



INDUCTION

MC2 Leona Mynes

Gazette Editor

The Guantanamo Bay Chief Petty Officer's Mess began its six-week induction period Aug. 3 for 11 CPO selectees assigned to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and tenant commands.

Sailors selected for advancement to the rank of Chief Petty Officer undergo the induction period mark the transition from Petty Officer First Class to a brotherhood of senior-enlisted Sailors: the Chief's Mess.

For Chief Navy Diver (Selectee) Brent Roberts, becoming a Chief was one of his personal goals for several years.

"When you work toward a goal for so long and it doesn't happen, you just convince yourself it's never going to happen so you don't get disappointed," said Roberts, who became eligible for CPO in 2007. "When the commanding officer gave me the news, I was stunned."

Roberts' path to CPO was built on fundamental badges of his character, including honesty, tenacity, loyalty, courage and honor, he said.

"Always give 110 percent in everything," said Roberts. "From cleaning the head to administrative reports to watch standing, and studying, uniforms, command presence and physical training ... If you always do the right



ABOVE Senior Chief Master-at-Arms Ed Stiff instructs Chief Navy Diver (Selectee) Brent Roberts during a Chief Petty Officer selectee-led fitness session at G. J. Denich Gym today. **BELOW** Chief Petty Officers observe CPO Selectees during a fitness session held at the gym today.

thing, no matter how painful it might be, you will be rewarded."

Roberts is one of 3,500 Sailors selected to join the Chief's ranks of 19,588 who were eligible, according to Navy Personnel Command.

In June, a CPO selection board convened and sought out the best and most well-qual-

ified Sailors for CPO, abiding by a precept instruction that requires them to review eligible Sailors' official military personnel file, to include performance evaluations, awards and other correspondence, according to NPC.

The selection board also considers the fol-

Security cracking down on 'GTMO Specials'



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Gazette Editor

One of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's novelties is its notoriously unsafe and practically-falling-apart "GTMO Special."

Every base resident has seen a 'GTMOobile': the old, rusty 1970s-ish car, somehow operating with a donut tire and no rear view mirror, bouncing along Sherman Avenue after having a long life with several different owners throughout its years.

GTMOobiles and GTMO Specials are authorized at Guantanamo Bay – if they meet certain standards set forth by national and local authorities.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, has set forth standards which vehicles must meet in order to operate on Guantanamo Bay's roads.

"Vehicles that do not have mirrors or proper signals and lights impair a driver's ability to let others know of their intent to turn or stop," said Chief Master-at-Arms (SW/AW) James Lloyd, Naval Security Force Guantanamo Bay's leading chief petty officer. "Vehicles operated onboard the installation have to meet NHTSA standards as well as Navy safety requirements."

Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and Regulations, found at www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/im-

port/fmvss/index.html, outlines these requirements, as well as Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Instruction 11200.1B.

Privately-owned vehicle owners are responsible for their vehicle meeting safety standards, said Lloyd.

"Minor infractions, such as out tail lights and brake lights, are given a 'fix it' ticket with a grace period," said Lloyd. "If the infraction hasn't been fixed when the grace period expires and the vehicle is found on the road, it could be impounded."

Common violations of Federal vehicle safety regulations at Guantanamo Bay include:

- Broken or not working tail lights
- Broken or not working brake lights
- Doors missing
- Doors from other vehicles being used
- Missing side mirrors
- Rusted floorboards
- Seats placed outside of the vehicle, such as in the bed of a truck

"Operating a vehicle onboard NAVSTA Guantanamo Bay isn't any different from any other installation or roadway in the U.S.," said Lloyd. "Drivers need to ensure their vehicle would not pose a threat to the public and take others into consideration while driving."



MASTER-AT-ARMS 2ND CLASS

John Lewis

■ **Job/department:** Vehicle Registration Office with Naval Security Force

■ **Age:** 31

■ **Hometown:** St. Paul, Minn.

■ **Quote:** It is better to seek forgiveness than to ask for permission.

■ **Hero:** Dale Earnhardt Sr.

■ **Favorite TV show:** "NCIS"

■ **Favorite hobby:** Football, NASCAR

■ **Favorite GTMO restaurant:** The Jerk House.

■ **Favorite sports team:** Minnesota Vikings

■ **Greatest passion:** My family, NASCAR and football.

■ **Currently working on:** College degree in Criminal Justice.

■ **Musician:** Jason Aldean.

■ **How the Navy has improved his life:** Without the Navy I would not have my wife or had our two great children.

