



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

701 S. COURTHOUSE RD

ARLINGTON, VA 22204

██████████
Docket No. 8168-25
Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO ██████████ USN RET,
██████████

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552
(b) Title 38 U.S.C. Chp 33
(c) BUPERSNOTE 1780
(d) NAVADMIN 236/18
(e) MILPERSMAN 1780-011

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 his eligible dependents.

2. The Board, consisting of ██████████ reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 26 February 2026 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.

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[REDACTED]

b. In accordance with reference (c), the option to transfer a Service member's unused education benefits to an eligible dependent requires a 4-year additional service obligation at the time of election. Enlisted personnel are required to have sufficient time on contract to meet the additional service requirement prior to initiating their electronic transfer election and have 30 days to submit their transfer of education benefits (TEB) application following a 4-year reenlistment. Furthermore, the policy directs members to periodically check the status of their application; a denied TEB application requires members to take corrective action and reapply with a new service obligation end date.

c. Reference (d) updated the TEB process by establishing an online, self-service Statement of Understanding (SOU). Effective 1 October 2018, all Sailors are required to complete the SOU prior to submitting a TEB application.

d. Pursuant to the Department of Defense's reinforcement of TEB as a retention incentive, reference (e) directed that all members requesting to transfer unused education benefits to eligible dependents meet eligibility requirements to serve four additional years on active duty or in the Selected Reserve from the date of election in the Defense Manpower Data Center MilConnect TEB portal and reiterated the requirements of references (c) and (d).

e. On 27 June 2005, Petitioner entered active duty.

f. On 1 April 2018, Petitioner married spouse [REDACTED].

g. On 29 June 2018, Petitioner reenlisted for 6 years.

h. On [REDACTED], Petitioner's child [REDACTED.] born.

i. On 5 October 2020, Petitioner submitted TEB application with less than 4 years remaining on contract and failed to complete the required SOU. Petitioner requested to allocate one month of education benefits to both dependents. On 6 October 2020, the Service rejected the application indicating "Disapproved – SM [Service Member] has not committed to the required additional service time."

j. On 19 July 2022, Petitioner's electronic service record (ESR) reflects a 15 month extension was submitted to corporate.

k. On 19 August 2024, Petitioner submitted TEB application with less than 4 years remaining on contract and failed to complete the required SOU. Petitioner requested to allocate 36 months of education benefits to his spouse. On 21 August 2024, the Service rejected the application indicating "Disapproved – SM has not committed to the required additional service time."

l. On 22 August 2024, Petitioner completed the required SOU and submitted TEB application with less than 4 years remaining on contract. Petitioner requested to allocate 36 months of education benefits to his spouse. On 21 August 2024, the Service rejected the application indicating "Disapproved – SM has not committed to the required additional service time."

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[REDACTED]

m. On 29 September 2025, Petitioner's ESR reflects a 1-month extension was submitted to corporate.

n. On 30 September 2025, Petitioner transferred to the Fleet Reserve.

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 but failed to complete the administrative requirements outlined in references (c) through (e). Although Petitioner did not complete the appropriate administrative requirements, the Board surmised that had he received adequate counseling, he would have been able to TEB during the period of 29 June 2018 to 28 June 2020. Moreover, the Board determined Petitioner reenlisted on 29 June 2018 and completed over 7 years of active duty service before transferring to the Fleet Reserve, thereby meeting the spirit and intent of reference (b). Therefore, the Board determined that under these circumstances, relief is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Petitioner elected to transfer unused education benefits to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] through the MilConnect TEB portal on 11 October 2019.

Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-311) reviewed Petitioner's TEB application, and it was approved on 11 October 2019 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 titled 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.

3/30/2026

[REDACTED]