

Department of Veterans Affairs

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enrollment agreement with the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist who wishes to receive educational assistance from VA while pursuing the program. The enrollment agreement shall disclose fully the obligations of the institution and the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist, and shall display in a prominent place on the agreement the conditions for affirmance, termination, refund, and payment of the educational assistance by VA.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(a)(1), 3686(b))

(2) A copy of the agreement shall be given to the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist when it is signed.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(b))

(3) The agreement shall not be effective unless the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist after the expiration of 10 days after the agreement is signed, shall have signed and submitted to VA a written statement, with a signed copy to the institution, specifically affirming the agreement.

(The information collection requirements in this section have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2900-0576)

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(b))

(c) *Mandatory refund policy.* (1) Upon notification of the educational institution by the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist of an intention not to affirm the enrollment agreement, any fees paid by the individual shall be returned promptly in full to him or her.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

(2) Upon termination of enrollment under an affirmed enrollment agreement for training in the accredited course by the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist, without having completed any lessons, a registration fee not in excess of 10 percent of the tuition for the course or \$50, whichever is less, may be charged him or her. When the individual terminates

the agreement after completion of less than 25 percent of the lessons of the course, the institution may retain the registration fee plus 25 percent of the tuition. When the individual terminates the agreement after completing 25 percent but less than 50 percent of the lessons, the institution may retain the registration fee plus 50 percent of the tuition for the course. If 50 percent or more of the lessons are completed, no refund of tuition is required.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

(3) Where the school either has or adopts an established policy for the refund of the unused portion of tuition, fees, and other charges subject to proration, which is more favorable to the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist than the pro rata basis as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, such established policy will be applicable.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

(4) Any institution that fails to forward any refund due to the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist within 40 days after receipt of a notice of termination or disaffirmance, shall be deemed, prima facie, to have failed to make a prompt refund as required by this section.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

[62 FR 63849, Dec. 3, 1997]

§ 21.4257 Cooperative courses.

A cooperative course may be approved when the course meets the requirement of § 21.4233(a).

§ 21.4258 Notice of approval.

(a) *General; letter of approval and other notice of approval requirements.* The State approving agency, upon determining that an educational institution, training establishment, or organization or entity offering a licensing or certification test has complied with all the requirements for approval will—

(1) Notify by letter, as described in paragraph (b) of this section, each such

educational institution, training establishment, or organization or entity offering a licensing or certification test; and

(2) Furnish VA an official copy of the letter, any attachments, and any subsequent amendments. In addition, the State approving agency will furnish VA a copy of each such—

- (i) Educational institution’s approved catalog or bulletin;
- (ii) Training establishment’s application requesting approval; or
- (iii) Organization’s or entity’s candidate handbook.

(b) *Contents of letter of approval.* The letter of approval will include the following:

(1) For an educational institution: (i) Date of the letter and effective date of approval of courses;

(ii) Proper address and name of the educational institution;

(iii) Authority for approval and conditions of approval, referring specifically to the approved catalog or bulletin;

(iv) Name of each course approved, except that a State approving agency, in lieu of listing the name of each course approved at an institution of higher learning, may identify approved courses by reference to page numbers in the school catalog or bulletin;

(v) Where applicable, enrollment limitations, such as maximum number of students authorized and student-teacher ratio;

(vi) Signature of responsible official of State approving agency; and

(vii) Such other fair and reasonable provisions as are considered necessary by the appropriate State approving agency.

(2) For a training establishment: (i) Date of the letter and effective date of approval of the apprentice or other on-the-job training;

(ii) Proper address and name of the training establishment;

(iii) Authority for approval and conditions of approval;

(iv) Name of the approved program of apprenticeship or other on-the-job training;

(v) Where applicable, enrollment limitations, such as maximum number of trainees authorized;

(vi) Such other fair and reasonable provisions as are considered necessary by the appropriate State approving agency; and

(vii) Signature of responsible official of State approving agency.

