

Education Benefits Fraud

VA education benefits help veterans, service members, and their qualified family members with paying for college tuition, finding the right school or training program, and receiving career counseling. Indicators of potential fraud include the following:

- VA's GI Bill Comparison Tool includes a warning about the school (e.g., School may not be able to accept new GI Bill students"). See www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool.
- Students report that they only need to sign in but not attend classes.
- Payment is offered to students who register but are not asked to attend any classes.
- No books, supplies, or exams are required.
- The instructors teaching the classes are not those advertised.
- Students report that on completion of the class, they found they lacked the promised skills or certification that would qualify them for employment or advancement.
- The tuition varies among students for the same course.
- There is an unexplained increase in the school operators' wealth or lifestyle.
- The school has operated for fewer than two years.
- Regulators have repeatedly found noncompliance with regulations or certifications and have experienced challenges in receiving requested information.
- The school has a lack of written policies and procedures or has been unable to produce records (sometimes claimed as lost or destroyed).
- The number of students reported does not align with the number who actually show up or can be confirmed (the creation of nonexistent students on paper).