■ **Sailor of the Week because:** he did an outstanding job on coordinating National Night Out.

REGULATION DID-YA-KNOW

When approached by an emergency vehicle using flashing lights and/or sirens, all other motor vehicles in the area, regardless of direction of travel, shall pull to the right side of the roadway as soon as safely possible, & shall remain there until the emergency vehicle has passed.

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Instruction 11200.1B, Motor Vehicle and Traffic Regulations

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GUANTANAMO BAY GAZETTE

NAVAL STATION GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

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Newly installed generators already saving energy

MC2 Leona Mynes

Gazette Editor

Only 48 hours after two fuel-efficient 3.5-megawatt electro-motive division (EMD) generators were installed and turned on at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay on July 29, Public Works Department recorded a five percent decrease in fuel consumption at the plant.

"For a long time, Guantanamo Bay has been running this base on generators that have far exceeded their life expectancy," said Art Torley, public works' production division director. "With the exception of the two EMD generators and four wind turbines that were installed in 2005, the base has been using generators as old as 1957 to produce power for consumers on the base."

Because the U.S. and Cuba do not maintain diplomatic relations, Guantanamo Bay must produce water and electricity on-station for approximately 5,700 residents, NS Guantanamo Bay and tenant activities.

The older, less fuel-efficient generators are scheduled to be shut down and removed, said Tim Wagoner, NS Guantanamo Bay's resource efficiency manager.

The project could save the Navy approximately \$2 million per year in diesel fuel cost, said Wagoner.

Two more 3.5-megawatt EMD generators are due on-island in September and are scheduled to be installed in December and January, said Wagoner.



Public Works Officer Cmdr. Anthony Conley, left, cuts a ribbon with Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Commanding Officer Capt. Kirk R. Hibbert, during the commissioning ceremony for two new 3.5-megawatt electro-motive division generators on July 29.

Prevent Sexual Assault:

ASK!

...if friends need help

ACT!

...when they do

INTERVENE!

...when you see trouble

For more details about Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, call the Fleet and Family Support Center at 4141.



Lucas Sharpe, a 17-month-old military dependent, pets Beacon, a volunteer American Red Cross dog as Beacon's handler, Army Pfc. Amanda Russel, watches during the 28th Annual National Night Out at the Downtown Lyceum Aug. 2.

National Night Out



Members of the community attended the 28th National Night Out (NNO), sponsored by Naval Security Force Guantanamo Bay, at the Downtown Lyceum on Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay Cuba, Aug, 2.

Photos, story by MCSN Joe Koerber

Defense Media Activity detachment Guantanamo Bay

National Night Out, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), is a crime and drug prevention event involving law enforcement, emergency medical

personnel, and other local law enforcement and crime prevention officials.

“During the first Tuesday of August, millions of Americans worldwide join with local, state, tribal and federal law enforcement

to show solidarity against crime and terrorism,” said Andrew de la Rocha, Guantanamo Bay Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Agent-in-Charge and NNO guest speaker. “Sending a message to criminals that we are here in our neighborhoods and helping to keep things safe.”

Security, fire, and weapons departments and the dive locker displayed crime prevention and safety assets such as military working dogs, patrol vehicles and boats, dive gear, fire fighting equipment and weapons; and tenant commands and activities including the FBI, Marine Corps Security Force Company Guantanamo Bay, and Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay showcased boats, Humvees, and emergency vehicles.

“We need to make sure that as our children are coming up through society, they understand what their local law enforcement can offer,” said Capt. Kirk R. Hibbert, NS Guantanamo Bay commanding officer. “The synergy that law enforcement and a community create is very important. We are proud to be able to show our community the capability of our local forces to prevent and respond to crime here in Guantanamo Bay.”



Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Matthew Parker works with military working dog Timmy during the 28th Annual National Night Out held at the Downtown Lyceum Aug. 2.





GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARDS



G: Guantanamo Bay Gazette
SC: Sarah Carter, *Agency Program Coordinator, Government Travel Credit Card Program, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay*

G: What are your responsibilities as Agency Program Coordinator?

SC: I have been designated in writing by Commander, Navy Region South-east, as responsible for the day-to-day program execution and management of the travel card program. I am the liaison between the bank and the travel card holder.

G: What makes a person eligible for a government travel card?

