



Cal Poly Humboldt

Veterans Office

& Interconnected Dependents Center

Centers for Inclusive Academic & Career Excellence

Subject: College Financing Plan and Required Documents for VA Education Benefits.

[Certification Request Instructions](#)

Accessing Your Federal College Financing Plan ("Shopping Sheet")

- Your **Federal College Financing Plan**, also known as the [Shopping Sheet](#), is available at any time through your [Student Center](#). This standardized form, developed by the U.S. Department of Education, is designed to help you better understand the estimated cost of attending the University. It provides an overview of your tuition and fees, estimated housing and other educational expenses, financial aid awards, and your estimated remaining costs.
- For students using VA education benefits, the Shopping Sheet can be an important tool when reviewing how your benefits fit into your overall educational expenses. To help make this information easier to understand, we have also included a link to a [companion worksheet](#) that allows you to enter the values from your Shopping Sheet and VA education benefits. This resource provides an additional visualization of how your VA benefits may affect your overall cost of attendance and out-of-pocket expenses throughout your enrollment.
 - *Please note that both the Shopping Sheet and the companion worksheet are **planning and estimation tools only** and should not be interpreted as a guarantee of your actual costs, VA payments, or financial aid. A variety of factors can affect your real-world educational expenses and VA benefit payments, including but not limited to your number of certifiable units, your VA eligibility percentage, the length and format of your classes, changes to tuition and fees, enrollment adjustments, and changes to federal or institutional policies. Because every student's circumstances are unique and may change throughout the term, it is not possible to create a document that accounts for every potential scenario. These tools are intended to provide a reasonable estimate to assist with financial planning.*

Statement of Understanding (SOU)

- Students using VA education benefits are required to complete and submit the University's [Statement of Understanding \(SOU\)](#). The SOU outlines student responsibilities, certification procedures, enrollment requirements, and important policies related to the administration of VA education benefits. Submission of a completed SOU is required before benefits can be processed.

Priority Registration for Veterans

- Veterans who submit a **Member 4 copy of their DD Form 214** to the University's Veterans Services Office may qualify for **priority registration**, provided they meet the institution's eligibility requirements. The Member 4 copy contains the character of service information needed to verify eligibility for this benefit. Priority registration allows eligible veterans to register for classes before the general student population, helping them secure the courses they need to make timely progress toward their educational goals. Students who believe they may qualify are encouraged to submit their Member 4 DD-214 as early as possible to avoid delays in the verification process.

Document Tracker

- If you would like to track which documents you need, and which you have submitted, print [this form](#). It is only for your own edification and is not otherwise required.