## Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Charter of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education

**1. Advisory Committee's Official Designation**. Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education

**2.** Authority. The Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education (Committee) is authorized by 38 U.S.C. § 3692 and operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. Ch. 10). The Committee's statutory authority was extended to December 31, 2026, by P.L. 117-180 § 404.

**3. Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The Committee provides advice to the VA Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Secretary) on the administration of education and training programs for Veterans and Service members; Reservists and Guard personnel; and for dependents of Veterans, including programs under 38 U.S.C. Chapters 30, 32, 33, 35, and 36, and 10 U.S.C. Chapter 1606.

**4. Description of Duties.** The Committee advises the Secretary on existing VA education benefit programs and services and recommends new and improved education benefit programs and services. The Committee will submit its recommendations and reports to the Secretary and may also submit its reports to Congress.

**5. Agency or Federal Officer Receiving the Advisory Committee's Advice/ Recommendations.** The Committee reports to the Secretary.

**6. Support.** The Veterans Benefits Administration is responsible for providing support to the Committee.

**7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** Estimated annual operating costs for the Committee are \$65,000 and 0.6 staff-years. All members will receive travel expenses and a per diem allowance in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulations for any travel made in connection with their duties as members of the Committee.

**8. Designated Federal Officer (DFO).** The Secretary will designate a Federal officer or a full-time VA employee, to be the DFO for the Committee and its subcommittees. The DFO will ensure the Committee activities comply with FACA, FACA Final Rule, VA administrative procedures, and other applicable laws and regulations; approve the schedule and agendas of all Committee and subcommittee meetings; attend all meetings for their duration; fulfill the requirements under § 10(b) of FACA (codified at 5 U.S.C. 1009(b); adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines it to be in the public interest; chair any meeting when directed by the Secretary; maintain information on Committee and subcommittee members receive appropriate training for efficient operation and compliance with FACA and the FACA Final Rule. The DFO will also

ensure a public facing website is maintained for the Committee according to 41 CFR § 102-3.120(b).

**9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The Committee is expected to meet at least once annually.

**10**. **Duration.** There is a continuing need for the Committee to assist the Secretary in carrying out the responsibilities described in 38 U.S.C. § 3692.

**11. Termination.** The Committee will terminate on December 31, 2026, unless extended by statute. However, the charter will expire 2 years from the date it is filed unless renewed by appropriate action.

**12. Membership and Designation.** Committee members shall be persons eminent in their respective fields of education, labor, and management and of representatives of institutions and establishments furnishing education to eligible Veterans or persons enrolled under Chapters 30, 32, 33, or 35 and 10 U.S.C. Ch 1606. In addition to the criteria set forth under 38 U.S.C. § 3692, the Committee shall also, to the maximum extent practicable, include Veteran representatives of the Global War on Terror, current students receiving VA education benefits, and the President and Chief Executive Officer for Student Veterans of America. The Assistant Secretary of Education for Postsecondary Education (or such other comparable official of the Department of Education as the Secretary of Education may designate) and the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training shall be ex officio members.

The Committee will consist of no more than 12 members. Several members may be Regular Government Employees, but the majority will be Special Government Employees.

**13. Subcommittees**. The Committee is authorized to create subcommittees, with DFO approval, to perform specific projects or assignments as necessary and consistent with its mission. The Committee Chair shall notify the Secretary, through the DFO, of the creation of any subcommittee, including its function, membership, and estimated duration. Subcommittees will report back to the Committee. Such subcommittees may not work independently and must report their recommendations and advice to the parent Committee for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the parent Committee, nor can they provide advice or work products directly to VA or any other Federal officer.

**14. Recordkeeping.** Records of the Committee shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedules. Those records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552).

## 15. Filing Date:

Approved. \_\_/s/\_\_\_\_ Douglas A. Collins Secretary of Veterans Affairs

\_\_\_05/05/2025\_\_\_\_\_ Date