

Are you a transitioning service member or veteran looking for a new career opportunity?

Apprenticeship is a unique and rewarding pathway to developing in-demand workplace and technical skills while earning a paycheck in the career of your dreams from day one.

Apprenticeship is an industry-driven, high-quality career pathway where employers can develop and prepare for their future workforce, and individuals can obtain paid work experience, classroom instruction, and a portable, nationally-recognized credential.

USE YOUR POST-9/11 GI BILL® WHILE COMPLETING YOUR APPRENTICESHIP

Eligible veterans pursuing training through an apprenticeship program approved by a U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) State Approving Agency for education benefits can receive their GI BILL monthly housing allowance (MHA) in addition to their apprenticeship wages. The MHA issued will be a percentage of the U.S. Department of Defense Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for an E-5 with dependents based on your employer's location. Visit the [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website](#)¹ to see the relevant rates.

Additionally, Post-9/11 GI BILL recipients are eligible to receive up to \$1,000 per year for books and supplies. Veterans already participating in an apprenticeship program at the time of application may be eligible to receive up to 12 months of a retroactive MHA and supplies stipend.

PAYMENT RATES FOR ALL OTHER GI BILL PROGRAMS

For all other GI BILL programs, including the Montgomery GI BILL, the payment rates can be found on the [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website](#)¹. Visit the [GI BILL Comparison Tool](#)² to help you make the right decisions on where to use your hard-earned benefits.

VETERAN READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Veterans with a service-connected disability may also be eligible for custom apprenticeship programs approved by a Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) counselor. Apply for VR&E benefits to determine whether you are eligible by filling out [VA Form 28-1900](#)³ for VR&E benefits. Details about these custom apprenticeship programs:

- ▶ Any employer may host a program where a VR&E counselor prepares a specific training plan to ensure that the participant is working toward the full skills of that occupation.
- ▶ You will be paid apprenticeship wages by the employer and can receive a monthly allowance.
- ▶ VR&E benefits commonly last from six months to 24 months.

HOW TO USE THE GI BILL TO SUPPORT YOUR APPRENTICESHIP

In order for a veteran, reservist or dependent to use their GI Bill® Benefits the program must be approved by the State Approving Agency (SAA). In Pennsylvania, the SAA is the Department of Education's Division of Veterans/Military Education. They can be reached at RA-VetED@pa.gov or 717- 787-2414. A Veterans Education Advisor will be assigned to walk employers through the approval process. After an employer is approved by the SAA, the VA adds this approval to their electronic system and the employer is then able to certify veterans into the program and then submit hours monthly for the veteran to receive their benefits, a process that the Veterans Education Advisor will provide guidance and instruction on.

LEARN MORE ABOUT APPRENTICESHIPS

Whether you're a veteran looking to learn more about how apprenticeship can accelerate your career, or an employer interested in developing and registering an apprenticeship program that enrolls veterans, the [PA CareerLink® apprenticeship webpages](#)³ have additional information and resources that can help.

OTHER USEFUL LINKS FOR VETERANS

- ▶ Learn more about the GI Bill® [here](#)⁴ and apply for GI Bill® benefits [here](#)⁵.
- ▶ Determine if other organizations/ employers are "Approved for the GI Bill®" [here](#)⁶.
- ▶ Find an apprenticeship opportunity near you [here](#)⁷.
- ▶ Find apprenticeship resources for service members and veterans [here](#)⁸.
- ▶ Learn how your military skills translate to civilian careers [here](#)⁹.
- ▶ Find general employment resources for veterans [here](#)¹⁰ and [here](#)¹¹.

QUESTIONS ON USING THE GI BILL® TO SUPPORT YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

If you have any questions about how to register your employer to use the GI Bill® to support your apprenticeship, contact RA-VetED@pa.gov at the PA Department of Education for more information.

¹ <https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/how-to-use-benefits/on-the-job-training-apprenticeships/>

² <https://www.va.gov/education/gi-bill-comparison-tool/>

³ <https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-28-1900-ARE.pdf>

³ <https://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov/jponline/Apprenticeships/BecomeApprentice>

⁴ <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

⁵ <https://benefits.va.gov/benefits/>

⁶ <https://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do>

⁷ <https://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov/jponline/Apprenticeships/BecomeApprentice>

⁸ <https://www.apprenticeship.gov/career-seekers/service-members-and-veterans>

⁹ <https://www.mynextmove.org/vets/>

¹⁰ https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets?utm_source=veterans_gov&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=veterans_gov_redirect

¹¹ <https://www.careeronestop.org/Veterans/>



Contact Apprenticeship@pa.gov

*Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.*

Scan the QR Code for access to PA registered apprenticeship resources.

