

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-02332

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

He be allowed to transfer his Post-9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) to his dependents.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He did his due diligence when applying to transfer his benefits on multiple occasions, as directed by the DoDI and AFI. Due to circumstances beyond his control, his benefits were not transferred. If his records are not corrected to reflect an "approved" TEB status, his dependent children will not receive the benefits they are entitled to under the program, which will put a financial burden on his family.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a currently serving Air Force technical sergeant (E-6).

On 27 August 2002, according to DD Form 4, the applicant enlisted in the Air Force for a period of six years in the pay grade of E-1.

On 10 June 2008, according to DD Form 4, the applicant reenlisted in the Air Force for a period of four years and two months in the pay grade of E-4. His previous military service reflects 5 years, 9 months and 13 days.

On 7 August 2012, according to DD Form 4, the applicant reenlisted in the Air Force for a period of five years in the pay grade of E-5. His previous military service reflects 9 years, 11 months and 10 days.

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On 7 June 2019, AF Form 1411, *Extension of Enlistment in the Air Force*, reflect the applicant extended for 22 months for the purpose of GI Bill or Continuation Pay. His date of separation (DOS) of 29 July 2021 was extended to 29 May 2023. His request was approved on 25 July 2019.

On 8 July 2019, AF Form 4406, Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Educational Benefits Statement of Understanding (SOU), the applicant acknowledged with the Active Duty Component, that he would incur a service obligation of 4 years and an Active Duty Service Commitment (ADSC) would be updated in his records. The Active Duty component date reflects 12 May 2023.

For more information, see the excerpt of the applicant's record at Exhibit B and the advisory at Exhibit C.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SA recommends denying the application. The Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) records show the applicant applied for TEB on 30 March 2015 and 9 August 2018. The applications were rejected on 30 April 2015 and 20 September 2018, respectively, because he failed to secure the required retainability within the application period. He reapplied on 13 May 2019. The application was rejected on 20 June 2019 because he failed to complete and submit the required TEB Statement of Understanding (SOU) within the application period. In accordance with AFI 36-2649, *Voluntary Education Program* (A13.18.1.1.1, A13.20.1.1., A13.20.1.5. and A13.20.1.6.), members must secure retainability and complete the TEB SOU within 30 days of the Initial Notification. The myPers records show the following verbiage was sent to the applicant on six occasions:

"The TEB SOU must be completed within 30 calendar days from this notification or the application will be rejected and reapplication is required."

Based on the documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is no evidence of an error or injustice on the part of the Air Force. The applicant did not secure retainability or complete and submit the required SOU within the application window.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 11 October 2022 for comment (Exhibit D), but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

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[&]quot;This application will expire in 30 calendar days..."

[&]quot;Failure to complete this application within 30 calendar days will result in resubmitting a new application."

- 1. The application was timely filed.
- 2. The applicant exhausted all available non-judicial relief before applying to the Board.
- 3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board concludes the applicant is the victim of an error or injustice. While the Board notes the recommendation of AFPC/DP3SA against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. The Board found the applicant has fulfilled the four-year service commitment from the date he originally applied for TEB and has continued to serve. Furthermore, the Board found the applicant met the intent to properly enroll in TEB and to deny would be a detriment to the applicant. Therefore, the Board recommends correcting the applicant's records as indicated below.

RECOMMENDATION

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT be corrected to show that on 13 May 2019, his application to transfer his Post-9/11 GI Bill Educational Benefits to his eligible dependents was approved with a service obligation end date of 12 May 2023.

CERTIFICATION

The following quorum of the Board, as defined in Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 1.5, considered Docket Number BC-2022-02332 in Executive Session on 8 November 2022:



All members voted to correct the record. The panel considered the following:

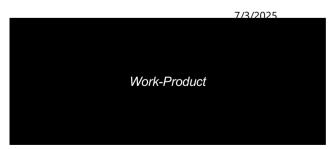
Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 30 August 2022.

Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SA, w/atchs, dated 29 September 2022.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 11 October 2022.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by AFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.11.9.



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