



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**VA Regional Office**  
**Vocational Rehabilitation VR&E 28**  
**1301 Clay Street, North Tower**  
**Oakland, CA 94612**

Date: 01/19/2019

Dear School Certifying Official/ Bursar's Office

I am writing to inform you of a recent change in the law. Effective September 29, 2018, Section 301 of Public Law 115-251, which amended title 38 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) 3679(c), requires that individuals using educational assistance under chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E), be charged the resident rate.

Effective for courses, quarters, semesters, or terms beginning after March 1, 2019, a public institution of higher learning (IHL) must charge the resident rate to VR&E participants. We have been actively working with your State's legislative body and/or Board of Regents to ensure compliance. However, in the event an institution does not follow this law, Veterans Affairs (VA) is required to disapprove programs of education sponsored by VA.

You can assist us by ensuring that for courses of education beginning after March 1, 2019, VR&E participants residing in your state, regardless of whether those individuals meet your facility's residency requirements to qualify for in-state tuition, are charged the in-state tuition rates for courses, quarters, semesters, or terms.

If you have any questions about this letter or need additional information, please contact me at 510-637-6215, or via email at [Rodney.Hackney@va.gov](mailto:Rodney.Hackney@va.gov).

Sincerely yours,

/S/

Rodney G. Hackney  
Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Officer