



Work-Product

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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2024-03588

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT’S REQUEST

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

APPLICANT’S CONTENTIONS

The retainability required was gained specifically for the reason to transfer education benefits to his dependents. The delay in reporting is due to not checking Milconnect after receiving the retainability to ensure the steps were completed after the retainability was gained. He has since been checking Milconnect due to pending retirement on 1 September 2025 and realized the steps were not completed.

The applicant’s complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a currently serving senior master sergeant (E-8) with a date of rank and effective date of 1 September 2022.

On 24 November 1999, according to DD Form 4/1, *Enlistment/Reenlistment Document – Armed Forces of the United States*, the applicant enlisted for a period of four years.

On 25 August 2017, according to DD Form 4/1, the applicant continued to reenlist contracting an enlistment for a period of five years and three months.

According to the Retrieval Applications Web (RAW), the applicant’s Date of Enlistment (DOE) reflects 25 August 2017 for a period of five years.

On 13 December 2018, according to the Benefits for Education Administrative Services Tool (BEAST) print-out, provided by ARPC/DPAT, the applicant applied for TEB. On 15 January 2019, his request was rejected because he did not commit to the required additional service time.

On 31 August 2025, according to Special Orders No. **Work-Product**, dated 9 September 2024, the applicant will be relieved from active duty and retire on 1 September 2025 in the grade of senior master sergeant.

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2024-03588

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB
Work-Product
Limited Dissemination Control: N/A
POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

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

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Service members enrolled in the Post-9/11 GI Bill Program are able to transfer unused educational benefits to their dependent spouses or children. Any member of the Armed Forces, active duty or Selected Reserve, officer or enlisted, on or after 1 August 2009, who is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, has at least six years of service in the Armed Force on the date of election, and agrees to serve 4 additional years in the Armed Forces from the date of election; or has at least 10 years of service on the date of election, is precluded by either standard policy (Service or DoD) or statute from committing to 4 additional years, and agrees to serve for the maximum amount of time allowed by such policy or statute, can transfer their unused Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to their dependents (Title 38 USC, Chapter 33, § 3319(b)(1)). Title 38 USC, Chapter 33, § 3319(f)(1) adds that the transfer of such entitlement can only be done while serving as a member of the armed forces when the transfer is executed.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DPPSA recommends denying the application. The Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) records show the applicant applied for TEB on 13 December 2018. On 15 January 2019, the application was rejected because he failed to secure the required retainability within the application period. The applicant's date of separation on the date of rejection was 24 November 2022. He required retainability to 12 December 2022. In accordance with AFI 36-2649 AFGM2018-01, Air Force Voluntary Education Program (A13.18.1.1.1, A13.20.1.1., A13.20.1.5., and A13.20.1.6), members must secure four years retainability (from the date of application), complete, and submit the required TEB Statement of Understanding within 30 days of the initial notification. myFSS historical records show the applicant was sent the Initial Notification on 14 December 2018 and reminders on 24 December 2018 and 11 January 2019.

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 the required retainability within the application period.

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 26 November 2024 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 AFPC/DPPSA against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. The Board notes when the applicant originally applied for TEB on 13 December 2018, the

applicant was required to have four years of retainability to 12 December 2022. The applicant has continued to serve and has a projected retirement date of 1 September 2025. Given the applicant has fulfilled the four-year service commitment from the date he originally applied for TEB, he met the intent of the program 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 on 13 December 2018, he elected to transfer his Post 9/11 GI Bill Education Benefits to his dependents with a service obligation end date to 12 December 2022.

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-2024-03588 in Executive Session on 18 July 2025:

-  Panel Chair
-  Panel Member
-  Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 10 October 2024.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DPPSA, w/atchs, dated 19 November 2024.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 26 November 2024.

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.

8/4/2025

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
Signed by: USAF