§ 3462. Time limitations for completing a program of education

Delimiting Period for Completion

(a)(1) Subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, no educational assistance shall be afforded an eligible veteran under this chapter beyond the date 10 years after the veteran's last discharge or release from active duty after January 31, 1955; except that, in the case of any eligible veteran who was prevented from initiating or completing a veteran's chosen program of education within such time period because of a physical or mental disability which was not the result of such veteran's own willful misconduct, such veteran shall, upon application made within one year after (A) the last date of the delimiting period otherwise applicable under this subsection, (B) the termination of the period of such mental or physical disability, or (C) October 1, 1980, whichever is the latest, be granted an extension of the applicable delimiting period for such length of time as the Secretary determines, from the evidence, that such veteran was so prevented from initiating or completing such program of education. When an extension of the applicable delimiting period is granted a veteran under the preceding sentence, the delimiting period with respect to such veteran will again begin running on the first day following such veteran's recovery from such disability on which it is reasonably feasible, as determined in accordance with regulations which the Secretary shall prescribe, for such veteran to initiate or resume partial or full-time pursuit of a program of education with educational assistance under this chapter.

(2)(A) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection, any veteran shall be permitted to use any of such veteran's unused entitlement under section 3461 of this title for the purposes of eligibility for an education loan, pursuant to the provisions of subchapter III of chapter 36 of this title, after the delimiting date otherwise applicable to such veteran under such paragraph (1), if such veteran was pursuing an approved program of education on a full-time basis at the time of the expiration of such veteran's eligibility.

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title, any veteran whose delimiting period is extended under paragraph (A) of this paragraph may continue to use any unused loan entitlement under this paragraph as long as the veteran continues to be enrolled on a full-time basis in pursuit of the approved program of education in which such veteran was enrolled at the time of expiration of such veteran's eligibility (i) until such entitlement is exhausted, (ii) until the expiration of two years after November 23, 1977, or the date of the expiration of the delimiting date otherwise applicable to such veteran under paragraph (1) of this subsection, whichever is later, or (iii) until such veteran has completed the approved program of education in which such veteran was enrolled at the end of the delimiting period referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection, whichever occurs first.


(4) For purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, a veteran's last discharge or release from active duty shall not include any discharge or release from a period of active duty of less than 90 days of continuous service unless the individual involved is discharged or released for a service-connected disability, for a medical condition which preexisted such service and which the Secretary determines is not service connected, for hardship, or as a result of a reduction in force as described in section 3011(a)(1)(A)(ii)(III) of this title.

Correction of Discharge

(b) In the case of any eligible veteran who has been prevented, as determined by the Secretary, from completing a program of education under this chapter within the period prescribed by subsection (a), because the veteran had not met the nature of discharge requirements of this chapter before a change, correction, or modification of a discharge or dismissal made pursuant to section 1553 of title 10, the correction of the military records of the proper service department under section 1552 of title 10, or other corrective action by competent authority, then the 10-year delimiting period shall run from the date the veteran's discharge or dismissal was changed, corrected, or modified.

Savings Clause

(c) In the case of any eligible veteran who was discharged or released from active duty before June 1, 1966, the 10-year delimiting period shall run from such date, if it is later than the date which otherwise would be applicable. In the case of any eligible veteran who was discharged or released from active duty before August 31, 1967, and who pursues a course of farm cooperative training, apprenticeship or other training on the job, the 10-year delimiting period shall run from August 31, 1967, if it is later than the date which would otherwise be applicable.

(d) In the case of any veteran (1) who served on or after January 31, 1955, (2) who became eligible for educational assistance under the provisions of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title, and (3) who, subsequent to the veteran's last discharge or release from active duty, was captured and held as a prisoner of war by a foreign government or power, there shall be excluded, in computing the veteran's 10-year period of eligibility for educational assistance, any period during which the veteran was so detained and any period immediately following the veteran's release from such detention during which the veteran was hospitalized at a military, civilian, or Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility.

(e) No educational assistance shall be afforded any eligible veteran under this chapter or chapter 36 of this title after December 31, 1989.
§ 3462

TITTLE 38—VETERANS’ BENEFITS

Oct. 17, 1980, Pub. L. 94–256, title XX,
§ 423(b)(1), Dec. 18, 1989, 103 Stat. 2087,
§ 97–72, title II, § 201(a), Nov. 3, 1981, 95 Stat. 1054;
103–802(c) of Pub. L. 96–466, set out as a note under section 3693 of this title.
§ 97–1355; Pub. L. 96–160, § 701(c), Nov. 21, 1983, 97 Stat. 1009; Pub. L. 101–237, title IV,
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Prior Provisions

Provisions similar to those comprising subsecs. (a) and (b) of this section were contained in Pub. L. 85–457,
Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1176, which was classified to

which permitted eligible Vietnam-era veterans to use
unearned entitlements under section 3461 for
educational purposes and directed that veterans be
provided with employment counseling.

1991—Pub. L. 102–63, § 6(a), renumbered section 1662 of this
title as this section.

"3461" for "1661".


Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 101–237, § 423(b)(1), substituted
"Secretary" for "Administrator" wherever appearing.

"Secretary" for "Administrator" wherever appearing.


(4).

(4).

(4).

(4).

within one year after (A) the last date of the delimiting
period otherwise applicable under this section, (B) the
termination of the period of such service, (C) the date of
physical disability, or (C) the effective date of the Veterans'
Rehabilitation and Education Amendments of 1980, which
ever is the latest after "application", inserted "so
that such veteran was", and inserted provision relating to the running of the delimiting period
when an extension of the applicable delimiting period is
granted a veteran.

provisions as par. (1), added par. (2), and inserted "except
that, in the case of any eligible veteran who was
prevented from initiating or completing such program of education" after
"active duty after January 31, 1955" in par. (1) as so redesignated.

