CHAPTER 35 DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE (DEA) PROGRAM

➢ **Eligibility** for dependents of veterans who:
  ▪ Were released from active duty due to a permanent and total disability as a result of active duty service in the Armed Forces.
  ▪ Service member who has died or has a permanent and total service-connected disability.
  ▪ Is Missing in Action (MIA) or was a prisoner of War (POW)
  ▪ Children of service member between the ages of 18 and 26, with some exceptions (marriage does not preclude you from this benefit).
  ▪ The spouse of a service member may begin to use benefits during the eligibility period provided he/she has not remarried.

➢ **Benefits**
  ▪ DEA offers up to total of 45 months of educational benefits.
  ▪ DEA benefits may be used for college degree and/or certificate programs.
  ▪ Students are paid a monthly stipend (based on approved units) at the beginning of the month for the previous month’s enrollment certification.
  ▪ Current payment rates can be viewed online at [http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.html](http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.html)

➢ **Remedial and Refresher Courses**
  ▪ Remedial and refresher courses may be approved based upon mathematics and English assessment results. These courses must be taken on campus, not online or self pace to be eligible.