

Chapter 35

VA Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance (DEA)

Benefit Information

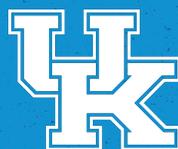
VRC Office Information:

VetCenter@uky.edu

(859) 257-1148

Monday-Friday - 7:30 a.m - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Ground Floor, Erikson Hall



Veterans
Resource Center

Office for Student Success

Chapter 35 Benefit Process and Residency Changes

Starting Benefits

1. Apply for your Chapter 35 DEA benefits through the VA:

<https://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/>

- Once the VA processes your application (8-10 weeks), they will send you a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) in the mail. **Please scan the COE, or take a picture of it with your phone, and email it to VetCenter@uky.edu**

2. Submit the online, internal-to-UK, benefit request form after you register for classes: <https://go.uky.edu/varequest>

- The **VRC needs this form every semester**. An email reminder will be sent out each term to turn in the form. **Please check your UK email regularly. All communication from the VRC will go to your UK email address.**

***If using VA Chapter 35 & KDVA Tuition Waiver, need to submit benefit request forms for EACH benefit**

Residency Changes

Residency Changes

When the VRC receives your VA Certificate of Eligibility, if you are an out of state student, you will be changed to an in-state student status for tuition purposes.

*This is a federal law the VRC and University must follow

Maintaining In-State Resident Status

Residency status of a student will be reevaluated if a student has exhausted their Chapter 35 benefits and the following circumstance(s) arise:

- Graduates from current degree program and reapplies to another degree program (i.e. a student graduates from an undergraduate program and applies for a graduate degree program, Medical school, Law school etc.)
- Takes an extended leave of absence from the University of Kentucky

**If neither of these situations arise, a student will maintain the in-state student status even after Chapter 35 benefits are exhausted*

What Does Chapter 35 Benefit Pay?

- Chapter 35 DEA benefit pays a monthly stipend of about \$1,500 directly to student while class is in session.
 - Payment will direct-deposit into the bank routing number you provided to the VA on your original application for benefits. Chapter 35 stipend **DOES NOT** come to UK Student Account Services.
**Stipend amount of about \$1,500 is for students at full-time status for the length of the semester. Students below full-time will receive a prorated stipend amount.*
- The benefit pays a month in arrears.
 - The earliest you can expect to see payment from the VA for the Fall term is around September first. That payment will be a small one. The first full payment will arrive around October 1st, payment for September.
- VRC does not have access to VA payment records to check on the status of your Chapter 35 payments. **For questions regarding Chapter 35 stipend, contact the VA Education Hotline at 888-442-4551.**
 - Allow a 5-day window on either side of the first of each month for the payment to appear in your account.

Using Chapter 35 Benefit for Tuition/On-Campus Housing/Dining

- The total funds received from Chapter 35 DEA benefit will **NOT** cover students total tuition, housing or dining costs. Depending on housing, meal plan and additional Financial Aid, student may very well have out-of-pocket expenses.
 - Student should work with their Financial Aid counselor to identify other sources of funding to cover educational expenses: <https://www.uky.edu/financialaid/>
- If student wants to use Chapter 35 stipend to pay towards dorm, dining or tuition costs, contact Wendy Christian in Student Account Services to pay those fees in installments
 - Contact Information: Wendy Christian, wcch222@uky.edu
**Student will need to contact Wendy every semester to prevent late fees from accruing to their account*

Verifying Attendance with the VA

Students receiving VA Chapter 35 benefits must verify attendance with the VA at the end of each month that class is in session to receive their monthly stipend.

**This is a separate process from the VRC submitting students courses to the VA.*

- To verify enrollment, the following options listed below are available. If you need additional assistance, you can call the VA Education Hotline at 888-442-4551.
 - **Text:** To verify via text, beneficiaries can opt-in when they begin using their benefits to receive a text message from VA on the last day of each month to confirm their enrollment.
 - **Email:** If beneficiaries choose to opt out of text verification, they will receive monthly enrollment verification messages by email.
 - **Online:** Beneficiaries can verify their enrollment through VA's online tool, [Ask VA](#)
 - **By Phone:** Beneficiaries can verify by calling VA Education Hotline at 888-442-4551

Am I Eligible for Education Benefits through the DEA Program?

The dependent of a veteran may be eligible for these benefits if certain eligibility requirements are met.

One of these descriptions must be true for the Veteran or service member:

- The Veteran is permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability (100% P&T VA rating), **or**
- The Veteran died as a result of a service-connected disability, **or**
- The service member died in the line of duty, **or**
- The service member is missing in action or was captured in the line of duty by a hostile force for more than 90 days, **or**
- The service member was forcibly detained (held) or interned in the line of duty by a foreign entity for more than 90 days, **or**
- The service member is in the hospital or getting outpatient treatment for a service-connected permanent and total disability and is likely to be discharged for that disability

***The VA determines education benefit eligibility.**

For additional information on the VA Chapter 35 DEA benefit visit the *VA website*