

exclusively by correspondence will be 1 month for each of the following amounts paid as an educational assistance allowance:

- (1) \$588 paid after October 31, 2000, and before October 1, 2001;
- (2) \$608 paid after September 30, 2001, and before January 1, 2002; and
- (3) \$670 paid after December 31, 2001.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3534(b), 3564, 3686(a)).

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- 3. Section 21.3131 is amended by:
 - a. Revising paragraph (a)
 - b. Redesignating paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) as paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), respectively.
 - c. Adding a new paragraph (b).
- The revision and addition read as follows:

§ 21.3131 Rates—educational assistance allowance—38 U.S.C. chapter 35.

(a) *Rates.* Except as provided in § 21.3132, educational assistance allowance is payable at the following rates for pursuit of education or training that occurs after September 30, 2001, and before January 1, 2002:

Type of course	Monthly rate
Institutional:	
Full time	\$608.00
¾ time	456.00
½ time	304.00
Less than ½ but more than ¼ time ¹	304.00
¼ time or less ¹	152.00
Cooperative training (other than farm cooperative) (Full time only).	
Apprenticeship or on-the-job (full time only) ² :	608.00
First six months	443.00
Second six months	331.00
Third six months	219.00
Fourth six months and thereafter	111.00
Farm cooperative:	
Full time	491.00
¾ time	368.00
½ time	246.00
Correspondence	55 percent of the established charge for the number of lessons completed by the eligible spouse or surviving spouse and serviced by the school—Allowance paid quarterly ³

¹ If an eligible person under 38 U.S.C. chapter 35 pursuing independent study on a less than one-half-time basis completes his or her program before the designated completion time, his or her award will be recomputed to permit payment of tuition and fees not to exceed \$304.00 or \$152.00, as appropriate, per month, if the maximum allowance is not initially authorized.

² See footnote 5 of § 21.4270(c) for measurement of full time and § 21.3132(c) for proportionate reduction in award for completion of less than 120 hours per month.

³ Established charge means the charge for the course or courses determined on the basis of the lowest extended time payment plan offered by the institution and approved by the appropriate State approving agency or the actual cost to the eligible spouse or surviving spouse, whichever is less. VA considers the continuity of an enrollment broken when there are more than 6 months between the servicing of the lessons.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3532(a), 3542(a), 3687(b)(2), (d))

(b) *Rates.* Except as provided in § 21.3132, educational assistance allowance is payable at the following

rates for pursuit of education or training that occurs after December 31, 2001, and before October 1, 2002:

Type of course	Monthly rate
Institutional:	
Full time	\$670.00
¾ time	503.00
½ time	335.00
Less than ½ but more than ¼ time ¹	335.00
¼ time or less ¹	167.50
Cooperative training (other than farm cooperative) (Full time only).	
Apprenticeship or on-the-job (full time only) ² :	488.00
First six months	365.00
Second six months	242.00
Third six months	122.00
Fourth six months and thereafter	
Farm cooperative:	
Full time	541.00
¾ time	406.00
½ time	271.00
Correspondence	55 percent of the established charge for the number of lessons completed by the eligible spouse or surviving spouse and serviced by the school—Allowance paid quarterly ³

¹ If an eligible person under 38 U.S.C. chapter 35 pursuing independent study on a less than one-half-time basis completes his or her program before the designated completion time, his or her award will be recomputed to permit payment of tuition and fees not to exceed \$335.00 or \$167.50, as appropriate, per month, if the maximum allowance is not initially authorized.