

Big Pay Refresher Training

February 2023

Version 1.0

Lesson Overview

| Topic | Description | |
|---|---|--|
| Time Estimate: | 60 minutes including assessment | |
| Purpose of the Lesson: | Provides refresher training on Big Payments for Chapter 33 and Non-33 supplemental claims. Includes guidance on how to identify Big Pay reviews by Benefit type and threshold. The process of paying a Big Pay award and recognizing when to adjust payments due to system limitations. | |
| Prerequisite Training Requirements: | N/A | |
| Target Audience: | Education Veterans Claims Processors (VCEs), Senior VCEs, Lead VCEs, and Education Quality & Training Specialist (EQTS). | |
| Lesson References: | | |
| Lesson Objectives: | Identify cases requiring Big Pay reviews by Benefit Type and Threshold Process a Big Pay award Recognize and adjust payments due to system limitations | |
| Post Training Requirements: | Upon completion of the classroom portion of the lesson, participants are required to complete an online lesson assessment and survey in Talent Management System (TMS). | |
| | To demonstrate successful completion of the lesson, participants must pass the assessment with a score of at least 80%. | |
| | Participants must also complete the online survey to earn credit for completion of the lesson. | |

Slides Instructor Script Slide 1. Hello and thank you for joining us today, we will be conducting big pay refresher training on awards for education benefits. Big Pay Refresher Training Select the right arrow to continue Slide 2. **Navigation Controls** You can use the navigation buttons at the bottom to move forward and backward throughout this module. You can use the buttons at the bottom of the screen to move forward and backward throughout the presentation. Select the right arrow to continue 00000 Slide 3. At the end of today's Lesson, you will be able to identify cases requiring big pay reviews by benefit type and threshold, process a big pay award and finally recognize and Learning 1 Identify cases requiring Big Pay reviews by Benefit Type and Thresh Objectives adjust payments due to system limitations. 2 Process a Big Pay award 3 Recognize and adjust payments due to system limitation 00000

Select the right arrow to continue

What is an Education Big Pay?

- The phrase "big pay" means any big or large retroactive payment. The award generates one or more payments reaching threshold amounts.
- · Multiple levels of approval are required for a big payment to be issued.



Instructor Script

Slide 4.

What is a Big Pay?

"Big Pay" is a term used to describe an education award which produces one or more payments over certain thresholds. These thresholds differ by benefit.

When these payments exceed the threshold, they are required to have multiple levels of approval before the award can be authorized and a payment can be issued. This also includes Big Pay awards generated using the CERT command in BDN, when an attendance verification is processed in DGI or fiscal transactions done by other divisions, such as Support Services

Select the right arrow to continue

Slide 5.

We will now go over the different threshold amounts for each education benefit.



Select the right arrow to continue

Big Pay Thresholds Veterans Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 32) Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606) • Any award action generating one or more payments between \$9,000 up to \$12,000 requires three signatures • Any award action generating one or more payments equal to or greater than \$12,000 requires four signatures

Instructor Script

Slide 6.

Let's first talk about the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP or chapter 32) and Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (chapter 1606). Under these benefits any award action in which a payment is being generated between \$8,000.00 and up to \$12,000.00 requires three signatures. Any award action with a payment equal to or greater than \$12,000.00 will require four signatures.

Select the right arrow to continue



Slide 7.

When processing claims under the Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty (chapter 30) or Dependents Education Assistance (chapter 35) any award action resulting in a payment between \$15,000.00 and \$20,000.00 requires three signatures. Any award action resulting in a payment equal to or greater than \$20,000.00 requires four signatures.

Notes: The RPO may use multiple end products when the BDN screen exceeds award line limitations to deliver payments for an entire Non-33 award. When doing so, only one original or supplemental EP can be used to authorize the big payment. Subsequent end products must be 930 EPs.

Select the right arrow to continue



Slide 8.

Under the Post - 9/11 GI Bill, chapter 33, VCEs should review payment amounts to schools and beneficiaries separately to determine if Big Pay procedures should be applied. Awards will require four signatures based on the following thresholds:

A single payment to a school which is \$35,000.00 or more.

