INFORMATION PAPER

AHRC-PDE-I
1 April 2014

SUBJECT: Processing Montgomery GI Bill-Selective Reserve (MGIB-SR) through Reserve Component Manpower System (RCMS) MGIB Eligibility Application

1. References:


   b. Army Regulation 135-7, Incentive Programs, Chapter 8, Educational Assistance Program for Members of the Selected Reserve (Selected Reserve Montgomery GI Bill), 15 Apr 96.


Part I – General

2. The RCMS MGIB Eligibility Application is a web based portal used to update MGIB-SR Chapter 1606 Basic and Kicker eligibility data (codes and dates) maintained within the Total Army Personnel Data Base-Reserve (TAPDB-R). All transactions are submitted electronically via RCMS at: https://rcms.usar.army.mil/new/ and forwarded through the system to the HRC-Ft. Knox Education Incentives Branch (EIB) MGIB Team. The HRC-Ft. Knox MGIB Team is the final approval authority for all MGIB-SR transactions.

3. MGIB-SR data is reported to Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). Failure to report initial eligibility or reporting inaccurate data results in Soldiers being denied their MGIB-SR benefits. The ONLY acceptable means to report and correct a Soldier’s MGIB-SR data is through RCMS. No other method will be used (i.e. emails, memorandums, etc.).

4. MGIB-SR data management is a responsibility of the Regional Readiness Commands (RRCs) and Direct Reporting Commands (DRCs). Each Command should designate a MGIB/RCMS Program Manager within their respective G1 Directorates to address MGIB eligibility and RCMS issues.

5. Access to RCMS should be granted down to the lowest user level (i.e. Troop Program Unit (TPU)). For technical assistance, RCMS authorized users are encouraged to contact the RCMS Help Desk at: help@tibercreek.com or by calling 1-800-339-0473, Option 2 (Army Reserve). RCMS Users should not contact the DVA directly to resolve MGIB-SR data problems.
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6. MGIB-SR “Kicker” data is also updated and maintained within RCMS. In order for a Soldier to receive a MGIB-SR “Kicker,” the individual MUST BE eligible for Chapter 1606 Basic Benefit. Soldiers who are NOT ELIGIBLE for the Chapter 1606 Basic Benefit WILL NOT receive a MGIB-SR Kicker.

Part II - ROTC/SMP Cadets:

7. Soldiers entering into the Reserve Officer Training Corps/Simultaneous Membership Program (ROTC/SMP) who are eligible for Chapter 1606 Basic Benefit, are eligible for a ROTC/SMP Kicker in the amount of $350.00. However, Soldiers NOT eligible for Chapter 1606 Basic Benefit, WILL NOT receive the ROTC/SMP Kicker (reference 1a and 1c). Soldiers who sign enlistment contracts (DD Form 4) for other than SELRES service (i.e. ROTC only) are not eligible for Chapter 1606.

8. After determining Chapter 1606 eligibility, RCMS users need to submit the following:
   a. ROTC/SMP MGIB Kicker ($350) Eligibility Checklist (see attachment).
   b. RCMS MGIB Eligibility MGIB Kicker Add/Edit transaction.

9. It is the responsibility of the RCMS user to submit the Checklist and Transaction. No action will be taken if one is submitted without the other. Checklists submitted by individual Soldiers, college/university ROTC departments, Career Counselors/Retention NCOs, or anyone other than the RCMS user will be disapproved.

Part III – Special Instructions:

10. The RCMS MGIB Eligibility Application also includes mobilization data and tour history (MOB Campaigns) information. This data is used to determine eligibility dates for the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) (Chapter 1607, Title 10 USC).

11. All RCMS Users must ensure every Soldier’s Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) is updated in iPERMS. Missing documents, especially DD Forms 214, should be filed permanently in iPERMS.

12. For further information, contact the HRC Ft. Knox GI Bill Team at: 1-800-872-8272 or usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-mgib-support@mail.mil