



October 6, 2025



VFW Challenges VA Over Education Benefits

Restrictions: The VFW is opposing VA directives that contradict last year's Supreme Court decision in *Rudisill v. McDonough* that ruled veterans eligible for both the Montgomery and Post-9/11 GI Bills are entitled to full benefits under both programs up to the 48-month cap. VA's current guidance continues to deny access by imposing unlawful restrictions. "These new rules directly contradict the Supreme Court's decision on what veterans have earned through honorable service," said VFW National Commander Carol Whitmore. Consequently, the VFW is leading the charge to ensure all veterans receive the full benefits they deserve by joining a new lawsuit before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and is asking affected members to submit their stories to legal@vfw.org. "If you or your family were counting on these education benefits this fall and suddenly found yourself left out, we want to hear from you," said Whitmore. [Read more.](#)



Services Still Available During Government Shutdown:

The federal government is currently shut down until Congress passes a budget, leaving many services unavailable. While some VFW service offices located in government buildings may be affected, VFW Accredited Service Officers and Pre-Discharge Representatives can still access VA systems remotely and remain available to assist veterans and families. [Learn more.](#)

Separating service members needing assistance with VA claims, no matter their duty station, can also email bdd@vfw.org. Contact your representative before canceling or postponing a scheduled appointment.

During the shutdown, some VA services may be disrupted, but VA health care will not be impacted. VA medical centers, outpatient clinics and Vet Centers remain open. VA benefits processing and payments will continue, as will the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) and the VA's primary call center, MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411). [Read more.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced one burial update for a service member who has been missing and unaccounted for from World War II.

Update:

-- [World War II Navy Fireman 1st Class Edward D. Bowden](#), Virginia

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