

OKLAHOMA STATE ACCREDITING AGENCY

December 20, 2016

To:

Presidents of Public and Private Oklahoma Institutions of Higher Education

Dear Presidents:

RE: NOTIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTITIPCATION IN VETERANS EDUCATION AND BENEFITS (TITLE 38)

The Oklahoma State Accrediting Agency (SAA) authorizes institutions of higher education (IHL), non-college degree institutions (public and private schools and technology centers) and On-the-job Training and Apprenticeships to participate in Title 38 Veterans Education Benefits or veterans GI Bill® benefits. This letter is notification that if your institution chooses to continue participation in Title 38, an application, policies, and related information must be submitted by the date and in the format noted below.

As background, in August 2011, Public Law 111-377, section 203, was passed that "deemed approved" standard college degree programs at public and not-for-profit proprietary IHLs, provided specific criteria were met. For the past five years, few IHLs have submitted applications, programs, policy information, etc., for SAA review. This letter is notification that effective in 2017, SAAs must review all institutions and take action on all programs ensuring that the laws governing Title 38 and by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (USDVA) are meeting statutory requirements of 38 United States Code, § 3872. To maintain approval as a Title 38 Veterans Education Benefits participant, your institution will be required to submit all programs eligible for Title 38 in the format noted below.

What is required:

Completion and submission of SAA Forms 2201, 2202, and

2203

> Forms Location:

https://www.ok.gov/saa/ (Instructions noted on each form)

Due date:

March 1, 2017

SAAs must review application materials, catalogs, and contracts and provide a listing of programs to USDVA by September 1, 2017. Additionally, SAA must include a listing of all institutions that <u>have not</u> submitted an approvable application the same date. We provided this information to IHL veterans' education school certifying officials (SCO) at the fall 2016 conference of the Oklahoma Association Veterans Coordinators and Counselors (OAVCC). A copy of this letter will be sent to them via email and a statewide list serve.

Thank you for your institution's support of Oklahoma's veterans. If you have questions regarding this, please contact this office at (405) 879-9600 or oksaa@odva.state.ok.us.

Sincerely,

Gina M. Wekke Executive Director

CC:

Mr. Joseph B. Culver, Education Liaison Representative, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Muskogee Regional Benefit Office

School Certifying Officials