

Certifications from the Global Foodservice Institute (GFI) Paid by the VA

USE IT OR LOSE IT

- * Only 1 in 4 people **ever use their VA education benefits**
- * Only 1 in 16 people **ever use ALL** of their VA education benefits
- * Thus we are urging you to take advantage of the benefit, enroll now, and boost your career opportunities. We have lots of examples where **it DID make the difference.**

ALL GFI CERTIFICATIONS ARE APPROVED BY THE VA

- * **The VA has approved ALL of the certifications** offered by the Global Foodservice Institute.
- * Currently the **Montgomery GI Bill allows for payment for multiple certifications**, so you could take all 10 and be reimbursed by the VA.
- * After August 1, the **Post 9/11 GI Bill** pays for multiple, until then you can do one. So do one now and the rest after August 1. We're working on an immediate fix for that.

*** Here is how you access your VA benefits (call 888-442-4551 with VA questions)**

- * Step 1 - If you've never signed up for VA go to www.gibill.va.gov and click on Electronic Application Form.
- * Step 2 – Once approved for VA benefits, sign up for the certification at www.ehmanley.com, pay for the certification, get the book and study or attend a class, take the test. Call Ed Manley at 702-292-7988 to set up a class. On line training is in the works. If you need to make monthly payments we'll try to help you.
- * Step 3 – Submit a signed and dated letter requesting approval including
 - * Your name, address, home phone number and Social Security Number.
 - * A statement that, "I authorize release of my test information to the VA."
 - * Sign and date it
 - * EHMA will provide you with a receipt for your payment, which will include the rest of the required information, which is the name of the test you took and the date you took it, your test score and whether or not you passed (they pay either way, and will pay for a re-test if you failed), the name and address of GFI, and how much you paid for the certification.
 - * VA sends you the money, you already paid us. Again, if you need payment terms we'll try to help you.

YOU WILL USE JUST 3% (equal to 4 college courses) OF YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO DO ALL 10 CERTIFICATIONS

- * We've put a package price on the entire series of our certifications at \$1,999, a \$216 savings. You can spend \$2,000 on certifications through the VA, so we've got you covered nicely.
- * To complete all 10 of our certifications, you will use up just 42 days of your 36 months eligibility. And at the end you will be certified in food safety, HACCP, management, beverage, culinary nutrition, customer service, serving alcohol responsibly and culinary AND hold the title of Master Certified Food and Beverage Director (MCFBD) from the Global Foodservice Institute.
- * To do, for example, the HACCP certification only, you would use up 7 days of eligibility
- * There is a \$1000 per year stipend from the VA to pay for the books, ours will cost you about \$80 total.
- * **The worst that will happen** is you will be that 1 in 16 who uses all their entitlement and you will have to pay for the last 4 college courses down the road (about \$1000 at state schools).
- * **The best that will happen** is that the certifications helped you get a promotion in the military, or a job or promotion after the military.

- * For those who left the service within the last 15 years, you can still access your benefits.

FROM THE VA WEB SITE

We can send you a Word document with **clickable links** if you wish, they won't work from this document.

You can receive reimbursement for licensing and certification tests you take on or after March 1, 2001. (MGIB-AD, VEAP & DEA beneficiaries only.) Effective January 6, 2006 MGIB-SR & REAP participants became eligible for this program. These tests must be specifically approved for the G.I. Bill. There is no limit to the number of test you may take, or number of times you may take the same test. However, your entitlement is charged proportionate to the cost of the test compared to your full-time monthly payment rate.

For recipients of the Post-9/11 GI Bill you are limited to reimbursement for only 1 test, but your GI Bill entitlement is not charged. (As of 8/1/2011 there is again no limit to the number of tests you can take, GI Bill 2.0 fixed that).

VA can pay only for the cost of the tests, up to \$2,000.00, and not other fees connected with obtaining a license or certification. VA will pay for tests even if failed. Organizations providing tests can obtain a supply of a **VA Licensing and Certification Pamphlet** (http://www.gibill.va.gov/documents/LC_brochure.pdf) explaining this benefit.

Payment is issued after you submit proof of payment, etc. to the VA.

If you have never filed an application for education benefits, you need to submit an application for benefits along with your request for payment for a test or tests. If you are a veteran or are on active duty, download **VA Form 22-1990**. If you are an eligible child or spouse, download **VA Form 22-5490**.

Mail your application form together with your test information shown below to the VA office listed for your state. Go to <http://www.nasaa-vetseducation.com/contacts/default.aspx> to get that address. Include the test information in the Remarks section of the form.

Send us a copy of your test results with a note requesting reimbursement. Please include:

- Your name and social security number
- The name of the test or certification you took and the date you took it
- Name and address of the organization issuing the license or certificate (not necessarily the organization that administered the test)
- Cost of the test NOTE: Registration fees, preparation guides, processing fees, etc. will not be reimbursed.
- The following statement: "I authorize release of my test information to VA."

The source of this information is:

<http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/education-resources/programs/licensing-and-certification.html>

OF COURSE – Your command or company can also use their education funds to pay for a class at your location. That is done quite often, and many decide to just pay for the classes themselves.