



VETERAN EDUCATION BENEFITS

Labette Community College (LCC) is proud to assist our veterans in their educational goals as degree-seeking students. LCC has been approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to certify veterans' benefits for programs for military servicemen, active duty members, reservists and National Guard members in addition to dependents of military personnel who qualify for assistance per the Department.

The office of the LCC Veterans' Certifying Official (VCO) is located on the second floor of the Student Union Building. The representative is available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday on the main campus 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Monday and Tuesday at the Cherokee Center facility 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is 620-820-1226 for the Parsons office and 620-232-5820 for the Cherokee Center. The VCO at LCC is not affiliated with the Veterans Administration. The VCO does not make determination of the student's veterans' benefits, as eligibility can only be determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Processing of the enrollment certifications submitted by the school can take several weeks to process. It can take from 6-10 weeks for the first payment to reach the veteran. The benefits will be calculated from the start of the semester so the likelihood of the initial check covering more than one month's payment is not uncommon.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

If this is the first time to use your Veterans' educational benefits, the first step is to apply online at www.gibill.va.gov. The Department will notify you of your eligibility by sending you a Certificate of Eligibility. This step can take up to 6 weeks for review and acknowledgment of eligibility. A copy of the Certificate of Eligibility must be presented to the school for the purpose of notification that you are eligible to use your benefits. Along with the approval letter, you must submit a copy of your LCC class schedule for the respective semester of enrollment. These two documents will allow a certification of enrollment to be processed by the LCC VCO through the online software VA-ONCE.

If this is the first time attending LCC, but you've used your benefits previously, then you must complete a Change of Location/Training form online at www.gibill.va.gov. You must print a copy of this document and submit it to the LCC VCO along with a copy of your LCC class schedule for certification of your

enrollment. You must also provide official academic transcripts from all previous colleges attended for review of hours taken. Please have these transcripts mailed directly to the LCC VCO.

Veterans' benefits are to be certified every semester. Every time you enroll at LCC, you will need to provide a copy of your class schedule to the VCO for processing. Enrollment certifications will not be processed without the student submitting class schedules every semester. If you make any change to your schedule, whether it is adding a class or withdrawing, you need to contact the VCO. Paperwork has to be supplied to the DVA for such updates/deletion of class enrollments. If you change your major, there's additional paperwork required before the school can certify your hours.

Your veteran's benefits are being paid to you based on your approved program of study. Only classes for your stated major can be certified to the VA. A minimum gradepoint average (GPA) of 2.00 must be maintained in order to receive benefits. Should grades become an issue, further certifications cannot be processed until the student follows an appeal process (as other federal aid recipients) and is approved by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will determine your rate of payment based on the number of credit hours you're enrolled in and your benefit eligibility. You may look at the basic rates on the website shown above to determine your qualifications for assistance.

POST 911/GI BILL

If you are eligible for the Post 911/GI Bill, the school will be paid directly by the DVA. Generally tuition and fees are electronically submitted to the college with the student receiving a monthly housing allowance and a book stipend. Due to the book stipend being paid directly to the student, book charges toward VA payments are not allowed in the LCC Bookstore. Students eligible for Post 911/GI Bill are not required to verify their attendance.

VETERANS RETRAINING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Department of Veterans Affairs has created a new program which offers up to 12 months of training to assist VA eligible students who are unemployed. The training must be for high demand occupations and a list of those occupations can be found on the GI Bill website. To see if you qualify for this program, you need to apply for the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program or VRAP, also found on the GI Bill website.

RESERVES OR NATIONAL GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE

If you are an active member of the Reserves or National Guard, you need to apply for Tuition Assistance as well as submit your class schedule for certification. You can apply online at www.goarmyed.com. This is not a program administered by the VA so if you have questions, you'll need to contact your

Commanding Officer or your Unit's Educational Officer. This particular form is submitted to LCC's Business Office for processing, not the VCO.

Veteran's Chapters

Certain veteran chapters require the student to confirm their enrollment through the VA website every month. If you qualify for Chapters 30, 1606 and 1607 this step is a requirement. Chapter 35 eligible students are not required to verify their attendance.

QUESTIONS?

For additional questions you might have, you can call these numbers for assistance: Toll free number for the Department of Veterans' Affairs 1-888-422-4551, Monthly Certification 1-877-823-2378 and goarmy.ed 1-800-817-9990.

We are pleased you have chosen to attend Labette Community College. The information provided above contains general information in receiving veteran's benefits. Our goal is to assist you in obtaining the benefits you have earned or are entitled to for your dedicated service to this country. Thank you for your service and your interest in Labette Community College.