

Veterans Readiness and Employment Program (aka-Voc Rehab) Chapter 31 GI Bill® benefits

Information and Application Instructions

For students that have a service-connected disability that limits their ability to work or prevents them from working, VA has a Veteran Readiness and Employment (formerly called Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment) program that may help. This program—also known as Chapter 31 or VR&E—helps students explore employment options and address education or training needs.

They may apply for VR&E benefits and services if they meet both requirements:

- Didn't receive a dishonorable discharge, plus
- Have a service-connected disability rating of at least 10% from VA

Eligibility for Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E - Chapter 31)

To learn about eligibility requirements for Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)

—aka Voc Rehab please visit <https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/eligibility/>

Student may apply using a VA form 28-1900 at the below link:

<https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/apply-vre-form-28-1900/introduction>

Once VA regional office receives the student's VR&E application, a VR&E counselor from the state the student resides in will schedule an initial evaluation to determine if they are eligible for the program.

Each state has their own separate regional office that process applications, see the link below:

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/offices.asp>

Please read the information at the link below for more information.

<https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/>

Mississippi State University Information and VR&E funding information

Students are accepted or denied into the Veterans Readiness and Employment program by a VR&E counselor after the initial evaluation.

Each semester or term **two authorizations** are created by the student's VR&E counselor for approved participants.

One is for payment of **tuition and fees** to Mississippi State University's Sponsored Student Office in Account Services.

The second authorization is for **textbooks and supplies** through MSU's Barnes and Noble Book store.

Students are asked to complete a [Military Benefits Form](#) and return to the Center for America's veterans@msstate.edu

We ask for this form each semester or term while the student is in attendance and will report the registered hours to the VA.

The student will receive an email from us during upcoming registration time frame with the Military Benefits Form attached.

After the first semester the student will be able to register for classes five days earlier than the general student population.

Center for America's Veterans passes the authorization along to the Sponsored Student Office in Account Services.

Sponsored Student Office in Account Services places an anticipated payment on the student's account for eligible tuition and fees.

Their office will invoice the VR&E program after last day to add classes which the VR&E counselor reviews for acceptable charges.

Authorized invoices are submitted to VR&E Payment Center, taking 30-45 calendar days to process and wire approved funds to MSU.

Once funds are received by MSU Sponsored Student Office in Account Services that payment is credited to student's account.

VR&E counselor also creates an authorization for books and supplies through MSU's Barnes and Noble Bookstore. [See below for ordering instructions.](#)

After the current semester completes, our office emails the student and VR&E counselor an unofficial copy of the student's transcript.

The VR&E counselor reviews the transcript and other program requirements to determine if satisfactory progress to continue in the program.

Important Information - Until the actual funds arrive at MSU refund cannot be released unless you are at a 0 balance

VR&E Textbooks and Supplies ordering instructions

VR&E should order books and supplies through Mississippi State University Barnes and Noble Bookstore

- Student's VR&E counselor should email a **Barnes and Noble authorization number-** (may also be called a PO number)
- Use the **"order or reserve your textbooks"** link located under the **registration information tab** on student's **MyState Banner** account
- This will pull up all course materials needed for all courses and specific sections the student is taking
- From here, select the format student would like (new/used/purchase/ or digital) and add them to the cart
- Choose either checkout as a guest or create account, either option is fine.
- **Select PICKUP AT STORE OR SHIP TO MY ADDRESS**
- **Please note that under pickup at store, student must include they are a vocational rehabilitation student**

See photo below

The screenshot shows a checkout page with a dropdown menu at the top set to "Other". Below it, there are two shipping options: "PICKUP AT STORE" and "SHIP TO MY ADDRESS". The "PICKUP AT STORE" option is selected, indicated by a red radio button. Under this option, there is a text input field for "NAME FOR PICKUP" containing "AthleteVA>Your Name". Below the input field, the address is listed as "75 B.S. Hood Dr., Cullis Wade Depot, Mississippi State, 39762 US". The "SHIP TO MY ADDRESS" option is unselected, indicated by a grey radio button. A red annotation points to this option with the text "Select this option if you are not a Starkville Campus Student and need your textbooks and materials shipped". At the bottom of the page, there is a red button labeled "CONTINUE" and a link labeled "< BACK TO SHOPPING CART". A notice at the bottom left states: "NOTICE: UPS! address validation functionality. The address validation functionality does not support the identification or verification of occupants at an address."

Next, you will select the **"Athlete"** button as your form of payment. Locate your VR&E BN authorization number from your counselor. Enter that number into the slot asking for your MSU ID number. Completed orders will receive a confirmation email stating we have received your order. A second email will be sent once your order has been completed. For questions or concerns email:

sm204@bncollege.com or call 662-325-1578-Mynown Arnold