

Lakewood University

38 U.S.C. § 3679(e) Compliance Policy

Protection for Students Using VA Educational Benefits

Effective Date: August 31, 2026

Policy Owner: Lakewood University

Applicable Federal Law: 38 U.S.C. § 3679(e)

Purpose

Lakewood University complies with the requirements of 38 U.S.C. § 3679(e) regarding students who use educational assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

For purposes of this policy, a **covered individual** is an individual who is entitled to educational assistance under **Chapter 31, Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E); Chapter 33, Post-9/11 GI Bill®; or Chapter 35, Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance**, as applicable under federal law.

Protection of Covered Individuals

Lakewood University will permit any covered individual to attend or participate in a course or program of education during the period beginning on the date the individual provides Lakewood University with appropriate documentation establishing entitlement to VA educational assistance and ending on the earlier of:

1. The date on which payment from the Department of Veterans Affairs is made to Lakewood University; or
2. Ninety (90) days after the date on which Lakewood University certifies tuition and fees following receipt of the student's applicable eligibility documentation.

For purposes of this policy, appropriate documentation may include a Certificate of Eligibility, a Statement of Benefits obtained from the Department of Veterans Affairs, appropriate Chapter 31 authorization documentation, or other documentation accepted by the Department of Veterans Affairs as evidence of entitlement to educational assistance.

Prohibition Against Penalties Due to Delayed VA Payment

Lakewood University will not impose any penalty upon a covered individual because of the individual's inability to meet a financial obligation to the University when that inability results from a delayed VA payment under an applicable covered VA educational assistance program.

Accordingly, during the protected period, Lakewood University will not:

- Assess a late fee or other financial penalty because of the delayed VA payment;
- Deny the student access to classes;
- Deny the student access to the library, learning management system, or other institutional facilities or resources;
- Prevent or restrict the student's participation in the approved course or program because VA payment has not yet been received; or
- Require the student to borrow additional funds solely because of the delayed VA payment.

Student Responsibilities

Consistent with 38 U.S.C. § 3679(e), Lakewood University may require a covered individual to:

1. Submit appropriate documentation of eligibility for VA educational assistance no later than the first day of the course or program for which the student intends to use the benefit;
2. Submit a written or electronic request to use the applicable VA educational benefit; and
3. Provide any additional information reasonably necessary for Lakewood University to properly certify the student's enrollment to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Students remain responsible for any portion of their educational costs that is **not covered by their VA educational benefits** and that is not attributable to a delay in VA payment.

Administration

Lakewood University's School Certifying Official(s) are responsible for administering this policy and assisting students using VA educational benefits.

Questions concerning this policy or the use of VA educational benefits should be directed to Lakewood University's School Certifying Official.

Lakewood University

2231 North Taylor Road
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44112

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).