

## **In-State Tuition Policy for Military Students**

**Adopted by the President's Cabinet: 12/20/16**

The guidelines of the Veterans Access Choice Accountability Act Section 702 requires VA to disapprove programs of education under the Post- 9/11 and Montgomery GI Bill programs at public institutions of higher learning if the schools charge qualifying Veterans, spouses, and dependents tuition and fees in excess of the rate for resident students for terms that begin after July 1, 2015. As such, any schools that do not meet the requirements will be disapproved for Post-9/11 GI Bill and Montgomery GI Bill benefits.

Students Eligible for In-State Tuition under Section 702 are: • A Veteran who lives in the state in which the institution of higher learning is located (regardless of his/her formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school within three years of discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more. • A spouse or child using transferred benefits who lives in the state in which the institution of higher learning is located (regardless of his/her formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school within 3 years of the transferor's discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more. • A spouse or child using benefits under the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship who lives in the state in which the institution of higher learning is located (regardless of his/her formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school within three years of the Servicemember's death in the line of duty following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more. • The following is a link providing additional information; <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>.

Military students are informed through communications from the Office of Admissions of their residency status after their application is received, as well as the letter sent out after their acceptance into the institution. To ensure compliance with the Veterans Access Choice Accountability Act Section 702; The School Certifying Official at East Georgia State College contacts all military students through their student email account, informing them of their possible need to complete a military waiver to receive in-state tuition. This notice is sent out prior to the beginning of each semester to all students who are coded as military and includes the link to the Veterans and Military Personnel page, where the waivers are located.

The message informs the military student that if they are coded as a non-resident, they will need to complete the appropriate military waiver form in an effort to waive the out-of-state portion of their semester tuition cost for the next three (3) consecutive semesters. During that three-semester period, the student should take steps to establish Georgia as their domicile by updating all of their out-of-state documents (e.g. driver's licenses, vehicle registration, voter registration, file a tax return with the State of Georgia, etc.) If a student plans to continue beyond an academic year, they will need to complete the Petition For in State Classification Form available on the Registrar's office website. Students must submit their DD-214 to the institution to establish their right to the military waiver, so that time of separation from service can be established. Upon completion, waivers can be submitted to [documents@ega.edu](mailto:documents@ega.edu) or faxed to the Student Enrollment office. All military waivers must be submitted to the Registrar for review to determine eligibility and approval. Military students who meet the requirements will have their out-of-state tuition and fees waived by the Business Office.

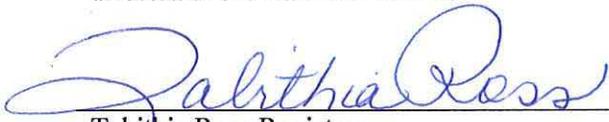
The requirements and steps by the Registrar in considering military waivers are as follows:

- Registrar requires a completed waiver application and all required supportive documents as stated on the waiver form. If items are missing, the Registrar phones the student requesting the remaining required document(s).
- Once all support documents and application are with the Registrar, he/she completes a check list form itemizing the documents against what is required and builds a written record of this on the

form with a recommendation to approve or deny the waiver to the Vice President for Student Affairs(VPSA)

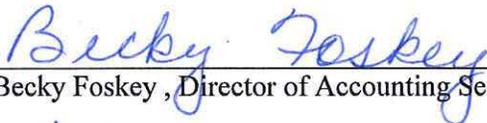
- This information is communicated to the student through a formal letter that is sent to their student email account. The actual waiver application with the decision information indicated on the checklist that includes the approval signatures by the VPSA and Registrar; is scanned and emailed to Business Affairs Accounting Technician in the Business Office. The approval process can be completed within 2 weeks or sooner. The processing time is dependent upon whether the student has provided all the required supportive documents and the time necessary for the VPSA to review the Registrar's reasoning and recommendation.

Completed waiver information presented to the Business Office is processed by printing a detailed invoice on each student who receives a waiver. The correct waiver amount is determined and applied to the student's account the day after the schedule adjustment period. Student accounts balances are verified. Waiver amounts are not communicated directly to students; however they can view their Banner Web account. Military student questions concerning the waiver application should be directed to the Business Office.



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Tabithia Ross Registrar



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Becky Foskey , Director of Accounting Services



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Georgia M. Mathews, VA School Certifying Official