

VA Benefits & Packaging

Amy Gaffney
Director of LIFE
University of Dubuque



April 6-8, 2016 | Stoney Creek | Johnston

Get a little R & R...and R

- * **Refresh** your mind with a review of the various military education benefits available.
- * **Reinvent** your understanding of these benefit programs including how and when the awarding process is impacted.
- * **Relax** among your colleagues to share best practices and ideas to enhance your office's support of the students receiving these benefits.



Agenda



- Programs
- Payments
- Package
- Prepare



Programs

- Chapter 33
- Chapter 33/Yellow Ribbon
- Chapter 33/Fry Scholarship
- Chapter 31
- Chapter 30
- Chapter 35
- Chapter 1606
- Chapter 1607



Payments

Chapter 33

- 33 less than 100%
- 33 Fry Scholarship (no YR)
- Post/911 Yellow Ribbon

Payments for tuition & fees = paid to **School**

Payments for housing, food, books = paid to **Student**



Payments

Chapter 31

- “Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation”
- Payments [invoiced by school] for tuition, fees and book/supplies paid directly to school
- Housing stipends paid to student
- Student can request to use Chapter 33 level for stipend, if eligible (must apply for Ch33)



Payments

Chapters 30, 35, 1606 and 1607

- In these chapters, a monthly allowance paid to student only
- Amount is determined by factors specific to student:
 - Length of service
 - Disability level
 - Did soldier contribute to “kickers”
 - Etc...



Packaging

According to the 2015-16 FSA Handbook:

The general rule in packaging is that the student's total financial aid and other **Estimated Financial Assistance (EFA)** must not exceed the student's financial need (Need = Cost of Attendance minus the EFC).



Veterans Benefits & EFA

FSA Handbook 2015-16

Page 3–139

- “Veterans education benefits are not considered EFA”

References:

- IFAP E-Announcement July 2, 2009
- IFAP E-Announcement August 13, 2009
- HEA 480(c)
- 34 CFR 673.5(c)

HEA: Sec. 428(a)(2)(C)(ii)

DL: 34 CFR 685.102(b)



Miscellaneous

- Veterans Affairs Student Work-Study Allowance Program (VASWSAP) - Income earned **is not** treated as a veterans education benefit, and **is not considered** as EFA. It should be reported as **untaxed income** (not income earned from work) on the FAFSA.
- Noneducational veterans benefits **are not counted** as EFA
- Noneducational veterans benefits include Death Pension and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits, and income from the VASWSAP. The student **must report** these noneducational benefits as nontaxable income on the FAFSA.



Prepare

- Record keeping
- School: student communications
- Training



Prepare

- **Record keeping**
 - Certificate of Eligibility
 - Institutional form (if applicable)
 - Defined institutional awards



Prepare

- **School: Student communications**
 - “pre-award” admissions letters
 - Shopping sheet
 - Award letter



Prepare

- **Internal training**
 - How GI Bill process begins?
 - Timing of the funds, billing process, etc...
 - Who is the contact on campus for what area?
 - What are the student/family responsibilities?
 - How do you share notes, information?



Fed TA

(aka Federal Tuition Assistance)

- Tuition based fund
- Careful not to “double dip” and pay student twice for same classes when using GI Bill and FedTA
- Document, document, document

Application process at www.goarmyed.com



Fed TA

(aka Federal Tuition Assistance)

- What Has Not Changed
- Soldiers still have 60 days before the start date of a course to rewww.goarmyed.comquest Federal Tuition Assistance.
- All Tuition Assistance Requests must be approved by the end of the business day, the day before the start date of the course.



Fed TA

- What Has Changed
- TA requests submitted less than five business days prior to a class start date that are not approved prior to the class start date will not be eligible for an exception to policy, regardless of the reason.
- TA requests submitted more than five business days prior to a class start date that are not approved prior to the class start date may be considered for an exception to policy.
- Soldiers will be responsible for all TA Requests submitted less than five days prior to the class start date for which TA was not approved.



FedTA

Michael Robinson

Federal Tuition Assistance Manager-Iowa

- GoArmyEd
- IANG-Education Services Office
- 7105 Northwest 70th Avenue
- Camp Dodge-Johnston, IA 50131-1824
- (515) 252-4422
- michael.p.robinson1.civ@mail.mil



IASFAA

Refresh.
Reinvent.
Relax (*we've got this*).

NGEAP

(aka Iowa National Guard Educational Assistance Program)

- Not tuition specific, but COA budget applies
- May be used in combination with GI Bill, ROTC, & FedTA
- Fall & Spring approved *separately* - Possible to lose eligibility

Application* process at

<https://www.iowacollegeaid.gov/content/iowa-national-guard>

* A FAFSA is NOT required



NGEAP

(aka Iowa National Guard Educational Assistance Program)

- [Please refer to ICSAC Handbook](#)

https://www.iowacollegeaid.gov/sites/default/files/CHAPTER%20011%20-%20National%20Guard_0.pdf

Contact ICSAC with questions:

Phone: (877) 272-4456 (Information Service Center)



April 6-8, 2016 | Stoney Creek | Johnston

ROTC

(Reserve Officer Training Corps)

- Full scholarships for tuition and fees
- May be available but for limited years
- Possible to lose eligibility
- COA budget applies
- Title IV and NGEAP may be used additionally



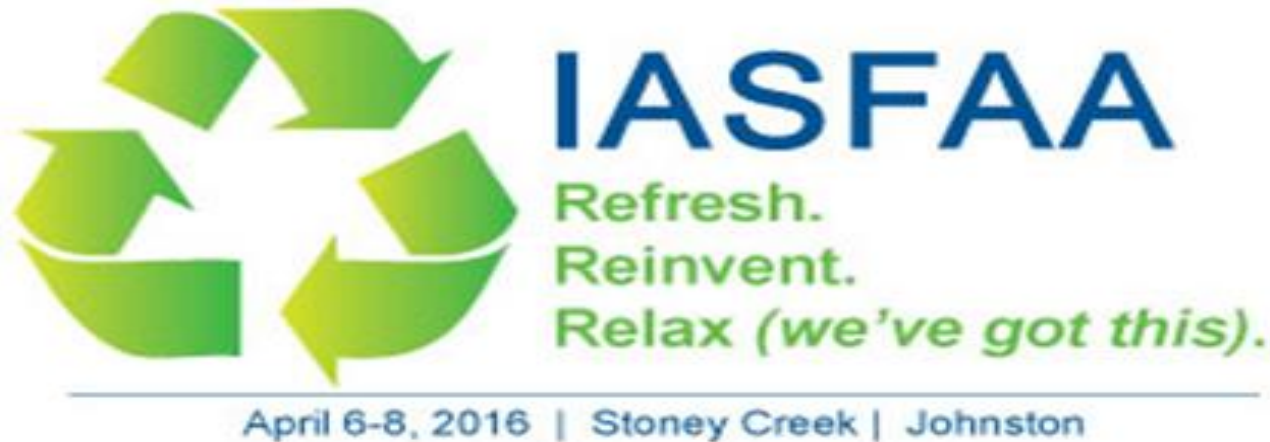
Questions?

Amy Gaffney

University of Dubuque

agaffney@dbq.edu

563-589-3456 Phone



Remember Frankie says “RELAX”