

# Message from the Director, Commissioned Personnel Center



**2 September 2011**

It is my great pleasure to announce that the NOAA Corps is now eligible to transfer the Post-9/11 GI-Bill Benefits to Eligible Dependents. I made my transfer request earlier today and it was one of the easiest tasks I have ever completed. You will need a few things to accomplish the request. You must have a valid CAC card and know your PIN (Your PIN may be reset at any [RAPIDS site](#)). The election can only be made while on Active Duty and must be done from a computer with a CAC or smart card reader. There are several rules that go along with this benefit and for most officers there will be an additional Service agreement.

## **Eligibility**

Any member of the NOAA Corps on or after September 1, 2011, who is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, and:

1. Has at least 6 years of service in the NOAA Corps on the date of approval and agrees to serve 4 additional years in the NOAA Corps from the date of election.
2. Has at least 10 years of service in the NOAA Corps on the date of approval, is precluded by either standard policy or statute from committing to 4 additional years, and agrees to serve for the maximum amount of time allowed by such policy or statute.
3. Is or becomes retirement eligible during the period from August 1, 2009, through July 31, 2012, and agrees to serve an additional period of service in subparagraphs (a) through (d). A Service member is considered to be retirement eligible if he or she has completed 20 years of active Federal service or 20 qualifying years as computed pursuant to section 12732 of title 10 U.S.C. This will no longer be in effect on August 1, 2013, and on or after that date all members must comply with paragraphs 1 and 2.
  - a. For individuals eligible for retirement on August 1, 2009, no additional service is required.
  - b. For individuals eligible for retirement after August 1, 2009, and before August 1, 2010, 1 year of additional service is required.
  - c. For individuals eligible for retirement on or after August 1, 2010, and before August 1, 2011, 2 years of additional service is required.
  - d. For individuals eligible for retirement on or after August 1, 2011, and before August 1, 2012, 3 years of additional service is required.
4. Such transfer must be requested and approved while the member is in the NOAA Corps.

## **Eligible Dependents**

An individual approved to transfer an entitlement to educational assistance under this section may transfer the individual's entitlement to:

- The individual's spouse.
- One or more of the individual's children.
- Any combination of spouse and child.
- A family member must be enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS) and be eligible for benefits, at the time of transfer to receive transferred educational benefits.

A child's subsequent marriage will not affect his or her eligibility to receive the educational benefit; however, after an individual has designated a child as a transferee under this section, the active duty member retains the right to revoke or modify the transfer at any time.

A subsequent divorce will not affect the transferee's eligibility to receive educational benefits; however, after an individual has designated a spouse as a transferee under this section, the active duty member retains the right to revoke or modify the transfer at any time.

### **Nature of Transfer**

An eligible service member may transfer up to the total months of unused Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, or the entire 36 months if the member has used none.

### **Family member use of transferred educational benefits is subject to the following:**

#### **Spouse:**

- May start to use the benefit immediately.
- May use the benefit while the member remains in the NOAA Corps or after separation from active duty.
- Is not eligible for the monthly stipend or books and supplies stipend while the member is serving on active duty.
- Can use the benefit for up to 15 years after the service member's last separation from active duty.

#### **Child:**

- May start to use the benefit only after the individual making the transfer has completed at least 10 years of service in the NOAA Corps.
- May use the benefit while the eligible individual remains in the NOAA Corps or after separation from active duty.
- May not use the benefit until he/she has attained a secondary school diploma (or equivalency certificate), or reached 18 years of age.
- Is entitled to the monthly stipend and books and supplies stipend even though the eligible individual is on active duty.
- Is not subject to the 15-year delimiting date, but may not use the benefit after reaching 26 years of age.

### **How to apply for TEB**

You must go to the DoD transferability application website to determine if your dependents are eligible to receive the transferred benefits. This website is only available to uniformed members. The instructions on the site are easy to follow.

<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/> or : <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>

### **CAC Reader Access**

We have one CAC card reader log in station at CPC and would be happy to assist officers in the area with submitting the transfer request. Please schedule by sending an email to [Director.CPC@noaa.gov](mailto:Director.CPC@noaa.gov). Ships with a CAC card reader or other offices with a Smart Card reader should be able to obtain access to the website with a CAC and the PIN. We are also working to have a station at each operational center to assist officers in those areas. We will also be scheduling time during the Mid-Grade Leadership Course and REFTRA to assist officers with the transfer request.

### **Additional Questions**

We will post this information on the website, as well as a list of FAQs as we get questions. The process will be discussed at the "Ask CPC" Webinar next week. If you have immediate questions, please contact [Mr. Gregory Raymond](#) at CPC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne K. Lynch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

CAPT Anne Lynch, NOAA  
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center