A single payment to an individual which is \$25,000.00 or more.

| Slides | Instructor Script |
|--|---|
| | When processing awards involving offsets, VCEs should consider the amount of the potential payment prior to the offset. If the potential payment amount exceeds the threshold, however, the payment amount after the offset is less than the threshold, Big Pay procedures still apply. Select the right arrow to continue |
| | Slide 9. |
| Knowledge Check | |
| What is the threshold for a chapter 33 school payment which will require Big Pay procedures to be applied? \$8,000.00 \$15,000.00 \$20,000.00 | Knowledge Check Time for a Knowledge Check! What is the threshold for applying Big Pay procedures for chapter 33? |
| | Slide 10. |
| Knowledge Check Sorry, your answer is incorrect. Review and try again. Try Again | Sorry, your answer was incorrect. Review and Try Again. |
| | |
| Knowledge Check | Slide 11. |
| Nice! The correct threshold amount for a chapter 33 school payment is \$35,000. Continue | Congratulations, you got it! The correct threshold amount for chapter 33 school payment is \$35,000. |
| | |

BDN Displays: In BDN the following messages will be received when Generate and Display (GAD) or Generate and Process (GAP) commands are used: Chapter 30: Over \$15,000: REUIEW FOR 3RD SIGNATURE PROCEDURES Over \$20,000: REUIEW FOR 3RD AND 4TH SIGNATURE PROCEDURES

Instructor Script

Slide 12.

BDN can identify payments which met or exceed the thresholds for Big Pay procedures for non-chapter 33 awards when the VCE enters- GAD (Generate and Display) or a GAP (Generate and Process) in the "Next Screen" field.

For a chapter 30 payments, the message "review for 3rd signature procedures" is displayed on awards between \$15,000 and \$20,000. When the payment exceeds \$20,000.00, the message "review for 3rd and 4th signature procedures" will be displayed.

Reminder: When processing awards involving offsets, VCEs must consider the amount of the potential payment prior to the offset.

Select the right arrow to continue



Slide 13.

When processing chapter 1606 or chapter 32, BDN can identify payments which met or exceed the thresholds for Big Pay awards when the VCE enters GAD or GAP in the "next screen" field: if the \$8,000.00 threshold is met, a BDN display which reads:

"Potential \$8,000 PMT- apply payment verification procedures hit enter to continue"

For chapter 35 when a \$15,000.00 threshold is met, the BDN message may display stating

"Potential \$15,000 PMT- apply chk verification procedures

Do not rely on BDN to alert you of a Big Pay threshold being exceeded; proper adjudication is still required. When entering multiple terms or a long term which requires a retroactive payment at the time of processing, use an approved audit worksheet and review the amount payable upon authorization of the award to determine if Big Pay procedures are required.

Select the right arrow to continue

Slides **Instructor Script** DGI Displays: Slide 14. A retroactive chapter 33 award, producing one or more payments under the same type of transaction code (Example on the screen), which cumulatively reach the threshold amounts, will follow the big pay procedures. Select the right arrow to continue 00000 Identifying Chapter 33 Big Pay Slide 15. Prior to authorization in DGI, the VCE will routinely review the Work Product Summary, under "Net Awards" for cumulative school payments being processed equal to or greater than \$35,000, or cumulative beneficiary payments equal to or greater than \$25,000. Both payments require Big Pay procedures. Select the right arrow to continue Slide 16. **Knowledge Check Knowledge Check** True or False. For Chapters 1606, 30, 32 and 35, BDN will alw generate messages indicating Big Pay procedures are need when the threshold amount is exceeded? Time for another Knowledge Check! True or False. For True Chapters 1606, 30, 32 and 35 BDN will always generate messages indicating Big Pay procedures are needed when the threshold amount is exceeded? Slide 17. Knowledge Check Sorry, your answer was incorrect. Review and Try Again. Sorry, your answer is incorrect. Review and try again. Try Again

Instructor Script

Knowledge Check

Nice, you correctly chose False-BDN does not always generate a message for Big Pay.

Continue



Slide 18.

Congratulations, you got it! The correct answer is False- BDN does not always generate a message for Big Pay.



Slide 19.

We've discussed how to identify big pay awards, when procedures should be applied to those awards and the thresholds for each benefit type! Now let's discuss the processing portion of Big Pay Awards!

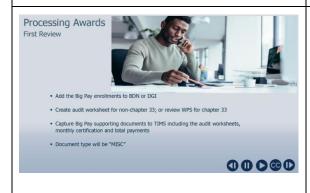
Select the right arrow to continue



Slide 20.

The process of Big Pay review is the same regardless of the benefit type. The only difference is the number of reviewers required. This is determined by the threshold amounts by benefit type as identified in previous slides.

Select the right arrow to continue



Slide 21.

The Big Pay process starts with the 1st reviewer, in most cases this will be the VCE who was processing this award with a Big Payment amount.

- First, they will add the enrollment to BDN or DGI, reviewing an award amount which meets or exceeds the thresholds we previously discussed.
- Next, the VCE will prepare an audit worksheet for non-33 awards or review the WPS net awards to confirm the award amount for chapter 33.
- If Big Pay procedures are required, the VCE must ensure all supporting documents for the Big Pay

Slides Instructor Script award are captured to TIMS. This will include items such as the audit worksheets. The information must include the term dates, monthly certification and total payment amounts being released. Label these document types as "MISC" and annotate as Big Pay Award. **NOTE:** The WPS screen from DGI for chapter 33 awards will be captured AFTER DGI work products are authorized. Select the right arrow to continue **Processing Awards** Slide 22. First Review The 1st review will need to create a Big Pay note in TIMS which must include the following information: The beginning and end dates of the award The facility name and facility code Facility name and facility code The total payment amounts Total payment amount The verification of the audit worksheet . Verification the audit worksheet is correct Date of case review The date reviewed 00000 Select the right arrow to continue **Processing Awards** Slide 23. And finally, the 1st reviewer will modify the DGI letter or create the PCGL letter and save the letter as needed. PCLR the appropriate individual credit EP and route for Modify or create letter and save as ne authorization, following local RPO guidance. PCLR appropriate individual credit EP · Route for next reviewer/signature (per local RPO guidance) Select the right arrow to continue 00000

Processing Awards Second Review · Add concurrence to the TIMS note · PCLR appropriate individual credit EP

Instructor Script

Slide 24.

The Second reviewer, in most cases a Sr VCE, is responsible for the following:

- Review all the previous steps taken by the VCE on this claim including the audit worksheet and note in the TIMS file are completed and accurate
- Add concurrence to the TIMS note already in the file to include the date you reviewed and agreed with the big pay amount to be authorized.
- PCLR the appropriate individual credit EP
- Route for 3rd reviewer/signature according to local RPO guidance

Select the right arrow to continue

Processing Awards Third Review - Non-Chapter 33

- all previous steps are completed and accurate oncurrence to TIMS note rize claim and release payments i. letter generated, capture letter to TIMS and mail e and send the Director's office notification



Slide 25.

Now let's look at actions to be taken by the 3rd level reviewer for **non33 claims** involving payments which meet the threshold for a 3rd level review.

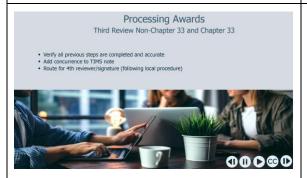
- Review all the previous steps taken on the claim including the audit worksheet and note in the TIMS file are completed and accurate
- Add concurrence to the TIMS Note already in the file to include the date you reviewed and agreed with the big pay amount being authorized.
- Authorize claim and release payments
- If a PCGL letter is created, capture the letter to the TIMS file and follow local mail procedures
- Prepare and send the Big Pay notification to the Director's office following local RPO guidance

Select the right arrow to continue

Slide 26.

This is the action the 3rd level reviewer will take when reviewing non-chapter33 awards with thresholds requiring a 4th level review and ALL chapter 33 Big Pay awards.

- Review all the previous steps taken on the claim including the audit worksheet and note in the TIMS file are completed and accurate
- Add concurrence to the TIMS note already in the file to include the date you reviewed and agreed with the big pay amount to be authorized



Slides **Instructor Script** Route for 4th reviewer/signature following local RPO guidance Select the right arrow to continue **Processing Awards** Slide 27. Fourth Review Non-Chapter 33 and Chapter 33 And finally, the 4th level reviewer will be determined by the Verify all previous steps are completed and accurate local RPO procedures for non33 award with thresholds Add concurrence to TIMS note requiring a 4th level review and all chapter 33 Big Pay Following local RPO procedure, authorize claim and rele payments; OR return to 3rd reviewer to authorize cla awards. · Capture edited DGI or PCGL generated letter to TIMS and mai Review all the previous steps taken on the claim including the audit worksheet and note in the TIMS Prepare and send Director's office notification file are completed and accurate Add concurrence to the TIMS note already in the file to include the date you reviewed and agreed with the big pay amount being authorized Following local RPO procedures, authorize the award and release payments using multiple EPs or WPs as needed. OR return the claim to the 3rd reviewer for authorization If the DGI letter was edited, or the PCGL letter was generated, capture the letter to TIMS file and follow local mail procedures mail For chapter 33 claims the WPS is to be captured when authorization is complete. The information must include term dates, monthly certification, and the total payment amounts being released PCLR the original or supplemental EP Prepare and send the Director's office notification following local procedures Select the right arrow to continue **Processing Awards** Slide 28. Third Review Non-Chapter 33 and Chapter 33 laim returned from the fourth review, authorize award and relea edited DGI or PCGL letter generated, capture to TIMS and mail apture Chapter 33 WPS after authorization CLR original or supplemental EP This is the action to take when the 4th level reviewer has reviewed and approved, and the case is being returned to r supplemental EP nd the Director's office notification the 3rd reviewer to authorize and release the payment. Authorize award and release payments using multiple EPs or WPs as needed If the DGI letter was edited, or a PCGL letter is generated, capture the letter to the TIMS file and follow local mail procedures For chapter 33 claims, the WPS is to be captured when authorization is complete. The information

