

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING VA BENEFITS AT HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

First Time Recipient:

To Apply For Your VA Benefits, Go to <https://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/>, Click on *Apply for education benefits*, answer the corresponding question(s) then click *Apply now*

If you do not have an account, click on *Create an account with login.gov* **OR** *Create a n account with ID.me*

If you have set up your account already, sign in with the account you have.

You may need your military records (i.e. DD214) with you to assist you in entering the data requested. You may also want your bank account information to set up direct deposit. After you have completed the application, the VA will review your application and, if approved, the VA will mail a Certificate of Eligibility to the mailing address you provided.

In order to certify your VA benefits at Holmes, we must have:

1. A copy of your Certificate of Eligibility (COE), and
2. The Verification of Enrollment for VA Educational Benefits Request Form from the Veterans Education Benefits page on our website (<https://holmescc.edu/financial-aid/veterans-educational-benefits/>), and
3. Military Transcripts (soldier only), and
4. ALL College Transcripts.

The Certificate of Eligibility only has to be submitted during your initial certification (unless your Chapter changes).

The VA Education Benefits Request Form must be submitted each semester that you attend and plan to receive VA benefits.

If you change your major after your initial certification, you must provide a copy of a submitted, completed, and signed VA Form 1995 to the VA certifying official. If you are a Dependent of a Veteran and change your major after your initial certification, you must provide a

copy of a submitted, completed and signed VA Form 5495 to the VA certifying official. These forms can be found on our website at <https://holmescc.edu/financial-aid/veterans-educational-benefits/>

Returning Student

If you have used your VA Education Benefits at Holmes previously, we will need to submit a Verification of Enrollment for VA Educational Benefits Request Form.

If you changed your major this semester and are not a Dependent of a Veteran, you must also provide a copy of a submitted, completed and signed VA Form 1995 to the VA certifying official.

If you are a Dependent of a Veteran and changed your major this semester, you must provide a copy of a submitted, completed and signed VA Form 5495 to the VA certifying official.

These forms can be found on our website at

<https://holmescc.edu/financial-aid/veterans-educational-benefits/>