

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective July 1, 1985, applicable only to members of the Armed Forces who qualify for educational assistance under this chapter on or after such date, see section 705(b) of Pub. L. 98-525, set out as an Effective Date of 1984 Amendment note under section 16131 of this title.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Pub. L. 102-568, title III, § 313(b), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4333, provided that: "The amendments made by paragraphs (2) through (6) of subsection (a) of this section [enacting section 3680A of Title 38, Veterans' Benefits, amending this section and sections 3034 and 3241 of Title 38, and repealing section 3473 of Title 38] shall not apply to any person receiving educational assistance for pursuit of an independent study program in which the person was enrolled on the date of enactment of this section [Oct. 29, 1992] for as long as such person is continuously thereafter so enrolled and meets the requirements of eligibility for such assistance for the pursuit of such program under title 38, United States Code, or title 10, United States Code, in effect on that date."

[§ 16137. Repealed. Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title X, § 1061(29)(A), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1584]

Section, added Pub. L. 98-525, title VII, § 705(a)(1), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2567, § 2137; renumbered § 16137, Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title XVI, § 1663(b)(2), Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 3006; amended Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title X, § 1077, Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 451; Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, § 548(a), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 609, required biennial report on the operation of the educational assistance program.

CHAPTER 1607—EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS SUPPORTING CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS AND CERTAIN OTHER OPERATIONS

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AMENDMENTS

2015—Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title V, § 555(b), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 824, added item 16167.

2008—Pub. L. 110-252, title V, § 5006(e)(3), June 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2386, added item 16163a.

Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title V, § 528(b)(2), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 109, added item 16162a.

§ 16161. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to provide educational assistance to members of the reserve components called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency declared by the President or the Congress, in recognition of the sacrifices that those members make in answering the call to duty.

(Added Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title V, § 527(a), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1890.)

§ 16162. Educational assistance program

(a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of each military department, under regulations

prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, shall establish and maintain a program as prescribed in this chapter to provide educational assistance to members of the Ready Reserve of the armed forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretary concerned.

(b) AUTHORIZED EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—Educational assistance may be provided under this chapter for pursuit of any program of education that is an approved program of education for purposes of chapter 30 of title 38.

(c) BENEFIT AMOUNT.—(1) The educational assistance program established under subsection (a) shall provide for payment by the Secretary concerned, through the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, an educational assistance allowance to each member entitled to educational assistance under this chapter who is pursuing a program of education authorized under subsection (b).

(2) The educational assistance allowance provided under this chapter shall be based on the applicable percent under paragraph (4) to the applicable rate provided under section 3015 of title 38 for a member whose entitlement is based on completion of an obligated period of active duty of three years.

(3) The educational assistance allowance provided under this section for a person who is undertaking a program for which a reduced rate is specified in chapter 30 of title 38, that rate shall be further adjusted by the applicable percent specified in paragraph (4).

(4) The adjusted educational assistance allowance under paragraph (2) or (3), as applicable, shall be—

(A) 40 percent in the case of a member of a reserve component who performed active service for 90 consecutive days but less than one continuous year;

(B) 60 percent in the case of a member of a reserve component who performed active service for one continuous year but less than two continuous years; or

(C) 80 percent in the case of a member of a reserve component who performed active service for—

- (i) two continuous years or more; or
- (ii) an aggregate of three years or more.

(d) MAXIMUM MONTHS OF ASSISTANCE.—(1) Subject to section 3695 of title 38, the maximum number of months of educational assistance that may be provided to any member under this chapter is 36 (or the equivalent thereof in part-time educational assistance).

(2)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or chapter 36 of title 38, any payment of an educational assistance allowance described in subparagraph (B) shall not—

(i) be charged against the entitlement of any individual under this chapter; or

(ii) be counted toward the aggregate period for which section 3695 of title 38 limits an individual's receipt of assistance.

(B) The payment of the educational assistance allowance referred to in subparagraph (A) is the payment of such an allowance to the individual for pursuit of a course or courses under this chapter if the Secretary of Veterans Affairs finds that the individual—