans using Chapter 31 and Chapter 33 VA benefits, Worcester State University adheres to S2248 PL 115-407 Section 103. For Chapter 33 to be considered a “covered individual” under the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act 2018, the veteran, or other eligible beneficiary, must provide a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) or statement of benefit from the Department of Veterans Affairs prior to the first day of classes. The veteran, or other eligible beneficiary, must complete a Worcester State University Veteran In-House Form to have their VA educational benefits certified for the semester. The veteran, or other eligible beneficiary, may be required to provide additional information necessary to properly certify their enrollment by the educational institution. For Chapter 31, the School Certifying Official must receive an authorization from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Worcester State University will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds, on any covered individual because of the individual’s inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to delayed disbursement funding from VA under Chapter 31 or chapter 33 except for the amounts not covered by the COE, statement of benefit, or the authorization, refer to the Worcester State University payment policy.