



STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA
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How the BAH Changes will Affect You

Student Veterans of America’s Policy department aims to inform student veterans of any changes that affect their education benefits. S.425 is an omnibus Bill with many great provisions that help veterans. To pay for these projects, the Senate is looking to realign student BAH with military BAH. We at SVA do not agree with this pay-for and feel that it is important to get the facts out to student veterans. Below is a basic graph on what you can expect to see when the changes take place if the Bill were to move forward.

Because the “cut” is based off of inflation rate you should not see any decrees in your BAH. You will however have less purchasing power because of economic inflation. To better understand how this affects you, we put the changes in the amount you would receive if this Bill were to pass as-is.

We will continue to update student veterans on any additional information in regards to S.425 and are happy to answer any questions you may have on the issue. Please email: government.affairs@studentveterans.org

Year	National Average BAH	Cut Rate	Amount lost each month	Amount lost each year (9 months)
2016	\$ 1,611.00	2%	\$ 32.22	\$ 289.98
2017	\$ 1,675.00	3%	\$ 50.25	\$ 452.25
2018	\$ 1,742.00	4%	\$ 69.68	\$ 627.12
2019	\$ 1,812.00	5%	\$ 90.60	\$ 815.40



Additional Facts and Myths about the 1% alignment.

Myth: This is just a 1% change.

False. This is a 1% change each year over 5 years to total 5% and because the change took place in 2015, the initial alignment starts at 2%.

Myth: Without this change, student veterans are paid more than service members.

False. Service members, in addition to BAH, receive food, clothing, and additional moneys for each additional dependent. The 1% alignment not only hurts student veterans but also service members. We do not support any chance in lowing the pay to military and veterans alike.

Myth: The majority of the money coming from the 1% alignment is going to the GI Bill.

False. Although there are some great provision for student veterans, the majority of the money is going to healthcare. Specifically, healthcare for older generations of veterans.

Overall, we at SVA would like to see the money from the BAH reduction spent on the GI Bill. There is no reason why the burden of helping older veterans should fall on younger veterans, but we will support them if no one else will step up to the plate.

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