



Veterans: Further Actions Needed To
Resolve VA's Education Assistance
Overpayment Problem: HRD-78-45

U.S. Government
Accountability Office (GAO)

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By -

Bibliogov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 62 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. The Veterans Administrations (VA) educational assistance programs provide funds for tuition and living expenses to veterans and eligible dependents while in training. Since 1973, overpayments of these benefits have become a serious problem. During the 3.5 years ended December 31, 1975, overpayments totaled almost 1.3 billion, of which 298.2 million remained uncollected on December 31, 1975. At the VA Los Angeles Office, overpayments were caused by delays in reporting training changes, issuance of special payments, poor processing practices, and the prepayment and advance payment provisions of the VA educational assistance law. The VA has taken some actions on recommendations in the March 1976 GAO report, but it still needs to: acquire additional compliance survey specialists; change its listing of overpayments to show accurate current balances; identify schools which may be liable for overpayments so that prompt collection action can be taken if the courts uphold the authority of VA to do so; conduct an additional test program which considers costs and benefits for automating the processing of status changes; further reduce special payments; make better determinations of the...



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