

Helpful Hints

- Your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor must authorize your degree plan and classes.
- VA will only pay for classes that are applicable to your degree program.
- VA will only pay for remedial or developmental classes that are taken completely inside the classroom.
- VA considers hybrid and self-paced classes as online learning.
- You must be full time for the entire semester in order to receive your full Monthly Housing Allowance. (At least 12 credit hours for Spring and Fall; 7 credit hours for Summer).
- If you choose 100% online and hybrid classes, your MHA will be greatly reduced.
- Check your student email account regularly. This is our primary method of communication with students.

Pay Rates Effective October 1, 2017:

Number of Dependents	Full Time	Three Quarter Time	One Half Time
No Dependents	\$617.40	\$463.90	\$310.40
One Dependent	\$765.83	\$575.21	\$384.59
Two Dependents	\$902.48	\$674.73	\$452.06
Each Additional Dependent	\$65.77	\$50.59	\$33.75

Please contact your VocRehab Counselor for pay rates under the Post 9/11 Subsistence Allowance.

Commonly used Phone Numbers and Websites:

Red Rocks Community College Veteran Services	1-303-914-6353
St. Louis VA Regional Office General Education	1-888-442-4551
Direct Deposit - Sign up or change	1-877-838-2778
National Personnel Records Center	1-314-801-0800

Denver/VOC Rehab	1-303-914-5550
GI Bill	www.gibill.va.gov
eBenefits	www.ebenefits.va.gov

Definitions:

Academic Probation: Schools that have an academic progress policy allowing for a period of academic probation prior to termination for Unsatisfactory Progress (Academic Suspension) are required to notify VA promptly. RRCC requires the student to maintain a GPA of 2.0 or higher. If the student fails to maintain a GPA of 2.0, the student will first be placed on Academic Probation. If the student fails to maintain a GPA of 2.0 during their probation period, the student will then be placed on Academic Suspension.

Change of Address and Direct Deposit: Information must be kept current. You can update your information by calling 877-838-2778 or go to <http://www.ebenefits.va.gov>. Delays in benefits can result from inaccurate address and direct deposit information.

Course Applicability: Only courses that satisfy requirements outlined by the RRCC catalog can be certified for VA purposes. If the student takes a course that does not fulfill a program requirement, it cannot be certified for VA purposes.

Course Substitutions: If the college allows substitutions for program requirements, VA will allow course substitutions if the school approves them and they are documented in the students' file (Degree Modification).

Debts and Over-Payments: A debt is established on the student when:

- Withdrew on or after the first day of term.
- Reduced hours whether the reduction occurred before or during the term.
- Attended at least one day of any of the classes certified and a payment has been issued.
- The school reported a change in enrollment and reported a reduction in tuition and fees due to student action reducing or terminating courses.
- Drops a course or adds a course.

Last Date of Attendance (LDA): VA requires the school to report the LDA if the student:

- Officially withdraws.
- Is administratively withdrawn or stops attending without officially withdrawing.

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Non-Punitive Grade: A grade that does not count as earned credit and is not considered in progress standards for graduation. A withdrawal after the drop period is a non-punitive grade. They do not apply to the degree and they do not affect academic progress (GPA).

Prior Credit: VA **requires** the school to review prior credit from previous institutions as well as any military training and grants credit as appropriate to the student's current program.

Punitive Grade: A grade assigned for pursuit of a course which is used in determining the student's overall progress toward completion of this school's requirements for graduation (e.g. a failing grade). A punitive grade does affect the criteria (GPA) to be met by the student for graduation.

Remedial and Developmental Courses: Any course below the 100 course level (e.g. MAT050). VA prohibits the school from certifying remedial and developmental courses that are taken online or hybrid format. Student must take this class in a traditional setting.

Repeating Courses: VA allows the school to certify repeated courses if the student fails a course that is required to complete minimum requirements for graduation. VA prohibits the school from certifying a repeat course if the course was completed successfully, unless the degree program requires a higher grade than achieved. For example, if Nursing requires a "B" or better in Biology and the student received a C, the school can certify this class as a repeat.

Student Verification of Enrollment: Students receiving Chapter 30 and 1606 must verify their attendance monthly by Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE) or by Interactive Voice Response (IVR) on the **last calendar day of each month**. Failing to do so will cause a delay in payments.

Supplemental and Concurrent Enrollment (GUEST Students): A student may take courses at more than one school that apply to his/her degree program. The school that will grant the degree is the student's "primary" school. All other schools are "secondary" schools. VA can pay benefits for courses taken at secondary schools. VA will pay for the credits taken at the secondary school even if the student is only enrolled at the secondary school (supplemental enrollment). If the student is enrolled at the primary school and the secondary school at the same time (concurrent enrollment), VA will pay for the combined credit, taking overlapping enrollment dates into account. Students are required to submit a Primary School Letter (Parent Letter) to the secondary school in order to receive benefits for the specified course(s).