SC: Military and civilian DoD Personnel who travel as part of their duties will obtain and use the individually-billed Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC). Anyone who travels more than twice a year is required to obtain a travel card. The Department of Defense policy is that the GTCC will be used by all DoD personnel to pay for all costs related to official Government travel. Official government travel is defined as travel under competent orders while performing duties pertaining to official government assignments such as temporary duty (TDY).

G: How can eligible personnel get a GTCC?

SC: DoD personnel can obtain a travel card by completing the mandatory training through the Defense Travel Management Office (DTMO) web page at www.defensetravel.dod.mil. This certificate is good for 3 years, so once you get the card and transfer, it can go with you. There is an application form to fill out for Citibank that is filled out through me and a Statement of Understanding that must be completed as well. Once the training is complete and application is filled out, I will submit the application to Citibank and the travel card will arrive in 2-3 weeks.

G: What are GTCCs used for?

SC: Travel cards are designed to pay for the major parts of a member's TDY; such as hotel lodging, airplane tickets, rental cars (when authorized) and meals. It is also designed to cover the small expenses such as hotel taxes, gasoline (when authorized), taxi fares, baggage fees and any other expense that may be deemed related to official travel. Use of the travel card in coordination with the Defense Travel System (DTS) helps to make the entire travel process easier.

G: What should cardholders know?

SC: The biggest discrepancy that I see with travel card is travellers not submitting their travel voucher (receipts) within 5 business days of completion of their official travel. Failure to complete this within this 5 days leads to delays in payment to the GTCC and ultimately the financial burden, sometimes costly, rests with the cardholder to pay in full.

For more information, call Carter at 4671 or e-mail sarah.carter@usnbgtdmo.navy.mil.

See **CPO** • From cover ←

lowing criteria when selecting CPOs:

- Educational, personal and professional development,
- Competency and skill information,
- Anti-terrorism and force protection,
- Language, regional and cultural experience,
- Naval Special Warfare and Navy Expeditionary Force experience,
- Special duty assignments,
- Overseas and arduous duty,
- Individual Augmentee,
- Global War on Terror assignment, and
- Overseas contingency operations assignment

"The Guantanamo Bay Chief's Mess has been doing their part by mentoring and developing these Sailors over the past year," said Senior Chief Quartermaster Paul Bischoff, NS Guantanamo Bay's Port Operations Department leading chief petty officer. "The final few weeks of the induction process are really a concentrated period of leadership training, uniform instruction, and unit building."

The Chief's Mess' goal during induction is to set new CPOs off on the right foot, said Bischoff.

"Each year's CPO selectees go through certain phases that we have come to recognize and expect," said Bischoff. "At first, there's always a bit of confusion while the reality of becoming a Chief sets in, and the selectees start to coalesce as a team. You can bet the Chief's Mess will have these Sailors ready to proudly wear their anchors."

Each year, CPO induction culminates at a time-honored pinning ceremony on Sept. 16.

"For a Sailor, there is no single career event that comes with more pride than the day that a Chief gets pinned," said Bischoff. "Even seasoned CPOs will occasionally shed a tear when they see new Chiefs receive their anchors, because they remember the day they were in that position. It is truly a life-changing event."

Did you know?

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GTMO SHOPPER

E-mail classified ad submissions to **PAO-CLASSIFIEDADS@USNBGTMO.NAVY.MIL.**

If sent to any other e-mail, it may not be published. Submit your ad NLT noon Wednesdays for that week's Gazette. Ads are removed after two weeks. **Re-submit** the ad to re-publish. The Gazette staff and NS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, page. The Public Affairs Office has final editorial discretion on all content. Call MC2 Leona Mynes at 4520 with your questions or concerns.

VEHICLES

'98 Toyota Corolla. Runs Great and very smooth. Excellent Cold A/C, 116K miles, Alarm System, auto windows & doors. \$3750.00 / OBO. Call 77151

'09 Ford Fusion SE, 9,7000 miles, excellent condition, \$14,500. Call H:79554/W:74333

'90 Toyota Corolla, clean and in a good running condition, 2 new tires, AC, passed inspection, radio & CD player. Asking \$2800.00 OBO. Emad or Art @ 77883 or 8235.

'97 Ford F150, Extended Cab, Fully Loaded, Available August 12, 2011, For information please call 4514.

'84 Blue Dodge Ram 50, Automatic \$1,200 or OBO. Includes Pioneer CD Player, New Starter New Break Pads, and New Battery, Contact MA1 T @9973 or TK61.

'98 Toyota Corolla. A/C, 116K miles, Alarm System, auto windows & doors. \$3750 OBO. Call 77151.

