If you have questions concerning employment opportunities, contact the Veterans’ Representative at Missouri Job Service.

OJT and Apprenticeship benefits cease if the eligible trainee reaches the completion wage prior to the end of the training program.

Training programs in private sector must have a progressive wage schedule with at least one raise during training and another raise at the end of training. Public sector programs are exempt.

Eligible trainees must provide a copy of their DD-214 or Notice of Basic Entitlement (NOBE) for Guard and Reservists when applying for GI Bill the first time.

Eligible trainees will not qualify for benefits if they were previously trained for the job objective.

If you have questions regarding your eligibility for benefits, contact:

Veterans Affairs Regional Office
400 S. 18th St.
St. Louis, MO 63103
Toll-free: 888-442-4551

Veterans and/or employers with questions regarding the eligibility or approval of a training program should contact their nearest State Approving Agency office (Veterans’ Education & Training Section).

The Missouri locations are:

Veterans Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: 573-751-3487
Toll-free: 877-530-2765

Veterans Education
12225 Eddie and Park Road
Room 22
St. Louis, MO 63127
Phone: 314-729-2444

Veterans Education
2700 E. 18th Room 256
Kansas City, MO 64127
Phone: 816-241-1705

Department of Veterans Affairs GI Bill website: gibill.va.gov
State Approving Agency website: dese.mo.gov/veterans-ed

Have you considered using your GI Bill Benefits for On-the-Job Training or Apprenticeship Training?

To determine your entitlement for VA benefits, call toll-free 888-442-4551
To Seek Approval of a Training Program, call Veterans’ Education & Training Section
Missouri Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education
1-877-530-2765 or 573-751-3487
You may be eligible to receive a monthly educational benefit check from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**What Is On-the-Job Training?**

OJT is training you receive while actually performing a job and earning wages. Approvable OJT programs must be at least six months and up to two years in length. Some examples of OJT programs are Welder, Painter, Cook, Production Equipment Mechanic, Auto Mechanic, Corrections Officer, Police Officer and Parts Buyer.

**What Is Apprenticeship Training?**

Apprenticeship training is on-the-job training coupled with 144 hours (minimum) per year of related technical instruction. You receive your GI Bill benefit while working full time and earning wages. Apprenticeships are normally from two to five years in length. Registration with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training is not mandatory for veteran benefits; however, it is recommended in order for the veteran to receive journeyman’s papers upon successful completion. Some examples of apprenticeship training programs are Electrician, Ironworker, Roofer, Plumber and Sheet Metal Worker. These are not inclusive listings.

**Time Limits**

Approval of a program may be backdated up to one year. As a general rule, veterans have 10 years after their separation from service to use the Montgomery GI Bill; 15 years for Ch. 33; 14 years for Ch. 1606 after completing MOS training.

**How to Begin**

1. If you do not have a job or you want a different occupation, contact your local Missouri State Job Service’s Veteran Representative, who should be able to find an employer who may offer the kind of training you desire. For apprenticeships, contact the local training coordinator. Go to [helmetstohardhats.org](http://helmetstohardhats.org) for a nationwide search for openings.

2. Next, have your employer contact the State Approving Agency to begin the approval process. Keep in mind that not all occupations can be approved. Contact the State Approving Agency for more information.

3. Contact the Veterans Affairs office at 1-888-442-4551 to determine your eligibility and to obtain the necessary application forms. On-line application is recommended at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).

---

**How Much Is the Monthly Benefit Check?**

**CHAPTER 33 POST-9/11**: Active Duty after September 11, 2001:

*100% of your applicable MHA during the first 6 months of training
80% of your applicable MHA during the second 6 months of training
60% of your applicable MHA during the third 6 months of training
40% of your applicable MHA during the fourth 6 months of training
20% of your applicable MHA during the remainder of training
* Rate is E-5 w/dependents. Go to [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for amounts.

If less than 36 mo. Service, amounts are reduced per your award letter. You can also receive up to $83 per month for books and supplies, regardless of award percentage.

**CHAPTER 30**: Initial active duty after July 1, 1985; and contributed to the Montgomery GI Bill; and active duty was three years or more:

First 6 months $1,392  Second 6 months $1,021  Remainder $649

(If active duty was less than three years; see [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for amounts.)

**NOTE**: “Kickers” program applies to OJT.

**CHAPTER 32**: Initial active duty between January 1, 1977 and June 30, 1985 and contributed toward the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP). Contact the VA at 1-888-442-4551 for your specific allowance.

**CHAPTER 1606**: Members of the National Guard or Reserve with a six year period of obligation after October 1, 1990 and still attending drill:

First 6 months $276  Second 6 months $202  Remainder $129

**CHAPTER 1607**: Members of the National Guard or Reserve who were deployed for 90 days or more. Amounts vary by length of deployment. Go to [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for amounts.


You may be eligible to receive benefits under Chapter 30. Contact the DVA at 1-888-442-4551 for benefit amounts.

**CHAPTER 35**: Applies to a child or spouse of a service-connected deceased or 100 percent permanently disabled veteran.

First 6 months: $747  Second 6 months: $561

Third 6 months: $369  Remainder of Training: $188

**NOTE**: You may use your GI Bill OJT benefit during your first two years of teaching in Missouri.