



**Application for In-State Tuition under the VA Section 702 Choice Act**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address  
(MUST be residing in Montana) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

VA Benefit you will be using: \_\_\_\_\_ Post 9/11 (Ch. 33) \_\_\_\_\_ Montgomery AD (Ch. 30)

Semester you plan to enroll: \_\_\_\_\_ Fall \_\_\_\_\_ Spring \_\_\_\_\_ Summer

**Please submit the following with this application:**

**A copy of your DD-214 (must indicate character and date of discharge to validate that you are starting school within three years of discharge).**

**If you are a child or spouse using transferred benefits, a copy of your parent/spouse's DD-214 (to ensure you are enrolling within three years of their discharge). If your parent/spouse is still on active duty, you are NOT eligible for Section 702 of the Veteran's Choice Act.**

**If you are using the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship, documentation that you will be starting school within three years of the service member's death in the line of duty (following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more).**

**If you want to establish in-state residency or change to in-district residency (if applicable), please submit a copy of your Montana Driver's License and proof of 12 consecutive months of MT residency to the Admission's Office at FVCC.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use Only:** Discharge Date from DD-214: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved/Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Denied/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MT DL: \_\_\_\_\_ Proof of Residency: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**CHOICE ACT qualifications:**

A "covered individual" is defined in the Choice Act as:

- A **Veteran** who lives in the state where the school is located (regardless of formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school **within three years of discharge** from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more;
- An **individual using transferred benefits** who lives in the state where the school is located (regardless of his/her formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school **within three years of the transferor's discharge** from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more;
- An **individual using benefits under the Fry Scholarship** who lives in the state where the school is located (regardless of his/her formal state of residence) and enrolls in the school **within three years of the Servicemember's death** in the line of duty following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more;
- Students maintain covered individual status as long as they are using Post 9/11 (Chapter 33) or MGIB-AD (Chapter 30) GI Bill® benefits and **remain continuously enrolled at the SAME public university**
  - Continuity of enrollment is not broken by regularly scheduled breaks between courses, semesters or terms
  - Individuals do not have to enroll in summer sessions to maintain continuous enrollment
  - If a student exhausts entitlement or chooses not to receive GI Bill® benefits under Post 9/11 GI Bill® or Montgomery Active Duty GI Bill®, the provisions of section 702 no longer apply, even if the student remains continuously enrolled
- **Section 702 only applies after the Servicemember has been discharged**

**Is the covered veteran or dependent who qualifies under the Choice Act and BOR Policy considered a resident of Montana for tuition purposes?**

No, the covered veteran or dependent falls under an exception to the residency requirements and is eligible for resident tuition and fees as long as he or she qualifies for the exception. A student who remains continuously enrolled will remain eligible for the exception despite being outside of the three year time period since discharge or death in the line of duty.

Once eligibility is exhausted, the covered veteran or dependent will not receive the benefit of exception, and unless he or she has taken steps to establish Montana residency, will be required to pay out-of-state tuition. For this reason, it is recommended that all covered individuals take the steps necessary, as soon as enrollment begins, to establish Montana residency. Please consult with the registrar or veteran's services to determine what steps you should take. In establishing residency, the student is considered to be exempt from the presumption criteria states in BOR Policy 940.1 I.(4)(a).

**I have read and acknowledge the qualifications for the Choice Act:**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

"GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>."