



G.I. Bill Information

Funds from the GI Bill:

- May be used toward tuition and academic fees
- May not be used toward travel costs and insurance (*non-academic fees*)
- May not be used to pay for third party providers or their costs, regardless of how these funds are routed
- May be used toward other costs as determined by the VA
- Are calculated based on a student's individual scenario and educational benefits

Important Considerations

- Whether or not G.I. Bill funds may be used toward other costs are determined by the VA directly
- The VA always considers who is administering the teaching/training (and not just who is awarded credit) when determining if funds from G.I. Bill may be used
- Courses taken at a foreign institution must be applicable to the home institution's degree program

How can I use the GI Bill to fund study abroad?

Faculty Led Programs

Def. A program taught by a faculty member of a student's home institution and training or teaching occurs abroad

Home Institution:

- VA money must be used toward the home institution's tuition and academic fees
- The SCO at the home institution certifies the student for his/her VA benefits
- The SCO must use the home institution's zip code when certifying for the monthly stipend
- An eligible student may be certified as a "*transient*" student at the institution running the faculty-led program if their degree is housed at another institution

Contact Information

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Denver Campus Office

1380 Lawrence St #932



University of Colorado
Denver



How can I use the GI Bill to fund study abroad?

Exchange

Direct Enroll

Def. A program where universities have exchange agreements with each other and exchange students directly from each university

Home Institution:

- The School Certifying Official (SCO) at the home institution certifies the student for his/her VA benefits
- VA money must be used toward the home institution's tuition and academic fees
- The VA considers home institution's zip code when certifying for the monthly stipend

Foreign Institution:

- Must be a VA approved program (otherwise, VA funds cannot be used)

Def. A program where a full degree-seeking student from one university applies directly to a university abroad but is non-degree seeking student at foreign institution

Home Institution:

- Not a part of the certification process

Foreign Institution:

- Must be a VA approved program (otherwise, VA funds cannot be used)
- VA money must go toward the foreign institution's tuition and academic fees
- The SCO at the foreign institution certifies the student for his/her VA benefits
- The SCO must submit as a "guest student" with the course applied to the home institution
- The VA will use the foreign institution's location when certifying for the monthly stipend

To find VA approved programs at foreign institutions, visit the following WEAMS link:
<https://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchCountryCriteria.do>

Third Party Provider

Funds from the G.I. Bill **may not** be used to pay third party providers or their costs, regardless of how these funds are routed

Why?

- VA approved programs have to be degree granting institutions (IHL) or Non College Degree (NCD) schools (HVAC, truck driving, etc.)
- Third party entities are not degree granting institutions or possess NCD status, therefore cannot be approved by the VA
- VA benefits can only be used on VA approved institutions

Third Party Provider: Compliance (*as long as the program at the foreign institution is approved*)

The foreign institution certifies and bills the student directly for its institution and academic fees

The third party provider bills the student directly for any non-academic fees

The student uses VA money to pay for the foreign institution

The student used **non-VA** money to pay the third party provider

Why it works: No funds from the G.I. Bill go toward costs either directly or indirectly for third party providers

Third party provider: Non-compliant Model #1

- The third party provider must bill student all program costs
- The home institution certifies student
- VA money goes into the third party provider to pay all program costs (student or home program may receive those funds)

Why it doesn't work: Funds from the G.I. Bill may not be used to pay third party providers or their costs

Third party provider: Non-compliant Model #2

- The home institution bills the student for all third party provider program costs
- The student used VA money to pay the home institution
- VA money goes into the third party provider to pay all program costs (student or home program may receive those funds)

Why it doesn't work: Funds from the G.I. Bill may not be used to pay third party providers or their costs, regardless of how these funds are routed

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