M22-4 – Part IV – Chapter 11 – Updates Training

# 6 Credit Hour Exclusion

A Veteran student is using Chapter 33 benefits, has never previously used their 6 credit hour exclusion, and is attending school at VAONCE University (an approved school) for the term 1/1/16 – 5/1/16 for 18 in-residence credits. VAONCE University submits the student’s enrollment certification on 12/21/15 to VA for processing and VA processes the term (releasing books and supplies and tuition and fees payments) on 1/5/16.

1. VAONCE University submits an adjustment on 4/10/16 that shows that the student reduced their course load to 15 in-residence credits effective 4/1/16 (receiving non-punitive grades for the dropped course). This reduction creates a $500.00 tuition and fees debt. Should the Veterans Claims Examiner (VCE) apply the 6 credit hour exclusion in this scenario?
2. VAONCE University submits an adjustment on 4/10/16 that shows that the student reduced their course load to 15 in-residence credits effective 4/1/16 (receiving punitive grades for the dropped course). This reduction creates a $500.00 tuition and fees debt. Should the VCE apply the 6 credit hour exclusion in this scenario?
3. VAONCE University submits an adjustment on 4/10/16 that shows that the student reduced their course load to 15 in-residence credits effective 4/1/16 (receiving non-punitive grades for the dropped course). This reduction creates a $500.00 tuition and fees debt. There is a VA Form 119 in the student’s file that shows the student called the call center and specifically requested their 6 credit hour exclusion not be utilized for this withdrawal and that the student will be submitting proof of mitigating circumstances for the reduction. Should the VCE apply the 6 credit hour exclusion in this scenario?
4. VAONCE University submits an adjustment on 4/10/16 that shows that the student reduced their course load to 15 in-residence credits effective 4/1/16 (receiving punitive grades for the dropped course). This reduction does not create any tuition and fees, books and supplies, or monthly housing allowance debt. Should the VCE apply the 6 credit hour exclusion in this scenario?

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# Mitigating Circumstances

A Veteran student is using Chapter 33 benefits, has previously used their 6 credit hour exclusion, and is attending school at VAONCE University (an approved school) for the term 1/1/16 – 5/1/16 for 18 in-residence credits. VAONCE University submits the student’s enrollment certification on 12/21/15 to VA for processing and VA processes the term (releasing books and supplies and tuition and fees payments) on 1/5/16. VAONCE University submits an adjustment on 4/10/16 that shows that the student reduced their course load to 6 in-residence credits effective 4/1/16 (receiving non-punitive grades for the dropped course).

1. Neither the student or school supplies mitigating circumstances. Should the VCE process the reduction effective the 1st day of term?
2. The school does not supply mitigating circumstances. The student submits a letter to the Regional Processing Office (RPO) of jurisdiction that indicates that they withdrew from the dropped courses due to a medical emergency. They do not supply any additional evidence. Should the VCE process the reduction effective the 1st day of term?
3. The school does not supply mitigating circumstances. The student submits a letter to the RPO of jurisdiction that indicates that they withdrew because the daycare their child went to was shutdown due to a fire in the building and they had to withdraw from the dropped courses in order be home and care for their child. The student also provides a letter from the daycare which tells all parents that the daycare center suffered a fire, was closing, and refers them to other childcare centers in the area. Should the VCE process the reduction effective the 1st day of term?
4. The school reports the reduction of credits and includes the standard remark “An illness or death in the student’s immediate family”. They do not offer any further evidence. The student does not supply any mitigating circumstances or evidence. Should the VCE process the reduction effective the 1st day of term?
5. The school reports the reduction of credits and includes a non-standard remark that reads “Mitigating circumstance – student had active duty training during semester”. They do not offer any further evidence. The student does not supply any mitigating circumstances or evidence. Should the VCE process the reduction effective the 1st day of term?
6. The school does not supply mitigating circumstances. The student writes in and states that they were no longer safe in their home due to being physically abused and are now staying with a friend. They do not offer any further evidence. Should the VCE process the reduction effective the 1st day of term?