

Dear GI Bill user:

KU's [recently announced academic calendar changes](#) will result in you using fewer days of your GI Bill in the 2020-21 academic year than in a traditional semester – that's the good news. Using fewer days also means your monthly allowances will be reduced from what you may typically see in a traditional semester. **We want to provide you with the approximate financial impact so you can plan accordingly.**

This year, the fall semester is scheduled to end Dec. 11 instead of Dec. 18 – that's 7 fewer days of GI Bill benefits used than initially planned. The spring semester is slated to begin Feb. 1 instead of Jan. 19, which is 12 fewer days of benefits being used. In total, if you are a full-time student, you will use approximately 19 fewer days in the 2020-21 school year than initially planned. In total, the fall semester will use 109 days of benefits, while spring will use 103 days.

What does that mean for your monthly allowances? Below are the most common chapters/allowances for full time students on the Lawrence campus. To calculate your specific rate, visit the [GI Bill Comparison Tool](#) to find out your monthly rate (listed under the category of "housing allowance" regardless of which chapter you are using). Be sure to select the correct rate based on which campus you attend classes. Divide that rate by 30 to get your daily BAH rate and then multiply your daily rate by 19 days. To calculate the total amount of benefit you will receive, multiply the daily rate by 109 days for fall and 103 days for spring.

**Note, the figures below are based on the monthly allowance rates as of July 2020 for the entire school year and are rounded down to the nearest dollar. Each year, the VA updates allowance rates on Oct. 1, so the figures below may change slightly.*

- **Ch. 33 Post-9/11 GI Bill and Ch. 31 Voc Rehab eligible for Ch. 33:**
 - If your BAH is \$1437/mo. (or \$47.90/day), you will see a about \$910 less than anticipated with the 2020-21 revised schedule. You will now have 19 more days of GI Bill benefits with the revised schedule. You'll receive around \$5,221 for fall and \$4,933 for spring.
 - If your BAH is \$1526/mo. (or \$50.86/day), you will see about \$966 less than anticipated with the revised schedule. You will now have 19 more days of GI Bill benefits with the revised schedule. You'll receive around \$5,544 for fall and \$5,238 for spring.
- **Ch. 35 Dependents Educational Assistance** (current rates are \$1248/mo. Or \$41.60/day) will see about \$790 less than anticipated with the revised schedule. You will now have 19 more days of GI Bill benefits with the revised schedule. You'll receive around \$4,534 for fall and \$4,284 for spring.
- **Ch. 1606 Montgomery GI Bill Select Reserve** (receiving \$392/mo. Or \$13.06/day) will see about \$248 less than anticipated with the revised schedule. You will now have 19 more days of GI Bill benefits with the revised schedule. You'll receive around \$1,424 for fall and \$1,345.18 for spring.
- **Ch. 30 Montgomery GI Bill** with 3 or more years (receiving \$1994/mo. or \$66.46/day) will see about \$1263 less than anticipated with the revised schedule. You will now have 19 more days of GI Bill benefits with the revised schedule. You'll receive around \$7,244 for fall and \$6,845 for spring.

- **Ch. 31 not eligible for Ch. 33** (receiving between \$605/mo. or \$20.16/day and \$1,079/mo. or \$38.96/day, depending on the number of dependents) will see somewhere between \$383 and \$683 less than anticipated with the revised schedule. You will now have 19 more days of GI Bill benefits with the revised schedule. You'll receive around \$2,197-\$4,246 for fall and \$2,076-\$4,012 for spring.

This also means your check/deposit in January (for your days in class in December) will be slightly smaller than in a traditional semester and you will NOT receive a monthly allowance check in the month of February since you will not be in class at all during the month of January.

Please note holidays/breaks are just being moved from during the semester to the end of fall/beginning of spring. In the past, you received an allowance during fall/spring breaks and holidays because they are during the semester and were shorter than 7 days. However, your GI Bill was also charged for those days.

If you need some financial planning assistance, [Student Money Management](#) is aware of this situation and they are available to help you analyze your finances and provide guidance on budgeting and more. Their services are completely free. Visit their [website](#), call them at 785-864-1182, email money@ku.edu or [make an appointment](#).

Lastly, just a reminder regarding online classes: if you're in a traditional on-campus program and classes move online at any point in the fall or you have to attend online for whatever reason, federal legislation says we can still classify you as an on-campus student through Dec. 2020. (This does not apply if your program is typically an online program pre-COVID-19).

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We also have Zoom hangouts on Mondays from 4-5 p.m. and Fridays 5-6 p.m. CDT if you'd like to visit with fellow KU military-affiliated students, staff, alumni, etc. These are come-and-go events.

- Mondays: <https://kansas.zoom.us/j/91412994511> (or meeting ID 914 1299 4511) **Password: 615223**
- Fridays: <https://kansas.zoom.us/j/94479046802> (or meeting ID 944 7904 6802) **Password: 007665**

Respectfully,
April Blackmon Strange
Director

Lt. Gen. William K. Jones Military-Affiliated Student Center