Slides Instructor Script must include term date, monthly certification and the total payment amounts being released. PCLR the original or supplemental EP Prepare and send the Director's office notification following local procedures Select the right arrow to continue Big Pay Notification to the Director's Slide 29. Office Once final review is complete, the payment authorized and e final review is complete, the Big Pay notification must be sent ne Director's office (following local RPO procedures) released by the 3rd and 4th level reviewer, Big Pay notification must be sent to the Director's Office (following local RPO procedures). This information regarding the big payment must be sent to the Director's office within 3 business days of the award being authorized. The Director's office must archive and document as appropriate Select the right arrow to continue Slide 30. **Knowledge Check** Which reviewer creates the Big Pay note in TIMS? **Knowledge Check** 1st Reviewer Time for another Knowledge Check! Which reviewer creates the Big Pay note in TIMS? 1st Reviewer 4th Revie 2nd Reviewer 3rd Reviewer A note is not needed 4th Reviewer A note is note needed Slide 31.Knowledge Check Knowledge Check Sorry, your answer was incorrect. Review and Try Again wer is incorrect. Review and try again. Try Again

Slides Knowledge Check Nice, you correctly chose the First Reviewer. Continue . System Limitations

Instructor Script

Slide 32.

Congratulations, you got it! The correct answer is the First Reviewer.

Slide 33.

Now let's talk about Big Pay and System Limitations

Select the right arrow to continue

Slide 34.

Currently, BDN and DGI are limited in their capacity to deliver payments for an entire award in some instances. Let's review when it is acceptable to break up the Big Pay award on multiple EPs or work products.

If the system limitation issues arise and the Big Pay award must be broken up into multiple payments, all steps regarding the Big Pay procedures must be followed. This includes all levels of signatures which are required for the entire cumulative total of payment due to the student or school.

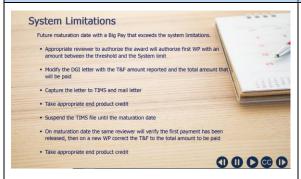
When limitations are reached in BDN to achieve full payment of an award, the RPO may use multiple EP's. However, only one original or one supplemental EP is warranted when authorizing a Big Pay award. Subsequent end products must be individual credit, such as the 930ep.

When a non-33 enrollment exceeds the BDN award lines to process, create an audit worksheet to verify if Big Pay procedures are needed. It should be determined by the enrollment total, not by the enrollment paid on each EP.





| Slides | Instructor Script |
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| | RPOs are encouraged to follow local procedures to ensure VCEs receive appropriate end product credit. |
| | Select the right arrow to continue |
| System Limitations | Slide 35. |
| DGI is limited to payments totaling \$99,999.99. Payments in excess of this amount must be processed using multiple work products. | Currently, DGI payments over \$99,999.99 to the beneficiary or school will fail, and in these cases the following actions will need to be taken: It is acceptable to break the payments into multiple work products to ensure the payments are authorized. One of the payments must be over the threshold up to the amount of \$99,999.99. The remaining payments may be under the threshold. Select the right arrow to continue |
| | |
| EXAMPLE: T&F Big Pay amount is \$120,000 WP #1: Authorize DGI with T&F = \$90,000 Modify letter to show \$120,000 T&F reported and total amount to be paid WP #2: Correct T&F in DGI to =\$120,000; Suppress award letter and authorize DGI. Releasing the additional \$30,000 the total amount to be paid to the school. | In this example the chapter 33 tuition and fee "Big Pay" amount is \$120,000.00. On the first work product the tuition and fees entered in DGI is \$90,000. Next you will suppress and modify the award letter to show the tuition and fees as \$120,000; the amount reported, and the total amount to be paid. When reviews are complete, authorize the work product and capture the modified award letter to TIMS. |
| | On the second work product, correct the tuition and fees to \$120,000.00; suppress the award letter and authorize DGI, releasing an additional \$30,000.00 of tuition and fees. |
| | This will pay the school the total amount of \$120,000. |
| | Select the right arrow to continue |



Instructor Script

Slide 37.

These are the following steps when processing Big Pay awards with a future maturation date which exceeds the system limitations:

The fourth level reviewer will authorize the first WP with an amount between the threshold and the system limit.

The DGI letter will be modified with the T&F amount reported and the total amount paid. The letter is captured to TIMS and follow local mail procedures.

The authorizer will take the appropriate station or individual end product credit at this time.

Next, you will suspend the claim token in TIMS until the maturation date to process the remaining payment. On the maturation date the reviewer who originally authorized the first award will verify the first payment has been released, then on a new WP correct the T&F to the original total amount to be paid. Suppress the letter and authorize DGI releasing the remaining payment.

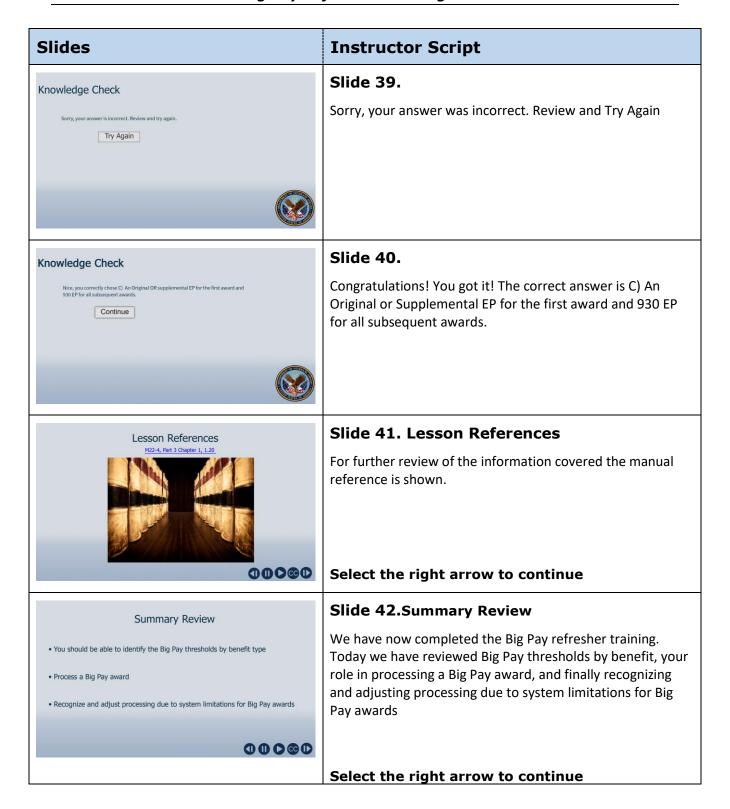
Select the right arrow to continue

Knowledge Check For a non-chapter 33 award, when limitations are reached in BDN to achieve the full payment of an award, the RPO may use multiple end products to make partial payments until the full payment amount is reached. In this scenario, what EPs are used for the first and subsequent awards? A) An original EP for the first award and a supplemental EP for all subsequent awards. B) A supplemental EP for each award C) An original OR supplemental EP for the first award and a 930 EP for all subsequent awards. D) A 400 EP for the first award and a 930 EP for all subsequent awards

Slide 38.

Time for a Knowledge Check! For a Non-Chapter 33 award, when limitations are reached in BDN to achieve the full payment of an award, the RPO may use multiple end products to make partial payments until the full payment amount is reached. In this scenario, what EP is used for the first and subsequent awards?

- A) An original EP for the first award and a supplemental EP for all subsequent awards
- B) A supplemental EP for each award
- C) An original or supplemental EP for the first award and a 930 EP for all subsequent awards
- D) A 400 EP for the first award and a 930 EP for all subsequent awards



Slides Instructor Script Slide 43.Post Training Requirement Post Training Requirement In order to receive credit for completion of today's training An assessment and survey have been assigned to you in TMS. The questions are based on the information you learned today. you will need to complete the TMS assessment and Survey. You should be able to complete the assessment and survey within one hour. The assessment will be assigned to you in TMS and consists Be sure to complete both the assessment and the survey in TMS to receive of both multiple choice and true/false questions. It should take approximately 60 minutes for you to complete the assessment and survey. 00000 Select the right arrow to continue Slide 44. Thank You! To finish press close the tab and hit the return to TMS in the previous page. Thank You and Have a Great Day! Team