

More Than Half a Million Seek New GI Bill Benefits

More than half a million veterans have applied for certificates to attend college or take some other form of training under the new GI Bill, a Veterans Administration source has reported.

In a report to President Johnson just released, William J. Driver, administrator of veterans affairs, said that as of Dec. 1 a total of 288,000 were actually in training, mostly at the college level. More than 49,000 of these attended summer school under the new law and enrolled for the fall semester. The educational benefits of the new GI Bill became effective last June.

As a comparison, Driver reported to the President that under the Korean GI Bill, only 65,000 veterans took advantage of educational benefits within five months of the effective date of that law.

"RECALLING the gratifying results of the World War II and Korean Bills, the good early response to the new GI Bill promises vast benefits for the entire nation as the educational and economic status of our veteran-citizens increases," Driver said.

The VA said one-fourth of the remaining two million eligible veterans have already applied for educational benefits. By the spring of 1967, the agency expects one-half million veterans to be enrolled in colleges and other training.

Driver said veterans are also taking advantage of the home loan guaranty provisions of the new GI Bill in large numbers. Over 220,000 veterans have requested eligibility certificates for such guarantees, with 77,500 applications for approval already received.

PROMOTED

William F. Davis, residential sales administrator for General Telephone Co., has been named sales program administrator for General Telephone and Electronics Service Corp. in New York City. He lives in Palos Verdes.



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