

Texas Hazlewood Exemption FAQs

What charges are covered?

The Hazlewood Act exempts qualified students taking classes at public institutions of higher education in Texas from tuition and fee charges, but does not include property deposits, student services fees, books, supplies and living expenses are not covered

Can eligible veterans transfer unused hours to a child?

Yes. An eligible veteran may elect to waive his or her right to any unused hours for which he or she is eligible (**up to the maximum 150 semester credit hours**). The child designee must be the stepchild, biological child, adopted child; or claimed as a dependent on a federal income tax return filed for the preceding or current tax year. The child must be a resident of Texas, **be 25 years or younger** on the first day of the semester or term for which the exemption is claimed, and must be making satisfactory academic progress in a degree, certificate, or continuing education program in accordance with the financial aid satisfactory academic progress requirements.

Does a veteran have to provide his/her DD214 Member 4 to qualify?

Yes. The veteran must provide a **DD214 Member 4 copy** or equivalent documentation (if service is prior to 1950) to prove his/her eligibility for the Hazlewood Act exemption.

I can't find my DD214. Where can I get a new copy?

You can obtain a copy of your DD214 from the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri. The fastest way to obtain a **copy is to submit your request via the NPRC website at www.vetrecs.archives.gov**. You can also make your request via mail by sending in a Standard Form 180, which can be obtained by calling the Texas Veterans Commission toll-free at 1-800-252-VETS (8387).

What is acceptable discharge language related to the phrase "under honorable conditions"?

Discharges that have been characterized as "**Honorable**" or "**General, Under Honorable Conditions**" are legally acceptable for qualifying for the Hazlewood Act exemption. If other wording is used and you are unsure of its meaning, please contact the Texas Veterans Commission.

Is the required amount of active service still 181 days? Are there any exceptions?

The requirement is "**more than 180 days**" of active military service, excluding training, for the veteran. There are exceptions: veterans who completed all of their duty prior to the conclusion of the Korean War. If the applicant is the dependent child of a veteran who died in the line of duty, the active duty time of the veteran may be fewer than 181 days.

If a veteran receives Hazlewood Act benefits and it is later discovered that he/she defaulted on an applicable state loan, does he/she have to reimburse the school for the classes taken with the exemption?

If the veteran signs a statement that he/she **is not in default of any education loan** made or guaranteed by the State of Texas and are later found to be in default, the school can require repayment of tuition and appropriate fees.

Can I receive the Hazlewood Act benefits and federal VA educational benefits concurrently?

Yes. If the student is receiving federal VA education benefits **other than the Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33 or any other benefits designated only for payment of tuition and fees)**, he/she can receive both benefits concurrently.

Does the Hazlewood Act cover teacher certification fees?

No. The teacher certification fee is not an institutional fee. It is a fee required by the State Board for Educator Certification and is paid directly to that board.

Can Hazlewood Act benefits be used for graduate school?

Yes. Hazlewood Act benefits may be used for graduate studies, including law school or any other program of study at public institutions (other than continuing education) if the veteran has not accumulated 150 credit hours using Hazlewood Act benefits since fall of 1995.

What information will be made available upon signing the release form?

All students using the Hazlewood Act benefit are required to register into the **Hazlewood online database** to sign a release which allows the Texas Veterans Commission, along with any institution the veteran may attend, access to the number of credit hours attempted in the current and previous years. This online data base can be found at <http://www.tvc.texas.gov/Hazlewood-Act.aspx>

What documents must I turn in, in order to utilize Hazlewood Act benefits?

Each institution will require the appropriate documents prior to certification. **Check with your institution for the proper documents that are required and must be turned in.**