The Virginia Department of Veterans Services



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News Release

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In-state tuition residency requirement waived for veterans at public colleges and universities

RICHMOND—Legislation patroned by Delegates Anderson and Stolle and Senator Edwards during the 2011 General Assembly session will grant veterans in-state tuition rates at Virginia colleges and universities without waiting the normal one-year period. "Coupled with their G.I. Bill benefits, this is a huge benefit for veterans that can save them thousands of dollars and help them kick-start their higher education," commented Paul Galanti, a former Vietnam POW and Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services.

Ordinarily, to qualify for in-state tuition rates, students must have been domiciled in Virginia for at least one year prior to the school year. To verify domicile, colleges typically review whether the student has lived continuously in Virginia for one year prior to the school year and, as applicable, paid income taxes, held a Virginia driver's license and motor vehicle registration, registered to vote in Virginia, been employed, or owned property in the Commonwealth.

Under the new legislation, the one-year residency requirement will be waived for veterans and their dependents. Once veterans establish proof of Virginia domicile, they will qualify for in-state tuition rates as of the next semester.

Eligibility for in-state tuition rates is determined by the college or university during the enrollment process. Veterans should contact their prospective college or university for additional information.

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