Veterans Benefits Toolkit 2023

The following toolkit will provide you with all tools to apply for eligibility and usage of your Veterans Benefits that are approved for use at a Galvanize campus. **This toolkit is updated regularly as VA regulations change.**

Each benefit has its own procedure. If there is a question or request for information that is not on this guide or the relevant benefit guide, please contact vabenefits@galvanize.com. If you are interested in learning more about Operation Level Up (Military Career Skills Program), please email mcsp.admissions@galvanize.com.

Additionally, for any information that is specific to your Veteran Benefits, please direct those to the Veterans Benefits Administration Education Call Center at 1-888-GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551) between 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Central Time, Monday-Friday. These include:

1. Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) - both "how much" and "when"
2. Benefits Comparison
3. Which benefits you qualify for

To receive your financial benefits estimate if you have less than the months needed, please "submit a question" through the VA Education Website as this is the only way to reach a financial processor that can give you exact information.

You can always contact vabenefits@galvanize.com to help determine which questions need to be directed to the VA.

Post-9/11 or Montgomery GI Bill - Our programs are not currently eligible.

Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) (also regularly referred to as Voc Rehab) - Our programs are not currently eligible.

Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses (VET TEC)

Student Veterans' Responsibilities for All Benefits

1. Provide Galvanize with correct paperwork:
   a. Benefit Certificate of Eligibility and/or Approval
   b. Military Transcripts - can be found here
      i. [Community College of the Air Force](link)
      ii. [Joint Service Transcript](link) (All other branches)
   c. Post-secondary Transcripts

2. Student Veterans must ensure that they keep their contact information up to date with the VA. Student Veterans can report changes to their address by contacting [VA](link).
   a. CRITICAL DOCUMENTS are sent via email and US Mail. Make sure you provide an email address that you can access unrestricted now and in the future.
   b. The VA will send your Certificate of Eligibility (COE) to the mailing address you provide on your application for VA benefits.

3. Student Veterans must ensure that they keep their direct deposit information up to date with VA. Student Veterans can report changes to their direct deposit information by [contacting VA](link) and providing:
   a. Their new account number
   b. Their new 9-digit routing number
   c. The type of account (checking or savings)

Post-9/11 or Montgomery GI Bill and VR&E

Due to the GI Bill regulations that do not allow non-college degree (NCD) programs, like Galvanize, to offer distance learning, Galvanize cannot accept any GI Bill entitlement. If you were interested in using the GI Bill at Galvanize, please look at VET TEC and VRRAP opportunities that provide the same benefits and can be used for distance learning at an NCD.

Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses (VET TEC)

VET TEC is a limited-funded option for Veterans that are eligible. That funding is not guaranteed at any point in the fiscal year. VET TEC is funded on an October 1 through September 30 fiscal year at $125M annually. On October 1, funding is renewed and the VA will accept certifications for programs starting on or after October 1. As a Preferred Provider, Galvanize is paid as a 25%/25%/50% schedule - 25% at attendance, 25% at graduation, and 50% when placed in meaningful employment but if a student Veteran does not find meaningful employment within 180 days of graduation, Galvanize must refund the first 50% of payment.

A student Veteran is eligible if they:
- Aren't on active duty or are within 180 days of separating from active duty, and
- Qualify for VA education assistance under the GI Bill, and
- Have at least one day of unexpired GI Bill entitlement, and
- Are accepted into a program by a VA-approved training provider
- Have not used VET TEC in the last 18 months
  (a student can use VET TEC as often as they want but once they use it, they cannot use it again for 18 months regardless of whether or not they finished the program)

Eligible Galvanize Programs
- Remote Beginner Coding Bootcamp *[PLEASE NOTE THE SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR USING VET TEC FOR OUR BEGINNER PROGRAM](#)
- Remote Intermediate Coding Bootcamp
- Active-duty Military Career Skills Program - Operation LevelUp

To apply to use VET TEC benefits, apply at
https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/fgib/vettec.asp.

For Galvanize to certify your enrollment, you will need to provide your Enrollment Advisor with your COE which will come by mail. In addition to your COE, you will need to provide your [Air Force Military Transcripts](#) or [all other branches' military transcripts](#) and your post-secondary transcripts if you attended an Institute of Higher Learning.

Galvanize will certify your enrollment 30 days prior to your first day of the cohort per VA regulations, then your attendance on your first day of your cohort which will trigger payment as well as the 18-month rule, then at your graduation or separation.

After graduation, Galvanize will need to submit your [Meaningful Employment Form](#) to the VET TEC team when you are employed. Meaningful Employment is defined as:

- Traditional employment in a career the program of study was in.
- Promotion in the student Veteran's current career if the student Veteran is currently employed in a career the program of study was in.
- Self-Employment if the student Veteran is owning/operating a business and is utilizing the skills from the program of study they were in.
- Contract employment that is full-time and 6 months or longer.

Student Responsibilities Specific to VET TEC

- Student Veterans will need to verify their continued enrollment monthly with the VA. On the last day of every month, send an email to vettec.vbabuf@va.gov stating you have been in attendance. Email must **not** be sent earlier than the last day of the month that they are certifying. You can send it at the beginning of the new month too. In other words, it can be late, just not early.
- Student Veterans must notify the Training Provider when they find [meaningful employment](#) by signing and submitting the [Verification of Meaningful Employment form](#).

REMOTE BEGINNER CODING BOOTCAMP

For VET TEC Students who wish to enroll in the **Hack Reactor Beginner Full-Time 19-Week Software Engineering Program,** we ask that you please read the following disclosures to ensure you understand the limitations of VET TEC funding before deciding to enroll in this program.

- The Beginner 19-Week program consists of 4 sequential modules - each with its own project and assessment.
  - If a student achieves a passing grade on the project **and** assessment, they are permitted to advance to the next module.
  - If a student fails to achieve a passing grade on the project **or** the assessment, they cannot advance to the next module - but are permitted to retake the module one time.
    - Approximately 15-20% of incoming students repeat the first module.
- **If you are using VET TEC to fund your tuition and you fail a module, YOUR TUITION AND HOUSING BENEFITS WILL TERMINATE AT THAT TIME - as VET TEC can no longer be used if a student elects to repeat a module.**
- Under these circumstances, students must either (1) make full payment of the outstanding tuition balance (approximately $13,500) to retake the module and continue your enrollment, or (2) separate from the program.
  - If a module retake is necessary, you will know on Wednesday of the last week of the module and you will be required to complete your payment immediately to continue your enrollment and begin the module repeat the very next Monday.
  - Payment can be submitted using Credit Card, ACH, or Wire Transfer; third-party lenders or income-contingent financing options are **not available** after a student starts the program.
- Per VET TEC policy - students will be ineligible to use VET TEC funding at any institution for 18 months

Resources

- For more information specifically about VET TEC, visit https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/how-to-use-benefits/vettec-high-tech-program/
- VA Education Benefits homepage - https://www.va.gov/education/
- VA Education Call Center - 888-GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551)
- Galvanize Veterans Benefits - vabenefits@galvanize.com
- VET TEC Team - VETTEC.VBABUF@va.gov