'08 Legacy 260. 3,000 mi. 87 mpg. \$2,500 obo. Call Mike at 77722.

'88 Mercury Tracer, blue and white. Just had a tune up. Great GTMO beater available now. \$1,000. E-mail clevelandmfreeman@gmail.com.

ELECTRONICS

SCSI modem and wireless router avail. Aug 12 - \$60 for both with all cords. Call Leona at 78854.

SCSI, Modem \$55, George Forman Grill, toaster for bagels/bread \$10, coffee machine \$15. Call 75749.

JVC Headset, Brand New Case Logic Digital Camera Case \$8, Calvary Dual Hard Drive Dock \$80, Internal Toshiba Sata Laptop HD 250GB 7200RPM \$50, necklace. Call 76819.

Casio 61-Key digital piano w/ stand, headphones, power supply. \$125 obo. Call 77018 or email kmsquared@yahoo.com.

Two SCSI modems for sale \$100. One set of cables. CD, original box. Call 8034 and leave message for PO1 Rivera.

YARD SALES

Saturday, Aug. 6. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Villamar 2158B, on 4th Street. No early birds.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Crib: Dark Brn, incl mattress, bumper pad \$30 OBO, Baby Changing Station: Dark Brn, w/ 2 shelves, incl changing pad & cover \$15 OBO. Stroller/Car Seat Combo 3-pc Chicco Keyfit30 Travel System, nwbrn to 30lbs, Orange/Grey \$40. Pictures available. Contact Michelle at, mipdnzr@hotmail.com or 77491.

Queen size bed. \$75 OBO. Dresser. \$20. Computer Desk. \$15. End table. \$5. Call Mike at 77722.

One Sofa double bed and love seat \$400. Table Lamps \$30. Call 3228.

Large solid wood desk w/ 2 standard drawer file cabinets. Rolling chair included. \$100 OBO. Please contact Wilson at 75817 or docwilson88@yahoo.com.

Household goods for sale. Call Regina at 79552.

OUTDOOR REC

(1) Penn combo, med light; (1) Skakespeare Ugly-stick combo, med hv; tacklebox w/knife, gerber, leaders, hooks, weights, lures; chum bag; net; wheeled cooler. Paid over \$240, take all for \$100. Call Roy @ 84196

Landscaping stones, various shapes, sizes and prices. Call 77769.

Kayak, Dimension 4.7meter Spirit, 2 person sit-on-top-style Kayak. \$500 OBO. Call 77349.

Zeagle Ranger Limited BCD, regulator, octo, weights, gauges, dive flag, night dive light, accessory bucket. <30 dives. \$1,300 obo. Call 77018 or e-mail kmsquared@yahoo.com

Qantas 21-Speed mountain bike, helmet, lock, reflector belt. Brand new, used twice. \$100 obo. Call 77018 or email kmsquared@yahoo.com.

PETS

Four-year-old miniature pincher, white mixed brown. Potty trained. Cannot take it with me. PCSing 2nd week of August. Call 72626.

Kitty that is great with children needs a good home. Cannot PCS with her. She comes with her litter box & food, cat dishes. Please call 78854.

MISC

Miken NRG 500 Maxload softball bat 34/28. Best serious offer takes it. H: 78635 W: 8032 ask for MM2.

Race steering wheel \$70 obo call 3311 days, 77929 evenings & weekends.

LOST & FOUND

LOST: Snorkel w/ matching goggles, adult, blue, black and clear at CABLE BEACH. Call 75817.

COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS

"The Art of Public Speaking" 10th Ed. (textbook for COMM 111 at Columbia College) Email anthonymartinez90@gmail.com.

The SCOOP



FREE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

Aug. 9, Let's Make-Up / Aug. 10, Creative Dramatics / Aug. 11, Introduction to Mime / Workshops held at the High School Auditorium from 1215-1300. Register by Aug. 8 at the Youth Center or Teen Center. Open to ages 5-18. FMI, call 74658.

THE GOOD RUN, RUNNING IN FIDEL'S BACKYARD

Congrats to MWR's "Name that Run" Contest Winners: Kristin & Mark Good and Joe Koerber. Join in the fun for this 5K on Aug. 13, Denich Gym, 0700 Register by Aug. 10. FMI, call 77262.

CIRQUE ODYSSEY

Aug. 19, Downtown Lyceum, 2000. This all-ages performance is a spin-off of a traditional cirque show including acrobatics, dancing and more! FMI, call 4882.

