

REPUBLICANS

MIKE BOST, ILLINOIS, CHAIRMAN
 AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN, AMERICAN SAMOA
 JACK BERGMAN, MICHIGAN
 NANCY MACE, SOUTH CAROLINA
 MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS, IOWA
 GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
 DERRICK VAN ORDEN, WISCONSIN
 MORGAN LUTTRELL, TEXAS
 JUAN CISCOMANI, ARIZONA
 KEITH SELF, TEXAS
 JEN KIGGANS, VIRGINIA
 ABE HAMADEH, ARIZONA
 KIMBERLYN KING-HINDS, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
 TOM BARRETT, MICHIGAN

JON CLARK
 STAFF DIRECTOR

DEMOCRATS

MARK TAKANO, CALIFORNIA, RANKING MEMBER
 JULIA BROWNLEY, CALIFORNIA
 CHRIS PAPPAS, NEW HAMPSHIRE
 MORGAN MCGARVEY, KENTUCKY
 DELIA RAMIREZ, ILLINOIS
 NIKKI BUDZINSKI, ILLINOIS
 TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY, NEW YORK
 MAXINE DEXTER, OREGON
 HERB CONAWAY, NEW JERSEY
 KELLY MORRISON, MINNESOTA
 MATT REEL
 DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

364 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

[HTTP://VETERANS.HOUSE.GOV](http://veterans.house.gov)

May 8, 2026

The Honorable Cheryl Mason
 Inspector General
 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
 810 Vermont Ave., NW
 Washington, DC 20420

Dear Inspector General Mason:

I am writing to request that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) launch an investigation into the George Washington University regarding allegations brought to the Committee of certain enrolled student veterans receiving the incorrect amount of the Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) they are entitled to under the law despite the school seeking full tuition and fee payment under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

As you know, eligible student veterans are authorized to receive a full-time MHA payment when attending classes that are certified by the school as full time programs. The Subcommittee has reason to believe that George Washington University is directly undercutting this entitlement and potentially defrauding VA and veterans by intentionally not certifying the correct amount of allowance they are due while receiving tuition and fees at the full-time rate. This alleged reduction in monthly stipend due to the schools improper certification has impacted the wellbeing and quality of life of veterans enrolled at the George Washington University.

In 2019, the George Washington University began offering accelerated degree programs and they were approved for payment through the Post-9/11 GI Bill. These accelerated programs allow student veterans to be considered full-time students, meaning they should receive the full MHA. Recently, the Committee met with student veterans enrolled in an accelerated degree program and found that, while these students were considered full-time students by George Washington University to receive tuition and fees, the school was only certifying them as part-time students for MHA purposes. The Committee followed up with inquiries to George Washington University, and was assured that the issue had been fixed, all impacted students would receive full MHA, and that the issue was caused by a simple clerical error by the School Certifying Official (SCO). Student veterans informed Committee staff that they were told that the GI Bill will no longer cover the cost of the accelerated master's program, contrary to prior communications from George Washington University. Student veterans will now be forced to pay thousands of dollars in out of pocket expenses in order to complete the program. I am concerned that this issue may have occurred in previous years, but was not brought to the attention of the Committee or appropriate entities until now.

The Committee has also reached out to the DC State Approving Agency (SAA) and has been disappointed by the lack of attention paid to this important matter, which has impacted the quality of life for student veterans attending George Washington University.

I respectfully request that you conduct a full review of George Washington University's operations as a GI Bill approved school that answers the following questions:

1. What internal controls or oversight mechanisms are in place to prevent errors or delays in VA reporting at the George Washington University?
2. Are there any student veterans that are enrolled as full-time students at the George Washington University that are only receiving half of their monthly housing allowance?
3. Since the program began in 2019, have there been other student veterans who have not received their full MHA despite being full-time students? If so, have these students previously flagged the issue for the George Washington University leadership and was the situation remedied?
4. Is the same issue occurring, or has it occurred, in other accelerated graduate and non-graduate programs offered by the George Washington University? If so, how is or has the George Washington University handling the situation?
5. How will the George Washington University student veterans currently enrolled receive back-pay? How will VA and the George Washington University address students that did not receive the full MHA they were entitled to in the past?
6. Why is the George Washington University telling students that they may owe thousands of dollars to complete their program when the school's own advertising shows that the yellow ribbon program at George Washington University is unlimited? Is this a violation of their Yellow Ribbon Program agreement with VA?
7. Did the George Washington University account for their recent tuition increase with the Yellow Ribbon Scholarships?
8. How does the George Washington University's advertising and marketing for these student veteran programs compare to the actual treatment that student veterans received once they were enrolled?

Thank you for your attention to this important matter on behalf of student veterans. Should you have any questions, please reach out to my staff if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



DERRICK VAN ORDEN

Chairman

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity

Cc: The Honorable Chris Pappas, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity