

## Community College G.I. BENIFITS

The latest G. I. Bill benefits for veterans registering or planning to register at Clark County Community College were released by Karl Swain, the college's Veterans' Counselor.

The veteran has ten (10) years after release from active duty or May 31, 1976, whichever comes later to use up his entire G. I. Bill entitlement.

If a veteran was released from Active Duty after January 31, 1955, he has 1-1/2 months credit for each month of Active Duty and on the 18th month he is automatically awarded 36 months of eligibility. However, if a veteran is enrolled part-time he can only use that percentage of a months eligibility. For example, if he has enrolled 1/2 time he is only using 1/2 month's eligibility each month. A veteran is certified for two years of continuous payments unless he requests otherwise.

Full monthly benefits at Clark County Community College require 12 credits per regular semester in order to qualify for full monthly benefits. Alternate semester requires maximum of 9 credits and Summer terms requires 4 credits extended over the 10 weeks of Summer School. For the veteran who has never used or applied for Educational Benefits since his latest release from Active Duty, the following terms must be met:

If never married or if married and neither veteran or his (her) spouse have been married before a copy of DD 214 and a VA application, provided by the school, is required.

If a veteran or a spouse have any previous marriages, copies of Divorce Decrees, Current Marriage Certificates and Birth Certificates for each child claimed for benefits are required. The VA file number must be available.

Where Dependents or Survivors are concerned a person must be 18 years or older and the spouse or child of a 100% disabled veteran or the survivor of a veteran who died on active duty or of a service connected disability are entitled to benefits as a single veteran until age 26 for children.

An orphan of a veteran who died after release from active duty is entitled to \$49 monthly is a first child, \$69 equally divided for two children or \$89 equally divided between three or more children until age 23.

G. I. Bill Benefits are not taxable and are not reported to I.R.S.

A female Veteran may claim her husband and children as dependents. If the husband is a veteran each may claim the other and each child as a dependent. If a parent (s) is dependent upon the Veteran for the major part of support the Veteran may claim them as a dependent(s).

## \*\*\*\*\* V \* A FACTS \*\*\*\*\*

Q -- I just received an honorable discharge after two years of military duty. I hear the Veterans Administration provides free GI Bill benefits for veterans like me who didn't finish high school. Is that true?

A -- Yes, and the assistance won't be charged against your basic entitlement. Suggest you apply to the VA regional office in your state.

Q -- What are some of the advantages of GI home loans? I had three years of military service before my discharge two years ago, and I am thinking of applying for this benefit from the Veterans Administration.

A -- Because VA guarantees 60 per cent of loans--up to \$17,500, whichever is less down payments are either small or not required, and there usually is a long repayment period with no penalty for early repayment. Also, VA appraises the house before purchase to determine its reasonable value.

Q -- I've been out of military service six months, but can't find a job. What suggestions does the Veterans Administration have?

A -- Visit your local state employment service office and take your DD Form 214 with you. If a job is not available you will be allowed to apply for unemployment compensation. You also should check your regional VA office and U.S. Veterans Assistance Center if you are close to them.

An estimated 2.7 million Vietnam-era veterans separated from April 2, 1970, thru July 31, 1974, are eligible for new low-cost Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI), but they must apply before Aug. 1, 1975. The new program is designed as interim protection during readjustment to civilian life, according to the Veterans Administration.

Service men discharged since Aug. 1 receive application forms automatically, but those discharged before the insurance became available must apply, VA said.

Nonrenewable, five-year term coverage is available in \$5,000 increments up to \$20,000. Monthly premiums for the maximum coverage is \$3.40 for veterans aged 34 and under \$6.80 for those 35 and over.

Former servicemen may convert Servicemen's Group Life Insurance to VGLI without medical examination if applications are received within 120 days of separation. Applications after that time must include evidence of good health. This requirement is waived for veterans VA-rated, service-connected disabilities.

Application forms are available from VA offices and veterans service organizations.

Completed forms and premiums should be sent to the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, 212 Washington St., Newark, N. J. 07102.

## THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

- THURS. **20** California's first Black convention was held in 1855.
- FRI. **21** Malcolm X assassinated during rally at Audubon Ballroom in Harlem. 1965
- SAT. **22** By 1835 there were six primary schools for Blacks in New York City, with 925 children attending.
- SUN. **23** W.E.B. DuBois, Black liberation leader, born in Great Barrington, Mass. 1868
- MON. **24** Rev. Daniel A. Payne, born a free Black in Charleston, S.C. 1811
- TUES. **25** Hiram Rhoades Revels of Mississippi, first Black to serve in U.S. Senate, takes oath of office. 1870
- WED. **26** 102 U.S. counties (all Southern) were at least 50% Black in 1970.

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