(3) For an organization or entity offering a licensing or certification test:

(i) Date of the letter and effective date of approval of test(s);

(ii) Proper name of the organization or entity offering the licensing or certification test(s);

(iii) Name of each test approved indicating whether it is a licensing test or certification test;

(iv) Where applicable, enrollment limitations such as maximum numbers authorized and test taker-test proctor ratio; and

(v) Signature of responsible official of State approving agency.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3672, 3678, 3689)

(c) *Compliance with equal opportunity laws.* (1) The State approving agency shall solicit assurance of compliance with:

(i) Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964,

(ii) Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972, as amended,

(iii) Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973,

(iv) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and

(v) All Department of Veterans Affairs regulations adopted to carry out these laws.

(2) The State approving agency shall solicit this assurance from:

(i) Proprietary vocational, trade, technical, or other institutions and such schools not a part of a public elementary or secondary school.

(ii) All other educational institutions which the Department of Education has not determined to be in compliance with the equal opportunity laws listed in paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(3) Whenever a State approving agency forwards to VA a Notice of Approval for a course offered by an institution described in paragraph (c)(2) of this

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section, it shall also forward the institution's signed statement of compliance with these equal opportunity laws.

(20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*; 29 U.S.C. 794; 38 U.S.C. 501, 3671; 42 U.S.C. 2000d, 6101 *et seq.*; 38 CFR parts 18, 18a, 18b)

(The Office of Management and Budget has approved the information collection provisions in this section under control number 2900-0051)

[31 FR 6774, May 6, 1966, as amended at 32 FR 3979, Mar. 11, 1967; 32 FR 13405, Sept. 23, 1967; 51 FR 26158, July 21, 1986; 72 FR 16974, Apr. 5, 2007]

§ 21.4259 Suspension or disapproval.

(a) The appropriate State approving agency, after approving any course or licensing or certification test:

(1) May suspend the approval of a course for new enrollments, or approval of a licensing or certification test, for a period not to exceed 60 days to allow the institution to correct any deficiencies, if the evidence of record establishes that the course or licensing or certification test fails to meet any of the requirements for approval.

(2) Will immediately disapprove the course or licensing or certification test, if any of the requirements for approval are not being met and the deficiency cannot be corrected within a period of 60 days.

(3) Upon suspension or disapproval, the State approving agency will notify the educational institution by certified or registered letter with a return receipt secured (38 U.S.C. 3679). It is incumbent upon the State approving agency to determine the conduct of courses and to take immediate appropriate action in each case in which it is found that the conduct of a course in any manner fails to comply with the requirements for approval.

(b) Each State approving agency will immediately notify VA of each course, or licensing or certification test, that it has suspended or disapproved.

(c) The Department of Veterans Affairs will suspend approval for or disapprove courses or licensing or certification tests under conditions specified in paragraph (a) of this section where it functions for the State approving agency. See § 21.4150(c).

(d) The Department of Veterans Affairs will immediately notify the State approving agency in each case of Department of Veterans Affairs suspension or disapproval of any school under 38 U.S.C. chapter 31.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3679, 3689)

(The Office of Management and Budget has approved the information collection provisions in this section under control number 2900-0051)

[41 FR 30640, July 26, 1976, as amended at 72 FR 16975, Apr. 5, 2007]

§ 21.4260 Courses in foreign countries.

(a) *Approval of postsecondary courses in foreign countries.* (1) In order to be approved a postsecondary course offered in a foreign country must meet all the provisions of this paragraph. A course offered by a foreign medical school (other than one located in Canada) must also meet all of the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section.

(i) The educational institution offering the course is an institution of higher learning, and

(ii) The course leads to a standard college degree or its equivalent.

(2) For the purpose of this paragraph, a degree is the equivalent of a standard college degree when the program leading to the degree has the same entrance requirements as one leading to a degree granted by a public degree-granting institution of higher learning in that country.

(b) *Approval of courses offered by a foreign medical school.* In addition to meeting all the criteria stated in paragraph (a) of this section, a course offered by a foreign medical school (other than one located in Canada) must also meet all of the following criteria:

(1) The school satisfies the criteria for listing as a medical school in the World Directory of Medical Schools published by the World Health Organization (WHO).

(2) The evaluating bodies (such as medical associations or educational agencies) whose views are considered relevant by the Director, Education Service, and which are located in the same country as the school—

(i) Recognize the school as a medical school, and

(ii) Approve the school.