



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 6519-21
Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO [REDACTED], USN,
[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552
(b) BUPERSNOTE 1780
(c) NAVADMIN 236/18

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments
(2) Subject's naval record

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting that his naval record be corrected to establish eligibility to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to eligible dependents.

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 19 January 2021 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, found that, before applying to this Board, he exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board made the following findings:

a. The Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Post-9/11 GI Bill, Public Law 110-252) was signed into law on 30 June 2008 and became effective on 1 August 2009. The bill provides financial support for education and housing for service members with at least 90 days of service on or after 11 September 2001. The act also includes provision for qualifying service members to transfer education benefits to their eligible dependents. General descriptions of the essential components of the law were widely available beginning in summer 2008 but specific implementing guidance was not published until summer 2009.

b. In accordance with reference (b), the option to transfer a Service member's unused education benefits to an eligible dependent required a 4-year additional service obligation at the time of election. Additionally, enlisted personnel were required to have sufficient time on

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contract to meet the additional service requirement prior to initiating their electronic transfer election. Furthermore, the policy directed members to periodically check the status of their application; denied transfer of education benefits (TEB) applications required members to take corrective action and reapply with a new service obligation end date.

c. Reference (c), updated the TEB process by establishing an online, self-service Statement of Understanding (SOU) that is to be completed by all Sailors effective 1 October 2018 and must be done prior to submitting TEB application.

d. Petitioner's Active Duty Service Date is 27 April 2005.

e. On 5 October 2018, Petitioner reenlisted for a term of 6 years.

f. Petitioner submitted TEB application on 24 October 2018; the Service rejected the application on 25 October 2018 indicating, Petitioner "has not committed to the required additional service time."

g. Petitioner submitted second TEB application on 30 August 2021. The Service rejected the application on 1 September 2021 indicating, Petitioner "has not committed to the required additional service time."

h. Petitioner completed TEB SOU on 1 September 2021.

CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action. Petitioner met the basic eligibility criteria to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits in accordance with reference (b). However, he failed to complete the administrative requirements outlined in reference (c). Although Petitioner did not complete the proper administrative requirements, the Board felt, he might not have been aware of the updated TEB process outlined in reference (c) when he submitted his initial application; therefore, under this circumstance, relief is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION

That Petitioner's naval record be corrected, where appropriate, to show that:

Petitioner, in coordination with his command completed the required SOU on 24 October 2018 and submitted it to Commander, Navy Personnel Command for inclusion in the Petitioner's Official Military Personnel File.

Petitioner elected to transfer unused education benefits to [REDACTED] through the MilConnect TEB portal on 24 October 2018. Note: Petitioner changed allocation of unused education benefits to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] through the MilConnect TEB portal on 30 August 2021.

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[REDACTED]

Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-311) reviewed Petitioner's TEB application and it was approved on 24 October 2018 with a 4-year service obligation.

A copy of this Report of Proceedings will be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 723.6(e)), and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of the reference, has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

2/8/2022

[REDACTED]

Deputy Director

[REDACTED]