

What your benefits could add up to

HOW THEY ADD UP

One benefit

ANY ONE

up to 36 months

Chapter 33, 35, 30 or 1606, or the Fry Scholarship: up to 36 months each.^{1,3,4,5} Chapter 35 can reach 45 if school started before August 1, 2018,⁴ and Chapter 31 can run to 48.⁵

36
MONTHS MAX

Two benefits

FAMILY

Chapter 33, up to 36 months

Chapter 35, up to 36 months

Only when both halves of the box below are true, one at a time.⁸ For transferred months the 48-month cap you may see elsewhere does not apply: Chapter 35 with Chapters 33, 30 or 1606 may not exceed 81 months,^{6,7} and 36 with Chapter 35's older 45 can reach 81.⁴ Fry with DEA is different; see below.

72
MONTHS MAX

For example

36 SHARED BY TWO

18 months

Chapter 35, up to 36 months

A parent's 36 months split between two children, 18 each: 18 and 36 make 54.²

54
MONTHS

Two or more

SERVING
OR SERVED

Chapters 33, 30, 1606: up to 48 months together

Two or more of these together may not exceed 48 months.^{5,6} Chapter 31 with them: 48, unless VA finds more are needed for rehabilitation.⁶

48
MONTHS MAX

With Chapter 35

AS A SPOUSE
OR CHILD

Chapter 35, up to 36 months

Others, up to 48 months together

Chapter 35 with two or more of Chapters 33, 30 and 1606: no more than 81 months in all. Those together still stop at 48.^{6,7}

81
THE
CEILING

HOW A FAMILY QUALIFIES FOR BOTH

Chapter 33 months, one of these

- A parent transferred months to you while still on active duty: 6 years served, 4 more agreed, approved by DoD.²
- The Fry Scholarship: a parent who died on or after September 11, 2001, in the circumstances VA lists.³

Chapter 35 months, one of these

- A parent VA has found **permanently and totally** disabled by a service-connected disability. The finding decides it, not the rating alone.⁴
- A parent who died of a service-connected disability or in the line of duty.⁴
- Other, less common ways are on VA's DEA page.⁴

Fry and DEA after a death on or after August 1, 2011: a survivor chooses one, or uses both only if DEA comes from a different event, one at a time, and VA caps that pair at 48 months.^{3,4} This sheet shows the main ways to qualify and the usual month limits, not all of them. VA has other, less common ones. **Not sure?** Ask the parent, or call VA at 888-GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551).⁹ A School Certifying Official certifies your enrollment and can talk through your plan; VA decides your eligibility and months.



Check it yourself

va.gov/education



The Order Matters

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College Tool

App Store and Google
Play

OFFICIAL SOURCES, CHECKED 29 SEPTEMBER 2026

1. VA, Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33).
va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11
2. VA, Transfer your Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.
va.gov/education/transfer-post-9-11-gi-bill-benefits
3. VA, Fry Scholarship. va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/fry-scholarship
4. VA, Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance. va.gov/family-and-caregiver-benefits/education-and-careers/dependents-education-assistance
5. VA, Compare VA education benefits.
va.gov/resources/compare-va-education-benefits
6. 38 CFR § 21.4020, Two or more programs, as amended July 31, 2025, 90 FR 35965. ecfv.gov
7. 38 U.S.C. § 3695, limitation on assistance under two or more programs. uscode.house.gov
8. 38 U.S.C. § 3322, bar to duplication of educational assistance benefits. uscode.house.gov
9. VA, education and training benefits, call center 888-GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551). va.gov/education

An independent, third-party reference, not an official source. It summarizes the official sources listed and cannot cover every case, so use it as a starting point for your plan. VA decides eligibility and benefits: confirm your plan with VA and your School Certifying Official, and read the sources that apply to you. Checked 29 September 2026. Rules and rates change. This sheet is from We Got You 1776, LLC. Not affiliated with or endorsed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the U.S. Department of Defense. Not financial, legal, tax, or benefits advice. GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at benefits.va.gov/gibill. © 2026 We Got You 1776, LLC. Free to print and share unchanged, not for resale or changes, under CC BY-NC-ND 4.0. Print the current version free at wegotyou1776.com/posters.