

Forever GI Bill® -- Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act

The President signed into law the *Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act* also known as the “Forever GI Bill®,” which has brought significant changes to Veterans education benefits. The law is named after the American Legion national commander who wrote the original GI Bill® language in 1944, and will allow more Veterans to use the GI Bill® and more time to use it. Some of the changes will go into effect immediately, most will not. The majority of the changes enhance or expand education benefits for Veterans, Servicemembers, Families and Survivors. Some new provisions include:

Refer to VA’s website at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill for more detailed information.

- The 15-year time limitation to use Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits is eliminated for Veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013, children who became eligible for the Fry Scholarship on or after January 1, 2013, and all Fry scholarship eligible spouses.
- We are now authorized to restore benefits and provide relief to Veterans affected by school closures or disapprovals. Learn more and apply here.
- Reservists who had eligibility under the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) and lost it due to the program sunset provision will have that service credited toward the Post-9/11 GI Bill® program. We are in the process of identifying the approximately 2,800 Reservists affected by this and will send them letters with instructions.
- Certain work-study is permanently authorized; previously it had to be re-approved by Congress every few years.
- Anyone eligible for GI Bill® can use their benefits at an accredited independent study program at an area career and technical school, or a postsecondary vocational school providing postsecondary level education. There is no action for you to take here, as these programs will go through the normal course of approval by the appropriate State Approving Agency. Any new programs will be added to our GI Bill® Comparison Tool.
- The VetSuccess on Campus program will be available to students across the country
- VA will help Veterans to more clearly identify schools that offer them priority enrollment

For detailed eligibility and application information, visit the Veterans Affairs Web site at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill, or call toll free at 1-888-442-4551 (1-888-GIBILL1).

A Covered Individual is any individual who is entitled to educational assistance under chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation, or chapter 33, Post 9/11 GI Bill® benefits.

Lakewood University permits any covered individual to attend or participate in the course of education during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides to the educational institution a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 31 or 33 and ending on the earlier of the following dates:

1. The date on payment from the VA is made to the institution.
2. 90 days after the date the institution certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the COE

Lakewood University ensures that it will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds, on any covered individual because of the individual’s inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from the Department of Veterans Affairs under chapter 31 or 33.

Educational Programs Offered at Lakewood University

Degree

- Associate of Applied Business in Business Management

- Associate of Applied Business in Paralegal Studies
- Associate of Science in Healthcare Administration
- Associate of Science in Information Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Business Management
- Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies
- Master of Business Administration

Diplomas and Certificates

- Mediation Certificate
- Paralegal Diploma
- Pharmacy Technician Certificate
- Administrative Medical Assistant Program
- Criminal Justice Certificate
- Medical Billing Certificate
- Medical Coding Certificate
- Minster Certificate
- Entrepreneurship Certificate
- Motivational Speaker Certificate
- Real Estate Management Certificate
- Medical Billing & Administrative Medical Assistant Combination Program
- Medical Billing & Medical Coding Combination Program
- Medical Coding & Administrative Medical Assistant Combination Program
- Mediation & Paralegal Diploma Combination Program
- Criminal Justice & Mediation Certificate Combination Program
- Paralegal & Criminal Justice Certificate Combination Program
- Pharmacy Technician & Administrative Medical Assistant Combination Program
- Pharmacy Technician & Medical Coding Combination Program
- Pharmacy Technician & Medical Billing Combination Program

Undergraduate Certificates

- Restaurant Business Management Undergraduate Certificate
- Office Manager Undergraduate Certificate
- Legal Secretary Undergraduate Certificate
- Legal Document Preparer Undergraduate Certificate
- Legal Assistant Undergraduate Certificate
- Law Office Management Undergraduate Certificate
- Entrepreneur Undergraduate Certificate
- Project Management Undergraduate Certificate

Graduate Certificates

- Project Management Graduate Certificate

High School

- GED (Prep)

Please refer to the course catalog section at the end of this catalog for details. Please note that programs and courses are subject to change at the discretion of the University.