TRX SUSPENSION CERTIFICATION

August 20-21. Space is limited. Open to command fitness leaders first. Register at Denich Gym by August 12. FMI, call 2157.

SOCCER LEAGUE

Begins the week of August 22. Register by August 16. Coaches meeting is August 18. Ages 16 & up can sign up at Denich Gym. FMI, call 77262.

ALL SORTA GOLF TOURNAMENT

August 26-28. Denich Gym & Golf Course. Register by August 23. Coaches Meeting is August 25. Teams of 2-6 players participate in 3 events: disc golf, miniature golf and regular golf. FMI, call 2113.

CRAFT FAIR,

Sept. 3. Watch for details coming soon!

JTF'S SAFE RIDE HOME.

To prevent drinking and driving, those out drinking can take a safe ride home. Call 84913 or 84781.

YOUTH SUMMER CAMP.

Happening now until August. Arts and crafts, fitness, games, nature, and more. Sign up at the Youth Center. Call 74658.

AMERICAN RED CROSS FUNDRAISER

Challenge coins: \$10 each or three for \$25. Stop by Center Bargo 1208 to purchase or call 2511.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE'S REGISTRATION

The early fall session is Aug. 15 through Oct. 8. Registration begins July 4. In-seat class offerings are Beginning Algebra, College Algebra, Spanish I, and Introduction to Human Services. Hundreds of online courses are also available. Call 75555 or e-mail guantanamo@ccis.edu for details.

GTMO CSADD

Open to Sailors E-1 to E-5 ages 18-25. For details contact GTMO's CSADD chapter at Facebook.com/GTMO-CSADD.

MARES SEMINARS

Come attend FREE Mares seminars Friday, Aug. 19 at 6 p.m. at Reef Raiders. Chance to win Free Mares SCUBA gear. FMI e-mail jessie@oceanenterprises.com.

GTMO JOB HUNT

SECRETARY (OA),GS-0318-05,(FISC)

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANT (OA), GS-2012-05 (FISC)

*Open continuously until filled. To apply for a job, call the Human Resources office at 4441 or stop by Bulkeley Hall, room 211.

NGIS INSTALLATION TRAINING MANAGER (\$31.3K-\$48K/YR) US HIRES

NGIS LEAD FRONT DESK RESERVATION AGENT (\$26K-\$35K/YR) US HIRES

NGIS FRONT DESK RESERVATION AGENT (\$25K-\$31K/YR) US HIRES

NGIS NIGHT AUDITOR/FRONT DESK AGENT (\$25K-\$31K/YR) US HIRES

COOK (US: \$10.94/hr; FN: \$6.61/hr + \$0.36ba)

BARTENDER (US: \$9.47/hr; FN: \$5.45/hr + \$0.34ba)

RECREATION AIDE (LIBERTY) FLEX (US: \$7.25/hr; FN: \$5.86/hr + \$0.52ba)

BOWLING MANAGER (\$31K-\$49K/YR) US HIRES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS TECHNICIAN (\$25K-\$31K/YR) DOE/DOQ

MAINTENANCE WORKER (3 TEMP. POSITIONS, 1 PERM. POSITION)

To apply for a job, call the MWR Human Resources Office at 4889 or stop by Bldg. 760.

FULL & PART TIME PASSENGER SERVICE AGENTS at the Air Terminal (Leeward Air Terminal and the Windward Annex.) Flexible schedule, excellent salary and a fast-paced, pleasant working environment. Send resume to Kim.veditz.ctr@usnbgtno.navy.mil or call 6364.

MOVIES DOWNTOWN LYCEUM

FRIDAY AUG. 5

8 p.m.: **Judy Moody**
PG

10 p.m.: **Cowboys & Aliens**
PG13

SATURDAY AUG. 6

8 p.m.: **Priest** Last Showing!
PG13

10 p.m.: **The Conspirator**
PG13

SUNDAY AUG. 7

8 p.m.: **Mr. Popper's Penguins**
PG

MONDAY AUG. 8

8 p.m.: **Captain America**
R

TUESDAY AUG. 9

8 p.m.: **Horrible Bosses**
R

WEDNESDAY AUG. 10

8 p.m.: **Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides**
PG13

THURSDAY AUG. 11

8 p.m.: **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Pt. 2**
PG13

**Welcome Baby Ayden Ray Snyder
Born in GTMO to Jeremy,
Kendyl and big sister Ava Snyder
on July 19, 2011 at 3:37 p.m.
& lb., 21.25 inches**

Your benefits...

