



Work-Product

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

### RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

Work-Product

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2023-00529

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

### APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His four-year service obligation be waived, and he be allowed to transfer his Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits (TEB) to his eligible dependents.

### APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

In Feb 19, the applicant applied to transfer education benefits to his dependents. However, the application was rejected because he did not complete the TEB Statement of Understanding (SOU). The applicant is a reservist and contends that he was never notified of the missing requirements because he did not have regular access to his military email account. Furthermore, the applicant searched his personal email account and was unable to find the notifications. On 26 Feb 23, based on advice from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the applicant reapplied for TEB and completed the SOU acknowledging the four-year service obligation; however, he is requesting that he be allowed to complete the transfer without having to complete an additional four-year commitment.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an Air Force Reserve captain (O-3).

On 26 Feb 23, according to DAF Form 4406, *Post-9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Educational Benefits Statement of Understanding*, the applicant acknowledged that he will incur a service obligation of four years.

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

### AIR FORCE EVALUATION

ARPC/DPAT recommends denying the application. In Feb 19, the applicant submitted an application to transfer education benefits to his dependents. The application was rejected because he did not complete the TEB SOU. The applicant contends he did not receive notifications from ARPC because he did not have access to his military email. In Feb 23, the applicant submitted a TEB SOU and is requesting a waiver of the four year service obligation so that he can transfer education benefits to his dependents without an additional four year commitment. On 10 Feb 19, according to the Benefits for Education Administrative Services Tool (BEAST), the applicant

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2023-00529

Work-Product

Work-Product

applied to TEB to his dependents. On 24 Apr 19, the applicant was notified of the requirement to complete the TEB SOU and acknowledge the four year commitment that expires on 9 Feb 23. On 28 May 19, the application was rejected because there is no record the TEB SOU was completed. Based on documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is no evidence of error or injustice on the part of the Air Force because the applicant did not complete the TEB SOU within the thirty-day 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 12 Apr 23 for comment (Exhibit D), but has received no response.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

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 ARPC/DPAT against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant’s contentions. The Board found the applicant submitted his application for TEB on 10 Feb 19 and even took photos of the milConnect website showing that his transfer was successfully submitted and indicating his intent to transfer his benefits in exchange for a military service obligation. Furthermore, since the applicant applied in 2019, he has continued to serve in the Air Force Reserve and the Board finds that the failure to submit the Statement of Understanding is a procedural oversight and not his intent to abandon his request for TEB. 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 10 February 2019, he elected and was approved to transfer his Post-9/11 GI Bill Educational Benefits to his dependents with an obligation end date of 9 February 2023.

**CERTIFICATION**

The following quorum of the Board, as defined in Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2023-00529 in Executive Session on 12 Jun 23:

Work-Product	Panel Chair
Work-Product	Panel Member
Work-Product	Panel Member

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

*Work-Product*

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 5 Feb 23.

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

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, ARPC/DPAT, w/atchs, dated 29 Mar 23.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 12 Apr 23.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.12.9.

7/29/2025

*Work-Product*

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2023-00529**

*Work-Product*

**3**

*Work-Product*