

YOU CAN USE YOUR GI BILL® BENEFITS FOR OJT TRAINING OR APPRENTICESHIP



What is Apprenticeship and OJT Training?

An apprenticeship is a real job with structured training and related classroom instruction. Wages increase as you gain skills and mastery. OJT agreements are used when jobsite training is available but does not meet industry requirements for an apprenticeship.

Many veterans can collect their GI Bill® education benefits during a Registered Apprenticeship or OJT program.

moldmaker
ironworker
pipefitter

plumber
carpenter
electrician

machinist
meter tech
fire medic

welder
metal-
fabricator

maintenance-
mechanic
lineworker

healthcare
bricklayer
cook/chef

industrial
mechanical
technician

What Are My Employer's Responsibilities?

Once approved as a GI Bill® Training Facility, your employer provides the training as outlined by a written OJT agreement or a formal Apprentice Contract and Standards of Apprenticeship. These documents describe how you will gain skills, knowledge, and ability throughout the training program.

To be approved as a GI Bill® Training Facility, your employer must employ qualified personnel to provide the training and ensure that you receive the instruction outlined in the contract. Records must be kept to show training and wage progress made by you throughout your program. Your employer assigns a Certifying Official to certify and submit your monthly training hours to the VA.

Your State Approving Agency (SAA) Consultant can provide your employer with the required forms, help and guidance.

How Do I Use My GI Bill® for This Training?

- 1 Step one is to have or get a job with an approved GI Bill Training Facility or employer willing to sponsor qualified training. For job search assistance, visit: www.wisconsinjobcenter.org.
- 2 Next, you (or your employer) contact the area Apprenticeship Training Representative for training approval, technical assistance and/or apprentice registration.
- 3 Then, use the online GI Bill® Comparison Tool to explore benefit options www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison, before applying online (VONAPP) at www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov. When first applying for GI Bill benefits, select the VA Form 22-1990 and upload your DD-214 or, if Select Reserves, DD-2384 (NOBE). If you have used the GI Bill before, use the VA Form 22-1995.
- 4 When the VA sends you a Certificate of Eligibility (COE), submit a copy to your employer's Certifying Official to enroll.
- 5 After your enrollment is processed, you will receive a blank VA Form 22-6553d-1 to report hours worked on a monthly basis. Both you and your Certifying Official sign this form. Your employer then submits the form to the VA. Your monthly benefits are based on the reported training hours.
- 6 When you complete or stop the training program, your employer submits the VA Form 22-1999b to the SAA. Training records and VA forms will be kept on file by your employer.

Each year,
approximately 10,000
apprentices train in
Wisconsin at more than 3,000
employers in more than 300 occupations.

To learn more about your own GI Bill® eligibility and how to use VA educational benefits, visit or call:

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill
Helpline: (888) 442-4551



The GI Bill® for Apprenticeship and OJT

Most veterans know that they can use their GI Bill® benefits while attending a college or university. Did you know that you can use your GI Bill® benefits for Apprenticeship and OJT? It's a great way to receive education benefits while learning a new career, even as you earn a good wage.

You may qualify if you are eligible for the GI Bill® under the Active Duty (Veteran) or Reserve GI Bill® programs and:

- You are no longer on active duty, and
- You left active duty less than 10 years ago, or
- You are currently serving in the Guard or Reserve, or
- You are a spouse or child eligible under Chapter 35

Check your eligibility at: www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by the VA is available at the official U.S. government website: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill.

When you are enrolled in an approved program:

Know Your Certifying Official

Your Certifying Official is employed by your training sponsor as the only person who can submit your training hours and is charged with maintaining a file of your training and wage records for VA GI Bill® purposes.

My Certifying Official is:
My Type of Education/Training is:
Apprenticeship or OJT

If your employer has any questions, contact:

Wisconsin State Approving Agency
SAAMAIL@dva.wi.gov

Can't get online? Call the Veteran Benefits Resource Center at 1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387)

GI Bill®
BENEFITS
ARE NOT JUST FOR
COLLEGE

