

Veteran GI Bill for Apprenticeship & On-the-Job (OJT) Training Programs

Both **Apprenticeship** and **On-the-Job Training (OJT)** programs are available for veterans using their U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) education benefits, including the GI Bill. These programs allow veterans to learn a trade or skill through training on the job rather than attending formal classroom instruction. A veteran generally enters into a training contract for a specific period of time with a business or union, and at the end of the training period, the veteran gains job certification or journeyman status.

This program offers benefits to businesses as well as veterans. Businesses generally pay a reduced OJT/apprenticeship wage (must be at least 50% of journeyman wage). In addition to the entry-level wage, veterans in an approved program can use their GI Bill benefit to receive a tax-free stipend. For more information regarding VA education and training benefits, including the GI Bill, visit: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/

Program Requirements

All Apprenticeship/OJT programs, including those registered with the New York State Department of Labor, must meet the following criteria to become a GI Bill approved training program:

- The position must pay wages by a set salary schedule and must include at least one increase in wages during the training period
- The training position must be under direct supervision
- The program must meet the duration and total hour requirements
- Submit an application for approval

Application forms can be obtained by calling either of the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs offices listed below:

Metropolitan New York City and Long Island
New York State Division of Veterans Affairs
(212) 564-8414

Outside of Metropolitan New York City
New York State Division of Veterans Affairs
(518) 474-7606

The approval process consists of a curriculum review and a site visit to ensure that the program meets VA requirements. Programs need not have veterans enrolled to request this approval.

All approved Apprenticeship/OJT programs with veterans who wish to use their GI Bill benefits during their training must complete a training agreement form. This form can be obtained by calling either of the offices listed above. Businesses must submit the completed training agreement form to the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs for approval. Once approved, the veterans will begin receiving their GI Bill payments.

For more information contact:

New York State Division of Veterans Affairs
William Clarke
(518) 474-7606
William.Clarke@veterans.ny.gov