

Steps to process VA educational benefits - Fall 2020

- Submit the following documents via email AFTER enrolling into classes.
 - Semester Worksheet: Must be completed and approved by the Counseling Office
 - After registering for classes, complete the Semester Worksheet and email the Counseling Office https://www.sdmiramar.edu/campus/counseling The Semester Worksheet will get routed to our VA Office from a counselor. Be sure your contact information is accurate and up to date.
 - CH35 (Dependents Educational Assistance) recipients MUST provide the sponsor's SSN or VA file number on the Semester Worksheet for processing.
 - Email all documents to <u>miramarveterans@sdccd.edu</u> to process VA certification. Please email all documents at once, in one email for ease of processing.
 - Statement of Understanding
 - Deferment Contract (CH33 and CH31 Only)
 - Certificate of Eligibility Letter
 - DD 214 Member 4 (CH33)
 - Continuing VA students who have been certified for Spring 2020 or Summer 2020 can simply email a
 Semester Worksheet to the <u>Counseling Office</u> and a Deferment Contract to the campus <u>VA Office</u>.
 - o Documents can be found on our Veterans and Military webpage under Important Documents.
 - https://www.sdmiramar.edu/campus/veterans

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- A Semester Worksheet is required <u>each</u> semester to utilize and continue VA educational benefits.
- CH35 (Dependents Educational Assistance) recipients MUST have tuition and fees paid prior to submission of Semester Worksheets and VA Certification.
- CH31 (Vocational Rehabilitation) recipients MUST have authorization on file from VR&E counselor prior to submitting documents for VA certification.

- Official transcripts from all previous institutions must be on file and evaluated by the end of the first semester of attendance at the primary college. Failure to submit official transcripts could delay future VA enrollment certifications.
 - Submitting transcripts from other institutions attended
 https://www.sdccd.edu/students/evaluations/transcripts-information.aspx
- VA does not pay for non-resident tuition. Contact a School Certifying Official with your student ID number for information on updating your residency status for tuition purposes. mirramarveterans@sdccd.edu
- If you used your VA benefits at another institution you must complete the **Change of Place of Training (Form 22-1995)** online
 - o https://www.va.gov/education/change-gi-bill-benefits/ School Name: San Diego Miramar College
- Apply for Financial Aid
 - o https://www.sdmiramar.edu/campus/financial-aid
 - o https://www.sdmiramar.edu/index.php/campus/financial-aid/apply

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- How many units are required to receive full VA benefits during the term?
 - Must be enrolled in the same start and end dates, otherwise benefits will be prorated by the VA.
 - Post 9/11 GI Bill© To be eligible for the housing allowance rates, the student's rate of pursuit must be greater than 50% (greater than and not equal to ½ time status).

Length of course	Number of units for full-time	Number of units for ½ time
16-week session	12 units	7 units
12-week session	8 units	5 units
8-week session	6 units	4 units
6-week session	5 units	3 units
4-week session	3 units	N/A

- My school changed my program from in-residence classes to online classes. Can I still get GI Bill benefits for this?
 - Based on the recently passed legislation, if your school converts from an approved residence training course to online training for that course (distance learning) due to COVID-19, your benefits will not change. However, the law only authorizes this special authority from March 1, 2020, to December 21, 2020.

The new law applies to both current and new students enrolled in courses affected by COVID-19.

Note: Other types of changes to your enrollment status (for example, dropping a class results in a reduced rate of pursuit) may affect payments.

https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/covid19educationbenefits.asp

- If all my classes are online, how can I receive my full VA educational benefits?
 - Post 9/11 GI Bill© It is recommended that students are enrolled full-time during the same start and end dates AND at least <u>one</u> class LOCATION needs to state "<u>on-campus</u>" or "Online (Set Meeting Times). The on-campus course will be defined as the following:
 - Location On Campus + Room Number + set days and times **Days & Times** Room Instructor **Meeting Dates Status** Campus Location MoWe 6:00PM -08/17/2020 -Miramar Miramar S-401 Staff On Campus 10:20PM 12/14/2020 College
 - ✓ Location Online (Set Meeting Times) + Room "Miramar Remote" + set days and times



Students who are enrolled exclusively online may receive ½ the national average for housing allowance. If <u>all</u> your courses have a location of "Online (No Set Meeting Times)" then you are **NOT** meeting your on-campus requirement.



- Where can I find the Class Schedule?
 - http://classschedule.sdccd.edu Select Term: Fall 2020
- Which campus will certify my Semester Worksheet if I take classes at City, Mesa and Miramar?
 - The primary certifying campus is determined by your education plan. You can confirm your campus and education plan with the Counseling Office. https://www.sdmiramar.edu/campus/counseling
- What do I need to do if I add, drop, or withdraw from a summer course?
 - It is the student's responsibility to report any changes (Adds/Drops/Withdrawals) to the college
 Veterans Affairs Office immediately using the <u>Class Adjustment Form</u>. Submit the Class Adjustment to the Miramar Veterans email: miramarveterans@sdccd.edu
 - A counselor approval is required for added courses. A counselor approval is <u>not</u> required for drops/withdrawals.
- When will I receive my payments?
 - It takes about 4-8 weeks for the VA Regional Office to process educational benefits. VA Regional Office can be contacted at 888-442-4551

Resources

Veterans Handbook 2019-2020 https://www.sdccd.edu/docs/SSDept/SSDocs/Veterans Handbook.pdf

San Diego Miramar College COVID-19 Updates https://www.sdmiramar.edu/covid-info

San Diego Community College COVID-19 Updates https://www.sdccd.edu/coronavirus/

US Department of Veterans Affairs COVID-19 Student FAQs https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/covid19educationbenefits.asp

GI Bill® Comparison Tool https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool/

BAH Calculator https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/bahCalc.cfm

mySDCCD Support https://www.sdccd.edu/mysdccd/help/index.aspx

mySDCCD Help Videos https://mysdccd.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/MYS/pages/362577921/mySDCCD+Help+Videos

mySDCCD Student Guides https://mysdccd.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/MYS/pages/231571461/College+Student+Guides

Faculty Directory https://www.sdccd.edu/mysdccd/faculty-directory.aspx

Academic Success Center/Tutoring Services https://www.sdmiramar.edu/campus/asc

Health Center https://www.sdmiramar.edu/campus/healthcenter

San Diego Miramar College - Bookstore https://www.bookstore.sdccd.edu/miramar/

San Diego Miramar College - Student Veterans Organization https://www.facebook.com/MiramarCollegeSVA/