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***Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-407),  
section 3679(e) of title 38, United States Code (amended 2019)***

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***As an educational institution authorised to certify Veteran Affairs (VA) funds for educational assistance for entitled Covered Individuals (students) under Chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment, or Chapter 33, Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, this policy confirms Swansea University's compliance with the requirements as outlined under the above Act.***

This policy permits any Covered Individual to attend or participate in the course of education during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides to Swansea University a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 31 or 33 (a “certificate of eligibility” can also include a “Statement of Benefits” obtained from the Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA) website – eBenefits, or a VAF 28-1905 form for chapter 31 authorization purposes) and ending on the earlier of the following dates:

1. The date on which payment from the VA is made to Swansea University.
2. 90 days after the date Swansea University certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the certificate of eligibility.

Swansea University will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a Covered Individual borrow additional funds, on any Covered Individual because of the individual’s inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under chapter 31 or 33.

In addition, this policy requires the Covered Individual to take the following additional actions:

1. Submit a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance no later than the first day of a course of education at Swansea University, as per the date stated in the student’s offer letter.

2. Submit a written request to use such entitlement, which is acceptable via email correspondence with the School Certifying Officials.

3. Provide additional information necessary to the proper certification of enrolment by Swansea University if required.

4. The Covered Individual is also required to make additional payments on the advice and request from the Schools Certifying Officials, for any difference on receipt of the disbursements funds from the Veterans Affairs Department. This would be due to the exchange rate between US Dollars (\$) and Sterling (£) and would be the difference between the amount of the Covered Individual's financial obligation and the amount of the VA education benefit disbursement. Similarly, any surplus funds received into the Covered Individuals tuition fee account due to the exchange rates, will be refunded in full directly to the Covered Individual after the third and final disbursement is received from the VA for that academic year's tuition fees owed.

Covered Individuals in receipt of VA benefits as outlined in this policy will not be permitted to enrol without appropriate documentation. This will be managed and agreed by the Schools Certifying Officials.

The Finance Department may on occasion issue reminders to students for outstanding fees, however the Schools Certifying Officials will manage this in communication with the Covered Individual. In addition details of amounts owed will be shown in the student's account on the University's website.

As part of the above Act, Swansea University was required to sign the relevant compliance form (Section 103 form) to confirm our compliance with the requirements as outlined.

This signed document attests that Swansea University's School Certifying Officials comply with the requirements of 38 USC 3679(e), with effect from August 1, 2019. The above Act was signed into U.S. law on December 31, 2018.

Without this signed compliance form (attached), effective August 1, 2019 the Veterans Affairs Department will disapprove a course of education provide by Swansea University that has in effect a policy that is inconsistent with the above.

**Written:** July 10, 2019 Jan Gosling, Head of International Administration and Compliance