

**Proposals Affecting the Post-9/11 GI Bill—
CBO’s Estimate of the President’s Fiscal Year 2021 Budget**

Under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, the Department of Veterans Affairs pays certain expenses of eligible veterans and service members, or their designated dependents, enrolled at educational institutions or training establishments. Educational institutions include public, nonprofit, and for-profit colleges and universities, as well as other entities offering approved programs of education. The benefit paid for tuition and fees is equal to the actual amount charged to in-state residents for students attending public institutions or up to a maximum amount, adjusted annually for inflation, for students at private or foreign institutions. The program also provides a monthly housing allowance to beneficiaries who pursue education or training at a rate greater than half-time. Generally, people who served on active duty after September 11, 2001, for at least 36 months are eligible for the full benefit, and those who served for shorter periods receive a reduced benefit. Service members with at least six years on active duty who agree to serve four more years can transfer benefits to their dependents.

These estimates are based on CBO’s baseline budget projections as of March 6, 2020, which do not incorporate changes to the nation’s economic outlook and fiscal situation arising from the recent and rapidly evolving public health emergency related to the novel coronavirus.

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By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars

March 25, 2020

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2021-2025	2021-2030
Require Opt-In for MGIB-AD Service Member Contribution ^a	0	0	0	0	3	18	33	30	31	32	3	147
Cap Tuition for Flight Training Programs at Public Schools	0	-1	-2	-4	-4	-4	-4	-5	-5	-5	-11	-34
Approve Preparatory Courses for Licensing and Certification Exams ^b	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	10	20

These estimates are based on CBO’s baseline budget projections as of March 6, 2020, which do not incorporate changes to the nation’s economic outlook and fiscal situation arising from the recent and rapidly evolving public health emergency related to the novel coronavirus.

MGIB-AD = Montgomery GI Bill for Active Duty.

a. This proposal would require service members to opt into rather than opt out of (as under current law) making monthly payments to be eligible for benefits under the MGIB-AD. The amounts in this table reflect only the proposal’s effects on Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits—not the effects on MGIB-AD benefits or contributions. CBO estimates that the proposal would reduce the number of people using MGIB-AD benefits and increase the number using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, which are more costly to the government. CBO also estimates that the proposal would reduce certain benefits paid to some Post-9/11 GI Bill users because they would no longer be eligible for the MGIB-AD.

b. The proposal would affect other education assistance programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. However, the amounts in this table reflect only the proposal’s effects on Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.