HAZLEWOOD ACT

What is the Hazlewood Act?

The Hazlewood Act is a State of Texas benefit that provides qualified Veterans, spouses, and dependent children with an education benefit of up to 150 hours of tuition exemption, including most fee charges, at public institutions of higher education in Texas. This does NOT include living expenses, books, or supply fees.
HAZLEWOOD ACT

How Hazlewood applies

Hazlewood will cover necessary tuition and fees for all undergraduate and graduate level courses for 3 terms including the term of initial submission. The only mandatory fee not covered by the waiver is the Student Service Fee. The Texas Veterans Commission allots 150 hours of coverage to each Veteran who qualifies. The Veteran can use the benefits for themselves or transfer the hours to a dependent through the Legacy Act.
QUALIFICATIONS (VETERAN)

- At the time of entry into active duty of the U.S. Armed Forces, (DD Form 214 required) & (40 TAC §461.40)
  - designated Texas as Home of Record;
  - or entered the service in Texas;
  - or was a Texas resident;
- Have received an honorable discharge or separation or a general discharge under honorable conditions as indicated on the Veteran’s Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty;
- Served at least 181 days of active duty service (excluding training);
- Currently reside in Texas; (40 TAC §461.40) & (40 TAC §461.70)
- Have no federal Veteran’s education benefits, or have no federal Veterans education benefits dedicated to the payment of tuition and fees only (such as Chapter 33 or 31; for term or semester enrolled that do not exceed the value of Hazlewood benefits);
- Not be in default on a student loan made or guaranteed by the State of Texas;
- Enroll in classes for which the college receives tax support (i.e., a course that does not depend solely on student tuition and fees to cover its cost), unless the college’s governing board has ruled to let Veterans receive the benefit while taking non-funded courses; and
- Meet the GPA requirement of the institution’s satisfactory academic progress policy in a degree or certificate program as determined by the institution’s financial aid policy and, as an undergraduate student, not be considered to have attempted an excessive amount of credit hours.
QUALIFICATIONS (DEPENDENT)

- Be classified by the institution as a Texas resident; *(40 TAC §461.70)*
- Be the biological child, stepchild, adopted child, or claimed as a dependent in the current or previous tax year;
- Be 25 years old or younger on the first day of the semester or term for which the exemption is claimed (unless granted an extension due to a qualifying illness or debilitating condition); and
- Have no federal Veteran's education benefits, or have no federal Veterans education benefits dedicated to the payment of tuition and fees only (such as Chapter 33 or 31; for term or semester enrolled that do not exceed the value of Hazlewood benefits; *(40 TAC §461.70)* & *(40 TAC §461.90)*)
- Not be in default on a student loan made or guaranteed by the State of Texas;
- Enroll in classes for which the college receives tax support (i.e., a course that does not depend solely on student tuition and fees to cover its cost), unless the college's governing board has ruled to let Veterans receive the benefit while taking non-funded courses; and
- Meet the GPA requirement of the institution's satisfactory academic progress policy in a degree or certificate program as determined by the institution's financial aid policy and, as an undergraduate student, not be considered to have attempted an excessive amount of credit hours.
- Legacy recipients will receive an exemption for the number of degree certified hours reported by the institution for that term or semester. Maximum degree certified hours awarded to the Legacy recipient will be dependent upon the degree or certificate program in which the student is enrolled for that term or semester and shall be consistent with the program length as defined within the school catalog as approved by the regional accreditation commission. *(40 TAC §461.30)*
- “If a child to whom hours have been delegated fails to use all of the assigned hours, a Veteran may re-assign the unused hours that are available to another child. Only one child will use Hazlewood Legacy benefits at a time.”

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON
QUALIFICATIONS (SPOUSE/DEPENDENT)

- Be a spouse/child of a Veteran who, at the time of entry into the U.S. Armed Forces, (DD Form 214 required), (40 TAC 5461.50) & (40 TAC 5461.60)
  - be classified by the institution as a Texas resident,
  - designated Texas as Home of Record,
  - or entered the service in Texas;

- Be a spouse/child of a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or the Texas National Guard who died as a result of service-related injuries or;
  - 100% total and permanently service-connected disable as determined by VA with a current Summary of Benefits Letter as proof, or
  - Missing in action (MIA), or
  - Killed in action (KIA).

- Have no federal Veterans education benefits, or have no federal Veterans education benefits dedicated to the payment of tuition and fees only (such as Chapter 33 or 31) for term or semester enrolled that do not exceed the value of Hazlewood benefits;

- Be classified by the institution as a Texas resident; and

- Not be in default on a student loan made or guaranteed by the State of Texas;

- Enroll in classes for which the college receives tax support (i.e., a course that does not depend solely on student tuition and fees to cover its cost), unless the college’s governing board has ruled to let Veterans receive the benefit while taking non-funded courses; and

- Meet the GPA requirement of the institution’s satisfactory academic progress policy in a degree or certificate program as determined by the institution’s financial aid policy and, as an undergraduate student, not be considered to have attempted an excessive amount of credit hours. This requirement does not apply to the spouse/child of a MIA, KIA, or service-connected deceased Veteran. (40 TAC 5461.50) & (40 TAC 5461.60)
Below is the list of required documents meant for the Hazlewood Waiver:
- Hazlewood Application
- Signed SAP Form
- DD214 from the Veteran (make sure the version is not “Member 1” or “Service 1”)
- Birth Certificate for the Student (Or supporting documentation showing relation to the Veteran)
- Death Certificate for Veteran (if deceased)
- A screenshot/picture of the Veteran’s hours from the TVC website
- A screenshot/picture of the Student’s hours from the TVC website
- VA paperwork showing disability status (if applicable)
HAZLEWOOD APPLICATION

- Upon initial use of the Hazlewood waiver, a submission of the application and other required documents is required **ONLY** once.
The University of Houston honors the use of the Hazlewood waiver for coverage of tuition and fees contingent on the student maintaining a 2.0 GPA for Undergraduate courses and a 3.0 for Graduate courses.
The discharge paperwork every service member receives upon exiting their respective branch within the military is called a “DD-214”. This document will determine if a Veteran qualifies for the waiver by 3 categories:

- Home of Record/Place of Entry must reflect within the State of TX (Indicated by Red)
- Minimum of 181 days of Active Duty served (Indicated by Green)
- Discharge status of “Honorable” or “General” (Indicated by Blue)
Every Veteran and Dependent must register on the Texas Veterans Commission website in order to start the use of hour coverage.
After the 3 terms of coverage has expired from the initial submission, a Continued Enrollment form is required for submission. The only information that is different from the original application is the “hours used” section, which is the amount of hours used from the previous terms of coverage.
STACKING BENEFITS

Hazlewood can be stacked with the Chapter 33 Post 9/11 benefit only if the beneficiary status is under 100%. This is denoted by a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). For example, if the COE states that the beneficiary will receive 60% of the Post 9/11 to their account, then Hazlewood can manually post for the remaining 40% of value to meet 100%. For Veterans/students who are using both Post 9/11 and Hazlewood, a Continued Enrollment form is required for submission each term until they have exhausted their federal benefits and then move to 100% Hazlewood.
HAZLEWOOD & OTHER WAIVERS

For students receiving other waivers or aid that go towards tuition and fees, a notification must be given to the Hazlewood Representative in order to properly post the value of coverage. For example, if a student is receiving the 65+ waiver (which covers 6 hours of tuition) the value of the Hazlewood would need to be manually posted to cover the remaining tuition and fees on the account. If Hazlewood covered the entire balance, a false credit would remain, and the Veteran/student would be using more hour coverage required for the term.