"the veteran’s" for "his".

Subsecs. (b), (d). Pub. L. 94–502, § 211(3), substituted
"the veteran’s" for "his" and "the veteran" for "he",
wherever appearing.

"10" for "eight".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 93–337, § 1(2), substituted "10-
year" for "8-year".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 93–337, § 1(3), substituted "10-
year" for "8-year" and "eight year", respectively.

1967—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 90–77 inserted second sentence respecting commencement of the delimiting period in the case of an eligible veteran discharged from active duty and pursuing training on the job or flight training.

Effective Date of 1982 Amendment

Section 200(c) of Pub. L. 97–306 provided that: "The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect as of January 1, 1982."

Effective Date of 1981 Amendments

Section 201(b) of Pub. L. 97–72 provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on January 1, 1982."

Effective Date of 1980 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 96–466 effective Oct. 1, 1980, except as otherwise specifically provided, see section 3429 of this title.

Effective Date of 1977 Amendment


Effective Date of 1976 Amendment

Amendment by section 211(3) of Pub. L. 94–502 effective Oct. 15, 1980, see section 705(b) of Pub. L. 94–502, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3639 of this title.

Amendment by section 403(b) of Pub. L. 94–502 effective Jan. 1, 1977, see section 406 of Pub. L. 94–502, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3201 of this title.

Effective Date of 1967 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 90–77 effective first day of first calendar month which begins more than ten days...

PROPOSED OF REGULATIONS

Section 206(b) of Pub. L. 97–306 directed Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs to publish, not later than 30 days after Oct. 14, 1982, proposed regulations under subsection (a)(3)(C)(i) of this section and to publish, not later than 90 days after Oct. 14, 1982, final regulations under subsection (a)(3)(C)(i).

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PURSUIT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Pub. L. 93–293, May 31, 1974, 88 Stat. 176, provided that the eight-year delimiting date for pursuit of educational programs under this chapter for eligible veterans discharged or released from active duty between Jan. 31, 1955, and Sept. 1, 1966, with certain exceptions, was to run from July 1, 1966.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 3512, 3698 of this title.

§ 3463. Vacant

CODIFICATION


SUBCHAPTER III—ENROLLMENT

§ 3470. Selection of program

Subject to the provisions of this chapter, each eligible veteran may select a program of education to assist the veteran in attaining an educational, professional, or vocational objective at any educational institution (approved in accordance with chapter 36 of this title) selected by the veteran, which will accept and retain the veteran as a student or trainee in any field or branch of knowledge which such institution finds the veteran qualified to undertake or pursue.


PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those comprising this section were contained in Pub. L. 85–857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1177, which was classified to section 1621 of this title, prior to repeal by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 89–358.

AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102–83 renumbered section 1671 of this title as this section.


1980—Pub. L. 96–466, among other changes, substituted reference to the veteran’s or person’s selected educational institution or training establishment failing to meet any requirement of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title for reference to the veteran’s or person’s program of education failing to meet any of the requirements of this chapter, inserted provision for disapproval of an application upon a finding that the veteran’s or person’s program of education selected would violate any provision of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title, or (4) the veteran or person is already qualified, by reason of previous education or training, for the educational, professional, or vocational objective for which the program of education is offered. The Secretary shall notify the veteran or person of the approval or disapproval of the veteran’s or person’s application.


EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 94–502 effective Oct. 15, 1976, see section 703(b) of Pub. L. 94–502, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3693 of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 3034, 3241 of this title; title 10 section 1636.

§ 3471. Applications; approval

Any eligible veteran, or any person on active duty (after consultation with the appropriate service education officer), who desires to initiate a program of education under this chapter shall submit an application to the Secretary which shall be in such form, and contain such information, as the Secretary shall prescribe. The Secretary shall approve such application unless the Secretary finds that (1) such veteran or person is not eligible for or entitled to the educational assistance for which application is made, (2) the veteran’s or person’s selected educational institution or training establishment fails to meet any requirement of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title, (3) the veteran’s or person’s enrollment in, or pursuit of, the program of education selected would violate any provision of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title, or (4) the veteran or person is already qualified, by reason of previous education or training, for the educational, professional, or vocational objective for which the program of education is offered. The Secretary shall notify the veteran or person of the approval or disapproval of the veteran’s or person’s application.


PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those comprising this section were contained in Pub. L. 85–857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1177, which was classified to section 1621 of this title, prior to repeal by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 89–358.

AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102–83 renumbered section 1671 of this title as this section.


1980—Pub. L. 96–466, among other changes, substituted reference to the veteran’s or person’s selected educational institution or training establishment failing to meet any requirement of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title for reference to the veteran’s or person’s program of education failing to meet any of the requirements of this chapter, inserted provision for disapproval of an application upon a finding that the veteran’s or person’s program of education selected would violate this chapter or chapter 36 of this title, and substituted reference to the veteran or person being already qualified, by reason of previous education or training, for the educational, professional, or vocational objective for which the program of education is offered for reference simply to the veteran or person being already qualified.

1976—Pub. L. 94–502 substituted “unless the Administrator finds” for “unless he finds”, “the veteran or person” for “he”, and “the veteran’s or person’s” for “his” in two places.

1972—Pub. L. 92–540 inserted provision authorizing any person on active duty, after consultation with the appropriate service education officer, to submit an application to the Administrator.