

WISCONSIN G.I. BILL -
FEE REMISSION
FOR VETERANS, AND THE
SPOUSE, SURVIVING
SPOUSE, AND CHILDREN
OF CERTAIN VETERANS

Application Guide

The WI GI Bill is a state of Wisconsin veterans benefit program that provides tuition remission for qualifying Wisconsin veterans and certain children and spouses at Wisconsin public post-secondary educational institutions. The WI G.I. Bill provides tuition remission for 128 credits or 8 semesters, whichever is longer. The tuition remission is for the combined total credits and semesters attended at all University of Wisconsin (UW) institutions and Wisconsin Technical Colleges.

The eligibility determination for the Wisconsin G.I. Bill is a two-part process. The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs determines if the veteran meets the definition of an eligible veteran, and the school determines if the student meets the requirements of an eligible student.

Required Application Forms

1. **Application For Wisconsin G.I. Bill (WDVA 2029)** - This form must be completed and submitted **to the school**.
2. **Request For Certification For Wisconsin G.I. Bill (WDVA 2030)** - This form must be completed and submitted **to the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs** (**Note:** This form must be signed by the veteran if the veteran is alive and legally competent.)
3. Both forms can be found on the WDVA website at the following URL address:
<http://dva.state.wi.us/Pages/newsMedia/WDVAToolKit.aspx>

Veteran requirements - Veteran is the student:

1. Two-part Residency:

a. Current Resident status

The veteran must be a current Wisconsin resident, **and** the veteran must also be living in Wisconsin at the time of application unless they are currently serving on active duty.

b. Residency at the time of entry or since the time of entry

The veteran must have been a Wisconsin resident at the time of entry into active duty,

OR

The veteran must have been a Wisconsin resident for at least 5 consecutive years immediately preceding the semester or sessions for which they register.

Documents that can serve as proof that the veteran was a Wisconsin Resident at the time of entry:

- *A # 4 or # 6 copy of a DD-214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty) with a box titled **Home of Record** listing a Wisconsin Address, or a Wisconsin address listed in the Remarks section on late 1970's to late 1980's DD-214's.*

- *Copy of a DD-215 (Correction to DD Form 214) listing the veteran's home of record as Wisconsin.*
- *Copy of a DD Form 4 (Enlistment/Reenlistment Document) listing the veteran's Home of Record as Wisconsin.*
- *Copy of a filed state of Wisconsin income tax return for the year the veteran entered the service.*
- *DD Form 2058 (State of Legal Residence Certificate) completed prior to entry.*
- *LES (Leave and Earnings Statement) from the month of entry.*

Proof of an affirmative act to establish 5 consecutive years of Wisconsin residency:

- *Unexpired State of Wisconsin driver's license or photo I.D. issued on or after January 1, 2007 .*
- *Copy of filed state of Wisconsin income tax return.*
- *DD Form 2058 (State of Legal Residence Certificate).*
- *State of Wisconsin resident hunting or fishing license.*
- *State of Wisconsin voting record.*

2. Qualifying Term of Service (one of the following):

- Served on active duty for 90 days or more during a war period.
- Served in a crisis zone.
- Served on active duty for 2 consecutive years or more or the full period of his or her initial service obligation, whichever is less.
- Served for any period under section 1 of executive order 10957 dated August 10, 1961.
- Entitled to receive the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, established under executive order 10977 on December 4, 1961, the Vietnam Service Medal established by executive order 11231 on July 8, 1965, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or other Expeditionary Medal.
- Discharged due to a service connected disability, a disability subsequently adjudicated to have been a service connected disability, for reasons of hardship, or due to a reduction in forces.

Documents that can serve as proof of the veterans Term of Service:

- *A # 4 or # 6 copy of a DD-214*
- *DD-215*
- *Orders*
- DD-220 (Active Duty Report) for a reserve or national guard member's basic training if they did not complete their specialty training immediately after their basic training.

3. Qualifying Character of service:

Honorable

OR

General – Under Honorable Conditions

Documents that can serve as proof of the veterans Character of Service:

- *A # 4 or # 6 copy of a DD-214*
- *DD-215*

Veteran currently serving on active duty

In order for a service member who is currently serving on active duty to receive tuition remission, they must have completed their initial service obligation.

The active duty service member must submit:

A commander's letter signed by their commander that includes the following information:

- Service member's name
- Date of birth
- Social security number
- Date of entry into service
- Expected date of discharge
- Home of record at time of initial entry and re-entry into the military
- Character of service (in good standing/honorable)

(Note: We cannot accept letters signed “By direction of” unless they are accompanied by the written authorization giving the individual the authority to sign on the commander’s behalf.)

A copy of their DD Form 4 (Enlistment/Re-enlistment contract).

A current LES (Leave and Earnings Statement) to show from which State taxes are being withheld.

If serving in the National Guard or reserves they will need to provide a copy of their orders ordering them to active duty.

If the service member is an officer, they will need to provide a copy of their commission papers/appointment letter.

Power or Attorney (POA) documents if applicable.

Requirements for spouse or dependent

1. The veteran must have been a Wisconsin resident at the time of entry into active service.
2. The veteran must have served on active duty under honorable conditions (e.g. character of service is honorable or general under honorable conditions).
3. The veteran must have been awarded a service connected disability rating of **at least 30%** by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. (Submit a copy of the veteran’s service connected disability rating letter from the federal VA.)
4. If the veteran is deceased, a copy of veteran’s death certificate must be submitted with the application for a spouse or dependent.

(Note: A spouse or dependent of a veteran who meets the requirements above must be considered a resident of Wisconsin for tuition purposes by the school in order to receive tuition remission.)