

# VETERANS' EDUCATION

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## VETERANS CONNECT

### Education Resources for Veterans & their Families

Two of the most pressing concerns of veterans during the stay-at-home orders were employment and education. This issue will provide a brief overview of education resources of particular interest to our California veterans and their family members.

This newsletter has been designed for easy photocopying and deploying at your curbside service, if applicable. It is important to note that California veterans and their family members have an additional set of educational benefits beyond those available from the VA. We have attempted to outline a large range of options for both veterans and their family members seeking education benefits. Remember that a good place to start is by making contact with your local CVSO. The directory of offices is available here:

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/CVSO-Locations.aspx>

Or start here: <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/veteran-services-benefits/education>



CalVet 1-800-952-5626

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# CalVet & State of California Education Resources

## College Fee Waiver

The College Fee Waiver for Veteran Dependents benefit waives mandatory system-wide tuition and fees at any State of California Community College, California State University, or University of California campus. This program does not cover the expense of books, parking or room and board. There are four plans under which dependents of Veterans may be eligible.

Learn more here: <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/College-Fee-Waiver.aspx>

What do I need to do to apply for the College Fee Waiver Program?

Have a parent who is a disabled veteran (0% or more disabled); or

Have a spouse who is service-connected (S/C) deceased or rated 100% S/C disabled.

Be a child earning less than \$12,752 per year (student's income, not parents') or \$13,064 for academic year 2019-20.

There is no income limit for a spouse or children of S/C deceased or 100% S/C disabled veterans. Specific age requirements must be met for an otherwise eligible child.

The student must meet the in-state residency requirements as determined by the school

Provide proof of the student's relationship to the veteran such as a copy of a birth or marriage certificate.

TO OBTAIN COMPLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS assistance in applying for these valuable benefits, please contact your local County Veterans Service Office or your school's veterans office.

## California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program (CNGEAAP)

The California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program (CNGEAAP) issues financial awards to qualifying members of the California National Guard (CNG) and State Military Reserve (SMR). This financial education benefit can pay for up to 100% of fees at the Universities of California, California State Universities, and California Community Colleges.

Learn more here: <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/CNGEAAP.aspx>

## California State University (CSU) & University of California (UC)

Both CSU and UC offer a myriad of opportunities to help veterans, active-duty service members and their families meet their personal and professional goals. They are committed to providing veterans financial support and advice, priority admissions, health and other referrals specific to veterans and transition support and outreach.

Learn more here: [https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/California-State-University-\(CSU\)-.aspx](https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/California-State-University-(CSU)-.aspx) and here: <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/University-of-California-UC.aspx>

## Non-Resident College Fee Waiver

The Non-Resident College Fee Waiver waives non-resident fees at all State of California Community Colleges, CSU, or UC campuses for some veterans and their family members.

Learn more here: <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/Non-Resident-College-Fee-Waiver.aspx>

# Education Resources for Family Members

## Post-9/11 GI Bill: Transferability

The Post-9/11 GI Bill allows Service Members to transfer unused education benefits to immediate family members including spouses and children. Once a veteran passes away, the designated family member that received the transferred GI Bill can transfer any balance available to another dependent of the veteran.

Learn more here:

[https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/education/Post-911\\_Transferability.pdf](https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/education/Post-911_Transferability.pdf)

## Survivors' & Dependent's Educational Assistance (DEA)

DEA (Chapter 35) is an education benefit that can provide up to 36 months of full-time or equivalent benefits to the spouse and children of most 100% service connected disabled veterans

Learn more here: <https://nfv.org/va-survivors-and-dependents-educational-assistance/>

## NEW: Dedicated Phone Line for Surviving Spouses and Children of an Active Duty Service Member Who Died in the Line of Duty

A child or surviving spouse can contact the **Education Call Center at 1-888-442-4551 and select Option 5**. A highly trained agent with specialized training in survivor benefits will be ready to assist the caller with their education benefits or survivor-related resources. Agents will be available Monday – Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST.

## Scholarships and Grants

### Scholarships for Veterans:

Start here: <https://www.fastweb.com/directory/scholarships-for-veterans>

### College Scholarships for Military Children & Spouses:

Start here: <https://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships/articles/college-scholarships-for-military-children-spouses>

### Military Survivors Education Assistance:

Find scholarships and grants for postsecondary education and training exclusively for the military survivor community.

Start here: <https://www.taps.org/scholarships>

Remember to check the Department of Education for additional student aid

Start here: <https://studentaid.gov/>



# VA Education Resources for Veterans & their families

## VA education benefits for survivors and dependents

Find out if you're eligible for VA education benefits for dependents and survivors (also called Chapter 35 benefits). If you're a dependent spouse or child—or the surviving spouse or child—of a Veteran, you may qualify for Chapter 35 benefits or job training through a GI Bill program.

Learn more here:

<https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/>

## Other VA education benefits

Learn about other VA education benefits if you don't qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. If you're a Guardsman, Reservist, or Veteran and you're not eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, you may be able to get other VA education benefits through these programs.

Learn more here:

<https://www.va.gov/education/other-va-education-benefits/>

## Principles of Excellence

### Program

The Principles of Excellence program requires schools that get federal funding through programs such as the GI Bill to follow certain guidelines. Learn about these guidelines.

Learn more here:

<https://www.va.gov/education/choosing-a-school/principles-of-excellence/>

**GI BILL HOTLINE:  
1-888-442-4551**

## GI Bill® Comparison Tool

Learn about education programs and compare benefits by school.

What's your military status?

Veteran

Which GI Bill benefit do you want to use? ([Learn more](#))

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch 33)

Cumulative Post-9/11 active-duty service ([Learn more](#))

36+ months: 100% (includes BASIC)

Type of institution

Schools

Employers (On-the-job training [OJT], apprenticeships)

VET TEC training providers only ([Learn more](#))

How do you want to take classes? ([Learn more](#))

Online only

In person only

In person and online

## GI Bill® Comparison Tool

Learn about education programs and compare benefits by school.

Learn more here: <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>

## Yellow Ribbon Program

The Yellow Ribbon Program can help you pay for higher out-of-state, private school, or graduate school tuition that the Post-9/11 GI Bill doesn't cover. Find out if you're eligible, and if your school takes part in this program.

Learn more here: <https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/yellow-ribbon-program/>