

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
CHARTER OF THE  
VETERANS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

1. **OFFICIAL DESIGNATION:** Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education
2. **AUTHORITY:** The Committee is authorized by 38 U.S.C. § 3692 and operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 2). Section 306 of P.L. 115-48 extended the Committee's statutory authority to December 31, 2022.
3. **OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITY:** The Committee provides advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of education and training programs for Veterans and Service members; Reservists and Guard personnel; and for dependents of Veterans, including programs under Chapters 30, 32, 33, 35 and 36 of title 38, United States Code and Chapter 1606 of title 10, United States Code.
4. **DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES:** The Committee advises the Secretary on existing VA education benefit programs and services and recommends new and improved education benefit programs and services. The Committee will submit its recommendations and reports to the Secretary and may also submit its reports to Congress.
5. **OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:** The Committee reports to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
6. **OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING THE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO THE COMMITTEE:** The Veterans Benefits Administration is responsible for providing support to the Committee.
7. **ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS IN DOLLARS AND STAFF-YEARS:** Estimated annual operating costs for the Committee are \$80,000 and 0.6 staff-years. All members will receive travel expenses and a per diem allowance in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulations for any travel made in connection with their duties as members of the Committee.
8. **DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER:** The Designated Federal Officer (DFO), a full-time VA employee, will approve the schedule of Committee meetings. The DFO or alternate will be present at all meetings. Each meeting will be conducted in accordance with an agenda approved by the DFO. The DFO is authorized to adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines it is in the public interest to do so.
9. **ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:** The Committee is expected to meet at least once annually.

10. **DURATION**: There is a continuing need for the Committee to assist the Secretary in carrying out the responsibilities described in 38 U.S.C. § 3692.

11. **COMMITTEE TERMINATION DATE**: The Committee will terminate on December 31, 2022, unless extended by statute. However, the charter will expire 2 years from the date it is filed unless renewed by appropriate action.


12. **MEMBERSHIP AND DESIGNATION**: Committee members shall be persons eminent in their respective fields of education, labor and management and representatives of institutions and establishments furnishing education to eligible Veterans or persons enrolled under chapters 30, 32, 33 or 35 of title 38, United States Code and chapter 1606 of title 10, United States Code. In addition to the criteria set forth under 38 U.S.C. § 3692, the Committee also, to the maximum extent practicable, shall include Veteran representatives of the Global War on Terror, current students receiving VA education benefits and the President and Chief Executive Officer for Student Veterans of America. The Assistant Secretary of Education for Postsecondary Education (or such other comparable official of the Department of Education as the Secretary of Education may designate) and the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training shall be ex-officio members.

The Committee will be composed of no more than 12 members. Several members may be Regular Government Employees, but most of the Committee's membership will be Special Government Employees.

13. **SUBCOMMITTEES**: With the DFO's approval, the Committee is authorized to establish subcommittees to perform specific projects or assignments consistent with this Charter. The Committee Chair shall notify the Secretary, through the DFO, of the establishment of any subcommittee, including its function, membership and estimated duration. Such subcommittees may not work independently of the of the chartered Committee and must report their recommendations and advice to the full Committee for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the parent Committee nor can they report directly to VA.

14. **RECORDKEEPING**: Records of the Committee shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedules. Those records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552).

15. **DATE CHARTER IS FILED**:

Approved:   
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Denis McDonough  
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Date: 3/11/21