

Introducing SSI's New VA GI Bill® Reimbursement Program for U.S. Veterans



For those who have proudly served, the journey doesn't stop when the uniform comes off. At SSI, we believe a Veteran's next mission should be just as rewarding and purpose-driven as their last. That's why we're thrilled to announce the launch of **SSI's VA GI Bill® Reimbursement Program**, designed to support U.S. Veterans in using their GI Bill® benefits to earn recreational and professional scuba diving certifications through approved SSI Training Centers across the U.S.

Transform Your Passion into a Profession

Whether you dream of exploring coral reefs, leading dive tours, working in marine conservation, or training the next generation of divers, becoming an SSI Professional can open doors you may never have known existed.

Thanks to the VA's certification and license reimbursement program, eligible veterans can now receive reimbursement for the cost of SSI diving certifications, including those leading to professional-level credentials. From your first recreational dives to becoming a dive professional, the GI Bill® helps remove financial barriers and makes diving careers more accessible than ever before.

How the SSI VA GI Bill® Reimbursement Program Works

SSI has made it simple for Veterans to leverage their hard-earned benefits. Here are the steps Veterans should take to participate:

1. **Check Your Eligibility**

Verify your current GI Bill® status at va.gov/education/eligibility to ensure sufficient allotment remains.

2. **Register with SSI**

Create a free SSI account at divessi.com and affiliate with Mermet Springs SSI Training Center.

3. **Complete Your Training**

Choose your path—recreational certifications, specialty courses, and/or professional-level credentials—and complete the required training with Mermet Springs.

4. **File for Reimbursement**

After certification, complete VA Form VBA-22-0803 with the course details and the paid invoice. Then, mail it to the corresponding VA facility mentioned at the bottom of the form for the Veteran's area to receive reimbursement.



Scan this QR Code to check which SSI certifications are eligible and see approved reimbursement amounts by searching for SSI course names under 'Certifications.'

Start Your Next Chapter with SSI

The SSI Military Programs initiative is more than just a certification opportunity—it's a way to serve again, this time in the civilian world, by leading, teaching, and inspiring others beneath the waves.

Whether you are transitioning out of the military or looking to expand your post-service career, the ocean is calling—and SSI is here to help answer it.