

## Despite shaky finances, ITT Tech still eligible to recruit veterans

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With its accreditation in danger, ITT Tech is no longer allowed to enroll new students with federal funds. But there's one exception: veterans.

In a statement to POLITICO, the Veterans Affairs Department said today that the for-profit college can still sign up new students using the GI Bill. The agency is not restricting the GI Bill funds because, "unlike a situation in which a school has been found to have used deceptive or misleading enrollment practices, VA is not legally authorized to prevent GI Bill beneficiaries from using their benefits, or enrolling in at an accredited institution based solely on its financial condition."

ITT's finances are increasingly shaky - the school may not survive much longer. The VA said it is warning the 6,842 GI Bill students currently enrolled at ITT about the "significant risks" associated with the school.

In a <u>Facebook message</u>, the VA warns that "it's important that you understand that if ITT goes out of business before you complete your education, you will not be able to use your GI Bill benefits to keep attending that school and under this scenario, you would no longer be able to pursue your education at that school."

The VA has <u>faced criticism</u> for not being more aggressive in restricting the flow of GI Bill dollars to troubled forprofit colleges.

The Education Department last week <u>banned</u> Indianapolis-based ITT from enrolling new students with federal financial aid such as Pell grants - citing lingering questions about whether ITT will lose its accreditation.

## To view online:

https://www.politicopro.com/education/whiteboard/2016/08/thousands-of-veterans-still-able-to-use-gi-bill-funds-to-go-to-itt-tech-despite-education-department-action-076318