For students who are members of the OU Military Family, Veteran Student Services is here to help. We assist students in their educational pursuits, as well as help them maximize their VA benefits and financial options! Here are some important things to know about the services OU has to offer. Please stay in contact with our office throughout your time at OU. We’re here to help.

1. If you intend to use VA Educational Benefits at OU, complete your application with the Department of Veterans Affairs EARLY. There are many areas of law compliance that must be completed with the VA before certification of enrollment to the VA is possible at OU, and applying for the benefit with the VA is a top priority. To determine what educational benefit you may qualify for, contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-888-442-4551. More information can be found at [va.gov/education](http://va.gov/education).

2. Self-Identify you are military-connected at OU, to all counselors, advisors, and mentors you communicate with or meet, especially if you want to use VA Educational Benefits. We all want to help you and use our office expertise, but we will assist you best if we know to remember VA compliance regulations and your personal goals when we talk to you! We want to help you juggle all the extra steps you may have as part of the OU Military Family.
   1. Refer to Step-by-Step Guide with non-resident reclassification flyer included
   2. Refer to transfer for Ch. 33 entitlement flyer included

3. If you are an OU non-resident student when admitted to OU, review the OU Office of Admissions and Recruitment’s Petition for Residency Reclassification or OU’s Petition for Residency. If you qualify for any, provide documentation the rationale requires ASAP. Some of the rationales are connected to specific VA Educational Benefit Chapters.
   - Veterans Choice & Accountability Act – specific to Ch. 30 and Ch. 33 benefits
   - Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act – connected to Ch. 31 benefit
Using VA Educational Benefits at OU - Important Facts to Remember

- Certificate of Eligibility – provide a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility to OU Veteran Student Services.
  - Ch. 30 Montgomery GI Bill®
  - Ch. 31 VA Vocational Rehabilitation - VA Counselor of student must submit an electronic Purchase Order
  - Ch. 33 Transfer of Entitlement Post 9/11 - Once the transfer of benefits request is approved, the request data is sent to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Each family member must first apply for a Certificate of Eligibility (VA Form 22-1990E) from the VA before they can use their transferred benefits.
  - Ch. 33 Transfer of Entitlement Post 9/11 has two steps of application – transferring as the sponsor and activating it as the recipient/student.
  - Ch. 35 Dependent Educational Assistance program - Provide completion of VA file # to OU Veteran Student Services when you turn in a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility.
  - Ch. 1606 Montgomery GI Bill® Selected Reserve

- Research specific programs VA approves at OU for students to use VA educational benefits toward.
  - Undecided, exploratory, and pre-health programs are not certifiable to the VA
  - Programs the University of Oklahoma is approved for students to use VA Educational Benefits for are found at the U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs WEAMS Institution Search (inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do).
  - Colleges approve courses as applicable to declared degrees before Veteran Student Services certifies enrollment to the VA.
  - Graduate students must work with Graduate College to complete a Program of Study/ACR before the college will approve courses for certification.

Submit an electronic Veterans Course Confirmation Form at one.ou.edu/student/resources or go to one.ou.edu and from the homepage navigate to > Resources > Financial > Veterans Course Confirmation. This form must be completed every semester in which you want to use a VA Educational Benefit.

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at GI Bill | Veterans Affairs (va.gov).