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

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2024-04002

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**COUNSEL:** NONE

**HEARING REQUESTED:** YES

**APPLICANT’S REQUEST**

She be allowed a waiver of the four-year service commitment to transfer her Post-9/11 GI Bill Education Benefits (TEB) to her eligible dependents.

**APPLICANT’S CONTENTIONS**

She respectfully requests the Board remedy the injustice she suffered when she was denied the opportunity to transfer her benefits to her dependents due to not having four years of retainability on record. She is requesting an exception to policy that will allow her to transfer the benefits she earned to her dependents, due to the negligent lack of information dissemination by her Force Support Squadron at the time she became eligible for the benefit.

The applicant’s complete submission is at Exhibit A.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The applicant is a currently serving Air National Guard colonel (O-6).

According to the Retrieval Applications Web (RAW), the applicant’s Date Initial Entry Military Service reflects 17 June 1996.

On 14 May 2024, according to the Benefits for Education Administrative Services Tool (BEAST) print-out, provided by NGB/A1Y, the applicant applied for TEB. On 3 October 2024, her request was rejected because she did not commit to the required additional service time.

On, 10 January 2025, according to DAF Form 4406, *Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Educational Benefits Statement of Understanding (SOU)*, the applicant acknowledged she would incur a service obligation of four years, and a Selected Reserve Service Commitment (SRSC) would be updated in her records. Her obligation end date reflects 10 January 2029.

According to the RAW, the applicant’s retirement and separation data reflects a date of separation of 1 July 2026.

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

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2024-04002**

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB  
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Limited Dissemination Control: N/A  
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## 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

NGB/A1Y recommends denying the application. Based on the documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is not enough evidence of an error or injustice upon the applicant's request. In accordance with DoDI 1341.13, paragraph 3.3 Transferability of Unused Education Benefits to Family Members. a. Overview (2) The Military Departments will not automatically approve a service member's request to elect to transfer benefits. Before approving an individual's request to elect to transfer benefits, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned must determine whether the service member is eligible for retention under the Military Department or Service retention policies (e.g., high year tenure) and is not precluded by either DoD, Military Department, service policy, or statute from being retained for four additional years from the date of election.

In addition, paragraph 3.3.b.(4) General Eligibility states: The member transferring educational benefits must agree to serve four additional years in the Military Services, NOAA Corps, or USPHS Corps from the date of election, with no break in active or Selected Reserve service for greater than 24 hours, other than to participate in CIP. This includes the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve Corps of the USPHS Corps. Eligibility does not guarantee approval. Members must be eligible to be retained for four years from the date of election and not be precluded, before approval, by either standard service or DoD policy or statute. Members who have qualified for retirement and who wish to transfer benefits will incur a four-year additional service obligation.

The applicant is unable to fulfill her Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits four-year service obligation due to having an established mandatory separation date of 1 July 2026; therefore, she is not eligible for the Transfer of Education Benefits.

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 27 December 2024 for comment (Exhibit D), and the applicant replied on 21 January 2025. In her response, the applicant contended the advisory references that she failed to complete the DAF Form 4406, *Statement of Understanding*, with her initial request - she attached the completed form to her response, indicating her desire to serve for an additional four years. The advisory issued does not address the injustice she suffered with regard to her inability to transfer her benefits to her dependents. She desires to have this injustice considered and remedied. She believes she has been

overlooked and underserved by the same system that she dedicated her life to serving for over 28 years. She was never informed about a benefit that could have changed the trajectory of her family's life. She further states it is heartbreaking to think her service and sacrifices have not been reciprocated with the support and benefits she earned. It is both devastating and tragic that she was never informed of this opportunity and missed out on the ability to provide a better future for her family due to lack of information.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit E.

## **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

1. The application was timely filed.
2. The applicant exhausted all other available administrative remedies before applying to the Board.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board concludes the applicant is not the victim of an error or injustice. The Board concurs with the rationale and recommendation of NGB/A1Y and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. The Board notes members must be eligible to be retained for four years from the date of election and not be precluded, before approval, by either standard service or DoD policy or statute. Members who have qualified for retirement and who wish to transfer benefits will incur a four-year additional service obligation. However, the applicant is unable to fulfill the four-year additional service obligation due to having an established mandatory separation date of 1 July 2026, rendering her ineligible for TEB. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.
4. The applicant has not shown a personal appearance, with or without counsel, would materially add to the Board's understanding of the issues involved.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Board recommends informing the applicant the evidence did not demonstrate material error or injustice, and the Board will reconsider the application only upon receipt of relevant evidence not already presented.

## **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-2024-04002 in Executive Session on 15 August 2025:

Work-Product, Panel Member

Work-Product, Panel Chair

Work-Product, Panel Member

All members voted against correcting the record. The panel considered the following:

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 23 September 2024.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, NGB/A1Y, w/atch, dated 18 December 2024.

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2024-04002**

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Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 27 December 2024.  
Exhibit E: Applicant's Response, w/atc, dated 21 January 2025.

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.

10/18/2025

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Associate Director, AFBCMR

Signed by: USAF

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2024-04002**

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