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Registered Apprenticeship (RA) & On-the-Job Training Programs

1. What is Registered Apprenticeship?

- RA is a combination of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction provided under the supervision of a journey-level craft person or trade professional in which workers learn the practical and theoretical aspects of a highly skilled occupation.

2. How Do I Qualify?

- Apprenticeship training programs require a minimum of 2,000 hours of OJT per year, supplemented by a minimum of 144 hours related classroom instruction.
- Instruction may be given in a classroom, through correspondence courses, self-study, or other means of approved instruction.

3. What Do I Get?

- As an apprentice, you will receive training, education, and wages from your employer.
- If you qualify for a GI Bill® program, you can also collect a monthly benefit payment, 'in addition' to your regular full-time wages, for the duration of the apprentice training period. The amount of GI Bill entitlement depends on your GI Bill eligibility:

- **Post-9/11 GI Bill:**

- Payment rates for the Post-9/11 GI Bill are based on percentages of the applicable Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) for an E-5 with dependents. MHA is determined by employer's zip code.
- Example: If a veteran is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill at the 100 percent rate were employed full-time in a 5-year RA training program with an employer located in Boston, Massachusetts (where the applicable MHA is \$3,006), he or she would collect a total of **\$72,144** in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, in addition to your regular wages.

- **All other GI Bill programs:**

- Payment rates for all other GI Bill programs are based on a percentage of the full-time institutional rate of the benefit program being utilized.
- For all other GI Bill benefit programs, the total payment amount for a 5-year RA training program, regardless of location, would be as follows:

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| Montgomery GI Bill-AD, Chapter 30 (three or more years of service) | \$49,049.40 |
| Reserve Educational Assistance Program, Chapter 1607 (80% rate) | \$39,241.92 |
| Reserve Educational Assistance Program, Chapter 1607 (60% rate) | \$29,431.44 |
| Reserve Educational Assistance Program, Chapter 1607 (40% rate) | \$19,620.96 |
| Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve, Chapter 1606 | \$9,225 |
| Montgomery GI Bill Kicker Program (\$350 rate) | \$8,610 |
| Montgomery GI Bill Kicker Program (\$200 rate) | \$4,920 |
| Montgomery GI Bill Kicker Program (\$100 rate) | \$2,460 |

4. How Do I Apply?

Step 1. Find an "Apprenticeable" occupation

- An apprenticeable occupation is defined as a skilled trade or craft, which has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship (OA) and meets applicable local criteria.
- Apprenticeships can be found in all industries, from traditional sectors like construction and manufacturing to emerging sectors like energy, technology, and health care.
- A list of over 1,100 officially recognized apprenticeable occupations can be found at: <https://www.doleta.gov/OA/occupations.cfm>

Step 2. Find an employer who sponsors an RA training program

- Approximately 16,000 employers nationwide sponsor RA training programs that enable their employees to obtain nationally recognized certification in trades and skills that can lead to rewarding careers in industries that stretch across the economic spectrum.
- To get advice on finding apprenticeship program opportunities, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship> and click the "Become an Apprentice" link.

Step 3. Search for an RA program approved for GI Bill use

- Visit: <http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do>
 - Leave the "Institution Name" field blank.
 - Set "Program Type" drop down menu to "On-the-Job Training/Apprenticeship".
 - Click your preferred State or Territory for a complete list of approved programs.

Step 4. Find an RA job vacancy

- Visit: <https://www.glassdoor.com>
 - Enter "apprentice" in the Job Title field, and then enter your location.

For More Information:

- Visit the U.S. DOL Web Page: www.dol.gov/apprenticeship
- Visit us On-Line: www.nationalguard.com/education
- Contact your State Education Office: www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives
- Find apprenticeships: doleta.gov/oa/veterans.cfm and www.careeronestop.org/

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