Navy outlines changes to Post-9/11 GI Bill

MC1 (SW/AW) LaTunya Howard

Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

The Navy released revisions to the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill policy Aug. 4, providing Sailors, veterans and their families updated information on their educational benefit options.

"When the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill came about, it was a tremendous undertaking and an opportunity for Congress to reward our service members and veterans for their service to this country," said Ann Hunter, Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training & Education voluntary service chief. "As our policy-makers reviewed the program, they realized there were individual groups, who have also served, that were omitted and that implementation could be made easier."

The new policy, announced in NAVADMIN 235/11, adds benefits explanations and introduces new changes. Hunter outlined the following major changes:

- All public school in-state tuition and fees are covered.
- Annual tuition has been capped at \$17,500 for private and foreign schools.
- Tuition payment tiers now apply to active duty personnel.
- The post-9/11 G.I. Bill will now only pay the net cost for tuition and fees – that is, it will only pay what scholarships, grants and loans do not cover.
- Housing stipends will not be paid during semester breaks.
- Monthly living stipend will be paid based on rate of pursuit.
- Entrance exam fees may now be reimbursed.
- Active duty members and spouses can receive book and supply stipend entitlements.
- Non-degree programs, on-the-job training, apprenticeship training, flight programs and correspondence training are now eligible for benefits.

"One of the big things that affect our active duty members is that prior to this new

bill, members could receive 100 percent of their tuition and fees paid for as long as they have 90 days of qualifying active duty time," Hunter said. "The new bill prorates the payment based on the member's qualifying time." Hunter also explained that active duty members will, like veterans, receive tiered benefits, from 40 to 100 percent.

Another significant change will be how the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill deals with other scholarships and loans. Previously, the G.I. Bill issued set amounts based on tuition and fees. The benefit will now pay only net costs after scholarships, grants and loans are applied.

"Net-bill-payer [policy] applies to Sailors when they use tuition assistance (TA). This is referred to as 'Top Up.' TA pays first and the GI Bill picks up the difference," Hunter explained. "Sailors don't normally get scholarships or loans, so the greatest impact on this policy change will be to veterans, drilling reservists, and dependents, including dependents of active duty military."

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) made this policy change to keep those who used the benefit from pocketing extra funds and to save money.

"The change was not meant to push veterans and dependents away from grants and loans," Hunter said. "Those who select the more expensive schools may have to get a grant or loan to cover the full costs of the tuition and fees. For example, if the student wants to attend a private school and the tuition is \$25,000 annually, the VA will only pay \$17,500. The student might want to get a loan for \$7,500. The loan would pay first and the VA would cover the rest."

Additionally, for those students whose private school or foreign school tuition exceeds the \$17,500 limit, the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program (Yellow Ribbon Program) is available. The program is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. This program allows

institutions of higher learning (degree granting institutions) in the United States to voluntarily enter into an agreement with VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the established caps. The institution can contribute up to 50% of those expenses and VA will match the same amount as the institution. This service is available to veterans eligible for 100 percent entitlement and may be available to some children transferees entitled to 100 percent benefits. The Yellow Ribbon program may also be used to cover additional costs for attendance at public schools if the student is paying out-of-state tuition and fees. Members should verify whether the school of choice is a Yellow Ribbon school.

According to Hunter, under the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, qualified Sailors may elect to transfer all or a portion of their benefits to a spouse or child enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment System (DEERS). For transferability, Sailors must have served at least six years in the Armed Forces and agree to serve an additional four years, in most cases.

NAVADMIN 203/09 identified exceptions to the additional four-year service obligation, which includes Sailors currently eligible for retirement within four years of the Post 9/11 GI Bill start date.

More information on these changes can be viewed on the Post 9/11 GI Bill website at http://www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/post_911_gibill/Post911_changes.html. Sailors can enroll in the Post 9/11 GI Bill at the Veteran's Administration website, <https://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp> and sign up for transferability of benefits at www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/. Sailors should ensure their service obligation is reflected in their Electronic Service Record at <https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil/>.

To read the NAVADMIN or find more information, visit the NPC website at www.npc.navy.mil, or call the NPC Customer Service Center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC.



Find the Guantanamo Bay Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (GTMO CSADD) at [Facebook.com/GTMO-CSADD](https://www.facebook.com/GTMO-CSADD).

Eligibility:
E-1 to E-5 and age 18-25.