

Dear Student,

You are receiving this email because you are coded in our database as a Veteran or dependent student using GI Bill® benefits in Spring 2021. If you are planning on using your benefits in Fall 2021, please carefully read the information below, as it applies to you. I previously sent an email for students who will be using benefits in Summer 2021, which I attached here for reference.

The COVID-19 pandemic required VCCCD (Ventura Colleges, Oxnard College, and Moorpark College) to switch to online instruction with the exception of a few courses. New legislation allows the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to pay education benefits regardless of the fact that a course has been converted from resident training to online training. GI Bill® students will continue to receive housing allowance payments at the resident training until 12/21/2021, or until the school resumes normal operations of resident training, for programs converted solely to online training. This means if a college converts from an approved residence training course to online training for that course (distance learning) due to COVID-19, benefits will not change.

Only the courses that were converted from resident to online will be certified for GI Bill® benefits as resident classes. Classes that were originally scheduled as online will be certified as distance education. The Admissions and Records Office has prepared a list of classes that will be certified as online (distance education) for Fall 2021 semester. If the class you are registering for is on the list, it will be certified as an online course. Attached is a list of courses for Fall 2021 that will certified as online. If your course(s) is not listed, then it will be certified as resident. To maximize your housing allowance, you must be registered for at least ONE course that is NOT on this list.

For information regarding eligibility, application for benefits, enrollment verifications, and <u>frequently asked questions</u>, please visit the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website at <u>www.benefits.va.gov/gibill or call 1-888-442-4551</u>.

Please note, the rate of pursuit and housing allowance is determined by VA. Call VA **directly** at 1-800-827-1000 with any questions regarding BAH qualifications. If you have any questions related to your certification, please contact your School Certifying Official at vcadmissions@vcccd.edu or visit GI Bill® Benefits.

1 04/02/2021